

DECEMBER 28, 2015

The forty-second regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lakewood, NY, was held Monday, December 28, 2015 at 6:30 PM, with Mayor David T. Wordelmann presiding. Trustees present were Ellen E. Barnes, David J. Di Salvo, Susan F. Drago, and John Jablonski. Also present were Village Clerk Joseph M. Johnson, Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft, Police Chief John R. Bentley, Department of Public Works Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling and Fire Chief Kurt W. Hallberg. Absent were Village Attorney Edward P. Wright and Building Inspector Jeffrey A. Swanson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Drago, seconded by Trustee Jablonski, to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, held December 14, 2015.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee Di Salvo, that the claims as audited by the Auditing Committee of the abstracts dated December 28, 2015 be approved and that the Clerk shall execute said abstracts (#5, #30 & #31) and direct payment by the Treasurer. Capital Fund: \$ 2,184.98, (Check #12342), Trust & Agency Fund: \$ 56,528.77, (Checks #3600 thru #3614), General Fund: \$ 16,338.38, (Checks #12343 thru #12370)

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

REPORTS

Department of Public Works Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling asked Mayor Wordelmann if there are any plans for the large anchor which was donated to the History Committee by Mr. & Mrs. Marcus Turner, 1 Maple Ave., a few years back. Mr. Pilling said Town of Westfield is planning to do some work at Barcelona Harbor, and thought it might be a good fit as they make plans to revamp the harbor area. Mr. Pilling he'll check with Ms. Susan Lane, Village Historian and Mr. Turner to get their thoughts on the matter.

Mr. Pilling reported that he is in the process of applying for a permit from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to remove the gravel bar, which has grown over the years at the storm water outfall into Chautauqua Lake between 218 & 222 West Summit Street.

Mr. Pilling completed his report by stating it appears the owner of 4 Winchester Road has had an invisible fence installed within the adjacent Winchester Road and Sunset Ave. public rights-of-way. Mr. Pilling said he was approached by a couple residents who walk in that area, who expressed some concern that the dog or dogs from 4 Winchester Road are allowed to roam within the public rights-of-way, outside the boundaries of the home and dog owner's private property.

Mayor Wordelmann suggested that a letter be sent to the property owner, informing him of the situation.

Police Chief John R. Bentley reported that the Lakewood-Busti Police Department has responded to eleven thousand four hundred reportable incidents year-to-date. Chief Bentley indicated although Christmas has past, there are a lot of "car shoppers" out there and reminded residents and visitors alike to make sure they lock their cars.

Fire Chief Kurt W. Hallberg reported the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department has responded to eight hundred ninety alarms year-to-date and last night assisted in battling a structure fire on Leslie Street in the Celoron Fire Department's district.

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Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft reported that the Village of Lakewood recently received a check from the State of New York in the amount of \$ 148,966.97 representing the amount claimed by D.P.W. Supervisor Pilling for reimbursement through the Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Di Salvo indicated that under planning, Mayor Wordelmann might wish to announce that the Village of Lakewood was awarded a \$ 492,500.00 New York State Community Development Block Grant, which was applied for through the Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation, (CHRIC).

Mayor Wordelmann said he is pleased to announce that the Village of Lakewood is the recipient of its largest grant in the amount of \$ 492,500.00 from the NYS Department of Homes & Community Renewal.

After being turned down for the grant previously, improvements were made in the application which better qualified the Village of Lakewood the second time around. Mayor Wordelmann said the money will be used to rehabilitate residential properties for those qualifying for the assistance.

Trustee Di Salvo indicated tomorrow morning, (December 29, 2015), he along with D.P.W. Supervisor Pilling, Mr. Ted McCague, Chairman of the Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee and Mayor Elect Birrittieri, will be meeting with New York State Department of Transportation officials in Buffalo, N.Y., to discuss the milling and paving project being proposed on Route 394, between Winchester Road east to the City of Jamestown line. Trustee Di Salvo said they would like to let the NYS DOT know that the Village of Lakewood has a Complete Streets Program in place and is in the process of developing a new comprehensive plan. Trustee Di Salvo said he is hopeful the NYS DOT will work with local officials in making Rt. 394 safer for pedestrians and bicyclists alike.

ANYONE TO BE HEARD

Outgoing Trustee John Jablonski thanked the residents of the Village of Lakewood for giving him the opportunity to serve them the past three and one-half years or so and commended the various department heads and staff for the work they do for the community. Trustee Jablonski said it has been his pleasure working with each and every one of them and holds them in the highest esteem. Thank You.

