

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Broderick; Deputy Supervisor Conrad; Councilmembers Geiben, Jacoby and Morreale; Finance Director Blazick; Attorney Parisi; Highway Superintendent Trane; Engineer Lannon; Building Inspector Masters, WWTP Chief Opt. Ritter; Water Foreman Townsend; Police Caption Penzotti; 2 Press; 16 Residents and Clerk Donna Garfinkel

**EXCUSED:** Councilman Bax

The Supervisor opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag followed by a moment of silent reflection.

#### AGENDA APPROVAL

Additions: Broderick – Niagara Discover Shuttle; Geiben – declare Recreation vehicle obsolete.

**Geiben MOVED to approve the agenda as amended, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

#### RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Witryol, Amy – Lower River Road – Witryol asked if Parisi has been included in the conversation on CWM Gross Receipt tax. Broderick said if not he, his firm has.

Parisi did speak to Witryol prior to the December executive session, where her concerns were expressed regarding the relationship of his firm. Witryol asked Parisi to clarify if it was his intent to recues from CWM, or not.

Parisi said his intent was not to recues himself, but not to actively participate, just provide legal counsel to the Board in terms of the Town's participation in the executive session. Parisi has not participated in the law suit, but has not necessarily recues what needed to be handled.

Witryol asked Parisi if he shared the document regarding financial relationship between his firm and CWM. Witryol distributed the document to Board members. Witryol requests Parisi consider recusal such that there is no participation, to the true letter of recusal.

Witryol again encourages the Board, in their deliberations over modifications to the Town Ethic Code. Board members are asked to be familiar with the letter and spirit of the existing Town Codes on conflict.

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD STATEMENTS

Parks & Recreation Director Dashineau told the Board Water Street Landing and Deal Realty sponsored a comedy night, with proceeds donated to the Lewiston Ice Rink and its operations. Water Street will be holding several benefits for local organizations. On March 10<sup>th</sup> the proceeds will be donated to HART Interfaith.

**Morreale MOVED to accept a check, in the amount of \$1,050.00 from the comedy night, to benefit the Lewiston Ice Rink and its operations, Seconded by Geiben and Carried 4 – 0.**

Dashineau requests the Board declare the 2002 Chevrolet C35 Dump Truck excess equipment and allow it to be placed on Auctions International. No department is interested in the truck.

**Geiben MOVED to declare the 2002 Chevrolet C35 Dump Truck as excess equipment and present it for auction on Auctions International, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Grant Writer Rotella attended a Parks and Recreation meeting and spoke regarding a survey for residents. A residential survey would help the Town when going out for grants. It demonstrates to the grant people, what residents are looking for.

Town Clerk Garfinkel – There are additional copy fees Garfinkel would like approved. This will be addressed at Reorganization meetings.

**Geiben MOVED to approve the following copy fee costs: Town Map -\$5.00; Disk/Thumb Drive (minutes) - \$25.00; Building Dept. Plans - 24'x 36' sheet - B/W \$12.00; 36'x 48' sheet - B/W - \$24.00; 24'x 36' sheet COLOR - \$18.00; 36'x 48' sheet COLOR - \$30.00, and any additional copying fees as determined by Clerk Garfinkel, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Captain Penzotti – The Chief will be filling upcoming vacancies at the next Board meeting.

WWTP Chief Opt. Ritter – The sign at the Lewiston Senior Center was destroyed from an accident. The crew at the plant will remove it.

#### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

**Geiben MOVED to approve the Town Board Work Session minutes – 2/12/2018, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

#### AUDIT PAYMENT

**Geiben MOVED to approve the Regular Abstract of claims for fiscal year 2017, numbered 3982 to 3986, and for fiscal year 2018, numbered 343 – 475, and recommend payment in the amount of \$1,218,093.40, plus a Post-Audit of \$34,517.81, Seconded by Jacoby and Carried 4 – 0.**

#### OLD BUSINESS

Bid – Fire Hydrant (NYPA) – Lannon said they have provided the requested insurance certificates and completed the appendixes to NYPA. It is now in their hands.

Board/Commission Vacancies – No applications submitted. Geiben requests advertising in the Sentinel.

Lighting Advisory – Ex-Officio – Morreale spoke to Brian Christman, Highway Dept. employee.

**Morreale MOVED to appoint Brian Christman - Ex-Officio to the Lighting Advisory, Seconded by Geiben and Carried 4 – 0.**

#### PENDING

Dog Shelter – Lannon requested to move forward with a bid.

**Geiben MOVED moving forward with Dog Shelter bid, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Bingo Inspector – Job has been posted internally until 2/28.

Cold War Veterans Exemption – Parisi said there is no action for the Board to take. The Assessor was giving the Board the information that this can be done. Parisi requests it be removed and can be put back on when a law has been prepared.

#### NEW BUSINESS - Residents / Public Correspondence

The Town received notification from Niagara Falls County Club that they are renewing their alcoholic beverage license for the Halfway House and the Beverage Golf Cart. If any Board member has an objection to them receiving their license a letter can be drafted and sent to the Liquor Authority.

#### SUPERVISOR BRODERICK

##### Liaison Report

Endorsement Niagara River Corridor – Ramsar Wetland – Supervisor received a letter from Greg Sheehan, Head of the Greenway Commission requesting the Town support the Niagara River

Corridor as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance. This designation will assist in the grant process. This will be the first border Ramsar with United States and Canada. Broderick has prepared a letter and asks the Board for authorization to sign and send out.

