

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Newlin; Councilmembers Bax, Edwards, Johnson and Palmer; Town Attorney Leone; Deputy Attorney Boniello; Finance Officer DiRamio; Building Inspector Masters; WPCO Chief Operator Lockhart; Town Engineer Britton; 3 Press and Clerk Donna Garfinkel

Supervisor called meeting to order – 12:15 p.m.

*First Agenda Item – Approval of Abstract.*

**Bax MOVED to approve the Regular Abstract, Claim numbers 492 - 845 and recommends payment in the amount of \$443,223.32 and a Post Audit in the amount of \$128,401.11, Seconded by Johnson and Carried 5 – 0.**

*Second Agenda Item – Approval of additional Post Audit payments.*

**Bax MOVED to approve additional Post Audit invoices for HSBC Bank USA - \$2,672.58 and Niagara Power Coalition - \$19,117.75, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 – 0.**

*Third Agenda Item – WPCO Capital Improvements.*

Lockhart said the plant is 30 years old. The physical structure is starting to show signs of age. The repair work estimate, for within the plant, is about \$150,000. There is equipment that is about 25 years old. Operating expenses is not allowing money to be set-aside to address these improvements.

Lockhart is looking for any options / opinions on funding for the improvements. Any options would be forwarded to the Sewer Advisory Board for consensus.

Lockhart would like to address the roof first, at a cost of approximately \$150,000. Second, the Sludge Dewatering equipment, at a cost of approximately \$250,000 - \$350,000. It is reaching the end of its life cycle. This is the only piece of equipment that moves the sludge.

Edwards asked if the HVAC system is up to par and if it is part of the roof. Lockhart said it is not located on the roof and he is hoping to address this within the operating budget.

Palmer asked if any equipment failed would it be catastrophic. Lockhart said the generator, which takes over when the power goes out, is 30 years old and parts are hard to get. The approximate replacement cost is \$150,000.

Lockhart said the plant is funded 100% by user-fees. The plant charges the same rate to users in Youngstown as the Village of Lewiston. The present rate is \$2.70 per 1,000 based on water consumption. For each .05¢ increase, it could generate approximately \$20,000 in revenue. Septic haulers provide revenue of approximately \$80,000/year.

Johnson questioned if local municipality rates have been researched. Lockhart said there are different rate structures so it would be a slanted pool to try and compare. Each municipality has different people to pay and different infrastructure they are trying to recover costs for.

The Town pays about \$80,000 - \$90,000/year for sludge disposal. There are additional chemical, electrical and labor costs for an overall cost of disposal topping \$150,000/year.

Newlin asked how the funding of the improvements would be broken up between the different municipalities.

The Town pays approximately 50%, Village of Lewiston - 25% and the combination of the Village of Youngstown and the Town of Porter pays the other 25%. Lockhart said the Town is the owner of the facility and the main contributor.

Presently the fund balance is approximately \$50,000. This is down from a high of over \$1-million in the mid 1990's. The water badger meter project used a lot of the money. The increase in health coverage and the retirement system have used a lot also.

Lockhart has a 5-year plan that he would like to share with the Board at another time. There is a staff reduction, by attrition, suggestion in the plan.

It was suggested Lockhart contact the Town grant writer, Bernie Rotella with a list of possible improvements. There may be grant opportunities.

Boniello suggested the Board consider a capital account be established based on consumption not rate.

The Town is moving along very well with the Inflow & Infiltration program. The Village of Lewiston is making great strides. All releases into the river have been within the DEC permit. The releases into the river are due to the I & I problem.

Approximately 60% - 80% of the actual I & I problem are on private property. It is surface water that is finding its way into the system by way of broken vents, clean-outs in yards and things like that. When there is a thaw, the ditches fill up and the water finds a low spot, generally a clean-out, goes down the vent-riser, down the clean-out and into the treatment plant. It is difficult to go on private property to inspect. It is Lockhart's intention to educate residents about the I & I problem.

*Fourth Agenda Item* – Town Hall renovations. The bathrooms are operational. Clerk Carol Bandon reported that we are awaiting different hand-towel machines and garbage receptacles.

Edwards said there have been three roof leaks within the last three weeks. The roof is failing above the courts administrative offices. CRA Engineering, along with the energy audit they are doing, they will perform an audit on the roof. This should be completed within two to three weeks. There is definitely a problem with the roof.

The roof-top heating system is old and parts are getting hard to find for repairs.