Mayor Wordelmann thanked Trustee Jablonski for his service to the community and appreciated his commitment to serve.

Trustee Drago thanked Mayor Wordelmann, who has given his heart and soul to the Village of Lakewood and truly appreciates, along with many residents, his service to this community.

Mr. David Bargar, 11 Sunset Ave., wished to share his experiences of the past couple weeks with respect to the subject of financing the purchase of the new fire engine. Mr. Bargar said there are many demands on taxpayers' money and he has looked into some creative ways by which to finance this purchase. It doesn't look like there will be any help from Mayville or Albany, so it is necessary to look within for answers. Mr. Bargar noted there are a lot of really good people here in Lakewood however we need to work together, adding the one thing that could hold this village back is thinking we are divided. He made a plea to work together as a team to accomplish goals. Village officials and residents need to give a little in order to make sure what tax dollars are spent where. Mr. Bargar said we need to continue to do the right things to save money where we can. With the foundation that Mayor Wordelmann established and with a new administration coming on board, let us all do what we need to do to build a great future for the entire community.

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Town Supervisor Jesse Robbins indicated on behalf of the Town of Busti, he would like to thank Mayor Wordelmann for working closely with him the past four years. It has been a pleasure. He added Mayor Wordelmann's guidance and wisdom came in handy many a time. Thank you very much.

Mayor Wordelmann then thanked Supervisor Robbins for working with him and the Village of Lakewood on a number of matters over the years. Mayor Wordelmann said it has been a special relationship between a Mayor and a Town Supervisor, where we've consulted each other on various matters facing each municipality and is hopeful that relationship will continue.

RECESS

Motion by Trustee Drago, seconded by Trustee Barnes, to recess the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees in order to conduct public hearings previously scheduled for 6:45 PM and 6:50 PM.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

PUBLIC HEARING - 6:45 PM
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #2-2015
CONSIDER ENACTING A MORATORIUM

Mayor Wordelmann opened the public hearing and asked the Village Clerk to read the notice of public hearing as it appeared in the Village of Lakewood's official newspaper.

Mayor Wordelmann asked if there was anyone to be heard concerning proposed local law #2-2015 which calls for the Village of Lakewood to consider enacting a moratorium on accepting and reviewing any and all zoning permit applications relating to wireless telecommunications facilities within the Village of Lakewood.

Mr. Jack Knowlton, President of the Lakewood Fire Company, indicated that the Fire Company has been approached by representatives from Blue Wireless about a proposal to establish a telecommunications facility (cell tower) on Fire Company property near their training center off Pleasantview Ave. Mr. Knowlton said the Fire Company's Training Grounds is made up of approximately 14 acres of land. The location for the cell tower is being proposed for the southwest corner of the property, in the wooded area near the railroad tracks. Mr. Knowlton said the lease revenue received from Blue Wireless will be a nice shot in the arm financially for the Fire Company. The annual revenue to be realized from the lease of the Fire Company's property is expected to be approximately \$ 15,000.00, which would go into their capital improvement account. Mr. Knowlton said the lease agreement also includes complimentary wi-fi and internet service for the fire training center and the fire station.

Mayor Wordelmann indicated it is his opinion that one way or another a cell tower is coming into the Village of Lakewood. If the proposed location on Fire Company property eventually works out, it would be better for them to receive the lease revenue instead of a private property owner. Mayor Wordelmann also mentioned if a moratorium is enacted the process to locate a cell tower on the Fire Company property would be halted.

Trustee Di Salvo said he would favor enacting the moratorium plus adopting a local law regarding an interim application process for wireless telecommunications facilities within the Village of Lakewood.

Mr. Ted McCague, 12 Park Lane, said he would recommend enacting the moratorium and passage of the proposed ordinance/local law. When the Village of Lakewood does its re-write of the local zoning law they will have the opportunity to strengthen its stance on what type of wireless telecommunications facilities would be acceptable. Mr. McCague said the threat of cell towers is here to stay.

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Mr. McCague urged the Board of Trustees to enact the moratorium and adopt the ordinance/local law and re-write the local zoning law, utilizing the ninety day window to do so.

With no one else to be heard, Mayor Wordelmann proceeded to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #2-2015.

PUBLIC HEARING - 6:50 PM
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #3-2015
AMEND SECTION #25-51, TOWERS, WINDMILLS

Mayor Wordelmann opened the public hearing and asked the Village Clerk to read the notice of public hearing as it appeared in the official newspaper of the Village of Lakewood.

Mayor Wordelmann indicated the proposed Local Law #3-2015 would amend Section #25-51, [Towers, Windmills], of the Village of Lakewood Zoning Law, to include an interim application process for wireless telecommunications facilities within the Village of Lakewood.

Mayor Wordelmann then read the proposed ordinance/local law in its entirety for those who may have not had the chance to review it.

With no one to be heard, Mayor Wordelmann closed the public hearing at 6:52 PM and proceeded to reopen the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Mayor Wordelmann then asked if anyone would like to make a motion with respect to proposed Local Law #2-2015 or Local Law #3-2015 as proposed.

Trustee Di Salvo said he is in favor of the moratorium however he would like its timeframe to be consistent with the ninety day timeframe of the proposed ordinance. Trustee Di Salvo said he will make a motion to accept both local laws, with the stipulation that they each have a ninety day timeframe.

With no second to Trustee Di Salvo's motion, Mayor Wordelmann asked if anyone else would like to make alternate motion.

RESOLUTION #215-2014-2015 - ADOPT LOCAL LAW #3-2015 AS PROPOSED

Motion by Trustee Drago, seconded by Trustee Barnes to adopt Local Law #3-2014-2015 as proposed to amend Section #25-51, [Towers, Windmills], of the Village of Lakewood Zoning Law, to include an interim application process for wireless communications facilities within the Village of Lakewood, New York. Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

RESOLUTION #215-2014-2015 - ADOPT LOCAL LAW #2-2014-2015 AS PROPOSED

Motion by Trustee Di Salvo, seconded by Trustee Jablonski, to adopt Local Law #2-2014-2015 as proposed to enact a ninety day moratorium on the acceptance and review of any or all zoning permit applications relating to wireless telecommunications facilities within the Village of Lakewood, New York.

Trustee Jablonski expressed concerns about adopting the moratorium if it were to present a roadblock to the proposed cell tower that would likely be agreeable to area residents as well as be financially beneficial to the Lakewood Fire Company.

Disapproved: 2 ayes, (Di Salvo, Jablonski), 3 nays, (Wordelmann, Barnes, Drago)

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Mayor Wordelmann indicated that at the last regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, elected officials and residents expressed some concerns as to how the Village of Lakewood intends to pay for the new fire engine and on top of that, possibly a new front line ambulance. With assistance from Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft, Mayor Wordelmann said he put together an informational budget for the upcoming fiscal year that include appropriations which funds the purchase of the new fire engine and ambulance plus places \$ 25,000.00 into a special equipment fund/reserve account to be used for future equipment purchases. Mayor Wordelmann said no matter how one looks at the budget, it is going to be a lean year. A few of the highlights of outgoing Mayor Wordelmann's informational budget for 2016-2017 include removing the anticipated purchase of two new police cars, saving \$ 60,000.00 and the \$70,000.00 anticipated increase in spending will be offset by \$ 70,000.00

increase in revenue. Mayor Wordelmann said under this informational budget the tax rate will be lowered from the current \$7.14/1,000 assessed value, to \$ 7.08/1,000 assessed value, while still being able to pay for the new fire engine and ambulance. Mayor Wordelmann said as Budget Officer he has "frozen" taxes the past few years, however he is proposing a lower tax rate. Mayor Wordelmann said he is hopeful the new administration will use this informational budget as a guide when preparing the Village of Lakewood's budget for 2016-2017.

Mayor Wordelmann said the one thing he has learned while serving on this board the last eleven years is that the number one priority and responsibility of local governments is to provide essential services to its residents. Essential services begin with local police and fire departments. The Lakewood Fire Department and the Village of Lakewood are sitting on a twenty year old pumper and a ten year ambulance. Mayor Wordelmann said if the need arises to be transported to WCA Hospital, he would rather not have to rely on a ten year old ambulance with documented engine problems to get him there. Mayor Wordelmann reiterated the need for the Village of Lakewood to provide essential services first.