*Fifth Agenda Item* – Defibrillators. Johnson said he believes grant writer Rotella is looking into a grant to help defer the cost. Johnson will report back at the March meeting.

Newlin would like to phase them in, one building at a time. The library has requested one.

*Sixth Agenda Item* – Surplus Vehicles – Accept Bids.

**Edwards MOVED to recommend the acceptance of the high-bidder for the following: 1982 Lincoln Town Car to Airport Auto Wrecking @ \$125.00; 1987 Auto car Tandem dump to Clarence Walker @ \$2,150.00; 1989 GMC Chevy P/U to Airport Auto Wrecking @\$200.00; 1992 Ford F350 Mini dump to Pete Ross @ \$800.00; 1993 Chevy Mini Dump to Paul Brown @ \$511.72 and 1993 Chevy Mini Dump to Paul Brown @ \$243.00, Seconded by Bax and Carried 5 – 0.**

Funds from the sales to be put in the Highway Misc. Revenue Account.

*Seventh Agenda Item* – Request for maintenance – sanitary sewer & pump station – 2846 Saunders Settlement Road. Leone will contact owner, get legal description of the property and draft an easement.

*Eighth Agenda Item* – Muckland Pump repair bids. Edwards requests this be place under old business for the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Ninth Agenda Item* – Re-Zoning of property request – Ridge Road. Edward Briggs requests to re-zone property on the south side of Ridge Road, TM# 89.03-1-17.111 & 89.03-1-17.112 from residential to commercial.

**Palmer MOVED to forward the re-zoning request for Ridge Road, TM# 89.03-1-17.111 & 89.03-1-17-112 to the Planning Board, Seconded by Johnson and Carried 4 – 0 - 1.** (Bax abstained)

Palmer commended Reiter and his crew for the fine job performed over the weekend on the roads. All Board members agree.

*Tenth Agenda Item* – Plumbing Board Public Hearing – Change start time. With the large amount of phone calls the Board has received, Johnson would like to start the public hearing earlier.

**Johnson MOVED to change the starting time of the Public Hearing scheduled on the proposed local law for the creation of a Plumbing Board to 5:30 p.m., on March 24, 2008 with the Regular Town Board meeting to immediately follow, Seconded by Bax and Carried 5 – 0.**

Palmer has rescheduled the meeting with Al Chille – SPCA to March 24<sup>th</sup>

*Eleventh Agenda Item* – Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals training requirements. Some members are saying it is not necessary for them to attend training classes. Johnson said there is a State law that requires they attend four hours of training.

Leone will draft a letter, outlining the requirements, to all members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, telling them they need to contact the building department to schedule their training.

**Johnson MOVED to direct Attorney Leone to forward letters to the Planning Board and Zoning Board in regards to required training, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 – 0.**

The Town is currently working without a contract with the SPCA. They have performed service for January, February and March.

**Edwards MOVED to pay the SPCA for serviced provided in January, February and March at \$919.50/month, Seconded by Johnson and Carried 5 – 0.**

**Bax MOVED to enter into Executive Session to discuss highway personnel, pending litigation and a police matter, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 – 0.** (1:05 p.m.)

Executive Session

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Newlin; Councilmembers Bax, Edwards, Johnson, Palmer; Town Attorney Leone; Deputy Attorney Boniello; Highway Sup. Reiter; Engineer Britton.

Discussion on claim on a drainage issue. Discussion on a personnel issue.

**Edwards MOVED to exit Executive Session and reconvene Worksession, Seconded by Bax and Carried 5 – 0.**

Minutes taken by Attorney Boniello.

**Edwards MOVED to pay a voucher to Occhino Corp. in the amount of \$217,247.63 for Mountain View Drive Water System Improvements, Seconded by Johnson and Carried 5 – 0.**

Minutes taken by Supervisor Newlin.

**Edwards MOVED, based on the advice of counsel, the Board will follow normal Town hiring procedures with regard to the vacancy in the Drainage Dept. the vacant position of MEO II will be posted, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 - 0.**

**Palmer MOVED to request from civil Service the Certified Eligible List for Police Officer, Seconded by Bax and Carried 5 - 0.**

**Bax MOVED to have the starting rate for Barbara Travis' replacement set at \$13.90/hr., Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 - 0.**

**Edwards MOVED, pending advice of counsel, waive the residency requirement for part-time Police Officers, Seconded by Bax and Carried 5 - 0.**

**Johnson MOVED to adjourn, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 5 - 0 (2:55 p.m.)**

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted by,

Donna Garfinkel  
Deputy Town Clerk