RESOLUTION #216-2014-2015 - AUTHORIZE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE RENEWAL

Motion by Trustee Drago, seconded by Trustee Barnes, authorizing Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft and Village Attorney Wright to renew the Bond Anticipation Note (5 year renewable - I year maturing BAN) in the amount of \$ 12,000.00 for the 2007 Elgin Street Sweeper due January 15, 2016, which represents the final on the bond.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

DISCUSSION - FUNDING LFD EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Mayor Wordelmann indicated Mr. David Bargar's idea of borrowing money from the Lakewood Fire Company instead of a banking institution was a good one, however New York State law prohibits that particular type of transaction. Mayor Wordelmann said what the Village of Lakewood is proposing is to enter into a ten year lease-purchase agreement with M & T Bank, at a fixed interest rate of 3.37%. Although it is called a lease-purchase agreement, the Village of Lakewood would own the fire engine at the end of the agreement.

Fire Chief Hallberg said he and a few other long time members of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department are thankful for the opportunity this evening to briefly explain what a local volunteer fire department does. Chief Hallberg said he agrees with what Mr. Bargar stated earlier, that we must all work together for the common good of the community. Chief Hallberg then indicated a "hand-out" was prepared for this evening's meeting which briefly explains the duties of volunteer firefighters, lists fire equipment purchases for the past one hundred years, plus provides a ten year analysis of fire and rescue alarms.

Chief Hallberg said the required training for volunteer fire departments is the same as for paid fire departments. The basic firefighter course is over one hundred hours and the basic emergency medical technician (EMT) training takes six months, which must be renewed every three years.

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Chief Hallberg then indicated that in 2013 Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department members took part in 116,781 hours of "in-house" training and continuing education. He noted that the Lakewood Fire Department is the busiest all volunteer fire department in Chautauqua County and this year has responded to a record number of alarms, which has reached 890. Chief Hallberg said the opening of Fairway Pointe Senior Village on Southwestern Drive will likely add about one hundred alarms annually.

As members of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department Chief Hallberg said we volunteer because we enjoy it, we love this village and we want to help our fellow citizens. Chief Hallberg said the only thing we want in return is for the Village of Lakewood to provide us with good equipment, updated vehicles and a first rate fire station from which to work from. Chief Hallberg said members of the fire department are residents and taxpayers also.

Chief Hallberg then introduced Charlie Smith, a past fire chief and thirty-five year member to briefly explain the department's vehicle replacement schedule or cycle and its impact on residents' home insurance rates.

Mr. Smith began by first thanking Mayor Wordelmann, saying it was a pleasure working with him for ten years as the Village of Lakewood Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Smith said over the years the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department has pretty much kept to a vehicle replacement schedule which is based on the useful life of the particular vehicle or truck. Typically an ambulance should last ten years, pumpers, twenty years, and ladder trucks, thirty years. At times trucks have been refurbished in order to extend their useful life, with the overall goal to keep the equipment in good shape and "state of the art". Mr. Smith said area home insurance rates are based on the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department's rating. Presently, Village of Lakewood home and business owners enjoy the best insurance rate possible. Mr. Smith said the new fire engine will provide additional safety measures for the firefighters. Mr. Smith said it is very important that everyone works together to maintain the current level of the LFD truck fleet.

Chief Hallberg pointed out that the "hand-out" listing the equipment purchases over the years was compiled by former fire chief, current fire company president and fifty-three year member Jackson Knowlton, who would like to briefly explain the fire equipment listing.

Mr. Knowlton indicated over the past one hundred years thirty-five pieces of equipment have been put into service by the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department, thirty-one and one half were purchased by the Fire Company and three and one half purchased by the Village of Lakewood. Mr. Knowlton indicated that the Fire Company has had in place for a number of years a capital improvement program, which will be tapped into in five to six years to replace the current ladder truck. Mr. Knowlton said the Fire Company has tried to manage its finances effectively.

Chief Hallberg then turned to past fire chief, current First Assistant Fire Chief and forty-one year member Steve Smouse to briefly explain the need for a new fire engine.

First Assistant Fire Chief Smouse indicated that the new engine will be replacing a twenty-three year old pumper and noted the fire department had held-off ordering a new fire engine until the final payment on the new fire station was made.

Mr. Smouse said volunteerism has decreased over time and therefore the truck committee looked at the need to do more with less manpower when developing the specifications for the new fire engine. The new fire engine is referred to as a rescue-pumper, which acts as a pumper and can take on some of the functions of a heavy-rescue truck. Mr. Smouse said at one time the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department had four pumpers, now it has two.

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Chief Hallberg took a minute to thank members of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department, Busti Fire Chief Volpe, Celoron Fire Chief Nelson and Ashville Fire Chief Swanson for their support this evening.

Mrs. Tillie Solomonson, 2 Waldemere Way, said she is a satisfied customer of the Lakewood Fire Department and that each and every member of the LFD are to be commended for what they do for the community. Although we all complain about taxes, Mrs. Solomonson said having a local fire department that responds in the manner the LFD does is a very good use of her tax dollars. Thank you very much.

Trustee Di Salvo asked Village Treasurer Windoft if she has had a chance to crunch any numbers on principal and interest costs in connection with the ten year lease-purchase agreement. Trustee Di Salvo said he would like to see the numbers before considering a vote on how to finance the purchase of the new fire engine. Trustee Di Salvo said he has never disputed the need for a new fire engine however, he would like to look into alternative methods to finance its purchase. Trustee Di Salvo said he has always been in favor of establishing an interest bearing equipment fund to pay for equipment versus adding more long term debt service. He then asked Chief Hallberg how much money does the Fire Company has in its equipment fund.

Lakewood Fire Company President Jack Knowlton indicated with the addition of \$ 116,945.00 this year to the capital improvement account, it totals a little over \$ 500,000.00.

Trustee Di Salvo said he finds it difficult to act on major financial questions without first looking at a cost benefit analysis. He stressed that the Village of Lakewood and the Lakewood Fire Department need to be more sustainable and figure out different ways to do things.

Trustee Drago said when she and Trustee Barnes met with Chief Hallberg earlier in the day, the question asked was, it is possible to get a couple more years out of certain vehicles. Chief Hallberg's answer was parts become more difficult to find and repairs can get very expensive. Trustee Drago said there is also the possibility the insurance rating will go down, costing taxpayers indirectly with higher home insurance premiums.

Trustee Di Salvo suggested for the Lakewood Fire Company to consider incurring a percentage of the cost of the new fire engine, adding sharing the cost would save on interest costs. Just principle alone for the new fire engine and ambulance is close to \$ 900,000.00.

Trustee Di Salvo thanked Mayor Wordelmann for the informational budget, but this is the first he has had a chance to look at it. Some things that he would like to see in the informational budget may or may not be included.

Trustee Di Salvo said he understands the idea to provide essential services, however the quality of life goes beyond essential services. They are a number of other things that need to be included in this budget.

Chief Hallberg said the total cost of the new fire engine is somewhat exaggerated. The overall price will come down by about \$ 20,000.00 if Cummins Engine Plant agrees to donate the diesel engine and it is expected that the sale of the 1993 Sutphen pumper will generate about \$ 50,000.00. As far as how the Lakewood Fire Company decides to spend its money is strictly up to the fire company.

Trustee Di Salvo said he doesn't feel comfortable voting on a resolution to borrow money without first knowing the principle and interest costs associated with this purchase. As an elected official, Trustee Di Salvo said in addition to essential services, he must look at all the services that make-up an entire quality of life.

Mayor Wordelmann asked Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft to explain where she is at with respect to acquiring a funding mechanism for the new fire truck.

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Mrs. Windoft said the banking institution requires the Village of Lakewood to adopt a resolution to acquire the funding so they may move forward with the required paperwork. Although the resolution appears to be two-fold, it does one thing and that is to authorize the Village of Lakewood to fund the purchase of the new fire engine and how to pay for it. Village Treasurer Windoft said it is important and necessary to provide the banking institution with an exact dollar amount will be funded.

Trustee Di Salvo suggested tabling this item until Treasurer Windoft has a chance to compile some definitive figures relating to the fire truck purchase.

Chautauqua County Legislator and longtime member of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department, P.J. Wendel, said he applauds Mr. Barger for wanting to work together, however a concern he has is when working together there needs to be openness. When a letter is spread throughout this community stating Lakewood Fire Department costs are exorbitant and running the Village of Lakewood into the ground financially, it is very challenging to hear. If citizens have great financial or business sense, the fire department has never closed our doors to them. This same group talks about quality of life. Mr. Wendel said his quality of life would be greatly impacted if by chance an older piece of equipment failed while on a fire or EMS call. Mr. Wendel recounted his experience while responding to the recent early morning fire on Clark Street and yet everyone questions what we, as members of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department, do. Mr. Wendel said part of this so called divide is conjecture. Mr. Wendel said as a twenty-seven year member of the Lakewood Fire Department he takes offense when people question his dedication and service.

Trustee Di Salvo retorted that his and Mr. Wendel's definition of quality of life likely differ. Although there is nothing more important than essential services, there are more things included in the quality of life. Trustee Di Salvo said he was elected to represent "the everybody" in the Village of Lakewood. Trustee Di Salvo told Mr. Wendel if he feels threatened by his

questions, he is sorry, but he isn't going away and he will continue to ask questions.

Mayor Elect Cara Birrittieri apologized for attending this evening's meeting and didn't wish to make any comments until after taking office, but felt compelled to do so. She said unfortunately there is a divisive attitude that pervades this community. To combat that attitude she intends to reach out to get to know each and every one of you who live and work in this village. As Mr. Bargar said we need to work together.

To do that we need to put aside politics, cliques and come together. Ms. Birrittieri said she has police officers and fire fighters in her family and moved to Lakewood from a place very similar, only larger.

As far as a decision on how to finance the new fire truck, she would like to have more specific information available before the Board of Trustees makes an eleventh hour decision. Gather the information, determine the best way to pay for it, not just next year, but for years to come and proceed with a bond or lease. Ms. Birrittieri said she understands the fire department members' passion and as a former news reporter said she has been on the scene of many fires and acknowledged that good equipment is essential. Ms. Birrittieri said it would be her suggestion to table the matter on financing the fire truck purchase until more information is made available.

Mayor Wordelmann said the Village of Lakewood must decide which way to pay for the new fire engine, either by a five year Bond at \$ 180,000.00/year or a ten years lease at \$ 80,000.00/year. Mayor Wordelmann said there are two choices, bond or lease. He said there is no reason to table this matter and that the Village of Lakewood needs to move forward with the financial paperwork.

Mr. Ted McCague, 12 Park Lane, said with the scheduled LFD equipment purchases of a pumper in 2019, a ladder truck in 2020 and a heavy rescue in 2023, the Board of Trustees acting as the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Fire Company and the Fire Department will need to put their heads together, because the amount of money to be spent on this equipment is somewhat scary.

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Mayor Wordelmann agreed saying he has always been an advocate for low taxes and for the past three years has kept taxes flat. He said he knows how to write a budget. It is his opinion that the ten year lease is the best option to pay for the new fire truck so as to keep taxes low. It can be done.

Mr. Michael Volpe, Fire Chief of the Busti Fire Department indicated that they have entered into two ten year lease-purchase agreements for two pumpers over the past ten years and each of them have worked out very well. It is a great financing option which is seamless.

Trustee Barnes said it isn't a lot to ask a taxpayer to fund a fire truck purchase in order to be safe.

Mr. Tom Hurley, 12 Winding Way, and a thirty-five year member of the Lakewood Fire Department, said fire department volunteers put themselves in harm's way each and every time they respond to an alarm and that residents need to realize that we have families too. It is good to have a piece of equipment fire fighters can count on because we stick-out our lives for the lives of

the residents.

Trustee Di Salvo said he appreciates and applauds the service and dedication of the members of the Lakewood Fire Department and has never questioned your professionalism or the need for this equipment. He said it isn't his place to question equipment needs, but it is his place to question how the purchase of such equipment be financed.

Trustee Jablonski thanked the entire membership of the Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department for all they do and for taking the time to review with him the need for the new fire truck and its purchase. Trustee Jablonski indicated that his questions about financing its purchase have been answered and agrees the ten year lease-purchase at a fixed rate of 3.37% is the best the Village of Lakewood can do at this time.

Mayor Wordelmann put the truck purchase in perspective saying if a person's home is assessed at \$100,000.00, with an additional \$.30/1,000 assessed value on the tax rate, the taxpayer would be paying an additional \$ 30.00/year for a new fire engine. There has been a lot of discussion over thirty bucks.

RESOLUTION #217-2014-2015 - APPROVE LEASE-PURCHASE PROCESS

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee Drago, authorizing Village Treasurer Andres J. Windoft to move forward with the process to enter into a ten year Lease-Purchase Agreement with M & T Bank to finance the purchase of a 2016 pumper truck from Spartan ERV, Brandon, South Dakota, at a cost of \$ 648,902.00, per the bid received November 24, 2014.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

RESOLUTION #218-2014-2015 - AUTHORIZE BUILDING CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Motion by Trustee Di Salvo, seconded by Trustee Barnes, authorizing Building Inspector Jeffrey A. Swanson to attend the 2016 Finger Lakes Building Officials Association's educational conference to be held March 14th - March 17th in Rochester, New York. Mr. Swanson shall be reimbursed for any and all legal expenses incurred.

Adopted: 4 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Di Salvo, Drago, Jablonski)

MAYOR WORDELMANN'S FINAL REPORT

Mayor Wordelmann said due to the fact that this is his last Board of Trustees meeting as Mayor of the Village of Lakewood he would like to take a minute or two to express his thanks to a few people and to comment on a few changes since becoming Mayor.

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Mayor Wordelmann said the parks have been upgraded with a new public dock and sailing program at Richard O. Hartley Park, new docks at Community Park & Boat Launch, thanks to Treasurer Windoft we now have a dog park which has been well received, pickle-ball courts have been added to the LaGrega Park complex plus a new baseball field is under construction within the park complex.

From a business standpoint, Mayor Wordelmann said he is proud to have negotiated a PILOT Program with the Chautauqua I.D.A. and the owners of the Lakewood Village Center. Its redevelopment has been catalyst for the commercial revitalization of Rt. 394. Over forty new businesses now call Lakewood home that weren't here five years ago. Compare that fact with what the City of Jamestown has done, which was to spend millions of dollars on new store fronts that have attracted very few new businesses. Also, in the last four years ten new businesses have opened up on Chautauqua Ave.

Mayor Wordelmann said he has frozen property taxes the past four years and has stayed under the NYS Tax Cap which will allow the Village of Lakewood to raise taxes up to 1.5%.

Mayor Wordelmann said he was able to negotiate a new police services agreement with the Town of Busti which more fairly charges the township for services rendered. Five years ago the Village of Lakewood received \$ 300,000.00 from the township, this year the township will contribute \$ 450,000.00 for police services that are desperately needed.

A new Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Agreement was entered into with the Town of Busti which provides the village and township with a full time (40 hrs./week) employee.

Mayor Wordelmann said he has also negotiated a new police union agreement that is fair for the police officers as well as taxpayers. The Lakewood-Busti Police Department also has a new K-9 Unit.

The Department of Public Works has new trucks, a new front-end loader and a new storage building. Because much of the work on the storage building was performed by D.P.W. employees the total cost was a fraction of what it could have been.

The Local Community Development Corporation (LCDC) is up and running again and they are looking at some potential upgrades along Chautauqua Ave.

Mayor Wordelmann said a new comprehensive plan is in the process of being developed and will it be a nice tool for near future and long range development in the Village of Lakewood.

Mayor Wordelmann said he would like to thank a few people, starting with Scott Bell and Tom Brown, who eleven years ago submitted his name at the Democratic caucus as a candidate for Village Trustee. Also, thanks to former longtime Trustee Duane F. "Duey" Anderson for talking him into taking over as Mayor following the unfortunate death of Mayor Anthony C. Caprino.

Speaking of Mr. Caprino, Mayor Wordelmann said Tony, whose name is on this building, taught him everything he about government, what it should be and how it should be run. He will be ever grateful for the advice from Mr. Caprino.

Mayor Wordelmann went on to thank former and current members of the Board of Trustees he has had the pleasure to work with over the years which included Eric Hern, Joe Troche, P.J. Wendel, Gale A. Denn, Susan Lane, Susan F. Drago, David J. Di Salvo, and John Jablonski. He applauded them for their public service and for putting themselves on the line as an elected official.

Mayor Wordelmann said one of the things he is most proud of is the fact that for over one hundred years there have only been four female members of the Board of Trustees and he has had the honor and pleasure of appointing three of them to the Board. Beginning next week the majority of the Board of Trustees will be female.

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Mayor Wordelmann said he is also very proud of having appointed Trustee Drago as the only female Deputy Mayor in the history of the Village of Lakewood.

Mayor Wordelmann said he has learned so much over the past eleven years and although has given a lot while serving, he has taken much from the job. In closing he thanked everyone for their friendship.

District 10 Chautauqua County Legislator P.J. Wendel said on behalf of County Executive Vince Horrigan, he would like to thank Mayor Wordelmann for his public service and looks forward to working with the new members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lakewood.

Mr. Richard Rose, Chairman of the Village of Lakewood Tree Committee said he would like to thank Mayor Wordelmann for his support over the years, which resulted in a lot of new trees being planted in the parks and along village streets.

Motion by Trustee Jablonski, seconded by Trustee Barnes, and unanimously carried the Board adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Joseph M. Johnson
Village Clerk