**Geiben MOVED to authorize the Supervisor to sign a letter of support for the Niagara River Corridor – Ramsar Wetland, Seconded by Jacoby and Carried 4 – 0.**

Upper Mountain Fire – Roster removal.

**Broderick MOVED to remove Max Jacobson from the Upper Mountain Fire Company, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Discover Niagara Shuttle

They request the Town's support for 2018, using Greenway funds. There is a promotional video, of the Town and Village, which will be shown on the shuttles as they travel.

**Broderick MOVED to support the Discover Niagara Shuttle, in the amount of \$50,000 of Greenway money and an additional, up-to \$5,000 for an advertising video, Seconded by Morreale**

Blazick said with it being Greenway funds it needs to be a specific amount, not an up-to.

Geiben would like the motion for a total of both dollar amounts. This will show what the money is to be used for.

Morreale said he was very instrumental in the project before it got off the ground. The whole object of the shuttle is to keep people on this side of the Falls. They have changed stops, added stops and shortened the season. Morreale feels this is the last year Lewiston should support this.

Jacoby feels this is a perfect fit for the Greenway money. Sometimes things done with the Greenway money is a little bit of a stretch. This is right on the water.

**Broderick amended his motion to \$55,000 of Greenway money to support the Discover Niagara Shuttle, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Legal - Nothing

Engineering

Lannon will conduct site-visits on a couple of ditches residents have complaints on. Lannon is helping Highway Superintendent Trane on a grant submission.

Finance

Blazick requests the Board authorize Jacqueline A. Agnello as a signatory on 8 accounts at Key Bank, 2 accounts at M&T Bank, and the Host Community Standing Committee bank account held on behalf of Lewiston at Key Bank, effective March 2, 2018.

**Geiben MOVED to authorize Jacqueline A. Agnello as a signatory on 8 accounts at Key Bank, 2 accounts at M&T Bank, and the Host Community Standing Committee bank account held on behalf of Lewiston at Key Bank, effective March 2, 2018, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Blazick needs to be removed from these bank accounts effective March 2, 2018.

**Geiben MOVED to remove Martha Blazick from these accounts effective March 2, 2018, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Blazick requests to retain a Town Hall key and pass code until the completion of her tenure on December 31, 2018.

**Geiben MOVED to authorize Blazick retain a Town Hall key and pass code until the completion of her tenure on December 31, 2018, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

The fund to cover Blazick's consulting agreement is budgeted in the Contingency Fund. Funds need to be transferred, in the amount of \$31,500, from A00-1990-0400-0000 Contingency to A00-1310-0400-0000 Budget Officer Contractual.

**Geiben MOVED to transfer \$31,500 from A00-1990-0400-0000 - Contingency, to A00-1310-0400-0000 - Budget Officer Contractual, Seconded by Jacoby and Carried 4 - 0.**

Check signer authorization for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector Account needs to be updated. The Board needs to authorize Donna Garfinkel as signatory. Garfinkel requests one Deputy be on each.

**Geiben MOVED to authorize Donna Garfinkel as signatory on the Town Clerk Account and the Tax Collector Account, with Carole Schroeder secondary signatory on the Town Clerk Account and Tamara Meogrossi second signatory on the Tax Account, Seconded by Jacoby and Carried 4 – 0.**

The Town insurance policy is up for renewal on March 15, 2018. Blazick is requesting the Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the necessary paperwork to keep coverage in effect. The Town is renewing the current policy through Key Insurance Benefit Services and is keeping the level of coverage as close as possible to the current insurance levels. This policy can be changed at any time should the Board decide.

**Geiben MOVED to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Town insurance agreement, subject to Attorney approval of the terms of the agreement and authorize payment of the premium up to amount budgeted, Seconded by Jacoby and Carried 4 – 0.**

Supervisor recognized Marti Blazick, as this is her last meeting as the Finance Director, and thanks her for all she has done for the Town, it has been incredible.

COUNCILMAN BAX - Excused

COUNCILMAN GEIBEN – Nothing to report

COUNCILMAN JACOBY

Liaison Report

Town Code – Code of Ethics & Financial Disclosure - At the last meeting Jacoby requested a copy of the Lewiston Taxpayers Accountability & Action Alliance Ethics code. He has read it, and believes the Town should do what he would do with something similar in his own household.

The Association of Towns has legal people to review such things, so Jacoby submitted it to them, and is awaiting a response. Jacoby will not vote on something he is affected by, without first understanding it. But more importantly if it goes badly, in either direction, people will know it has been reviewed.

COUNCILMAN MORREALE

Liaison Report

Parks / Recreation - Accept Fund Raiser dollars – already addressed

Solar Energy System Law

This was introduced two weeks ago and placed on the Town Website for public comment. There is a Public Hearing on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Parisi said the Planning Board approved this, subject to the Local Law being able to be modified as the approval process takes place.

Conrad said technology is changing so quickly, the solar panels as we know them now are going to be obsolete. Having it be open-ended, gives the ability to change the law to allow progress.

Parisi feels the definition of solar energy system in the law is broad enough, that when one is creating a system, where solar energy is being converted into electricity or energy of any sort, it will be covered by the law that is drafted.

Parisi took the Planning Board's approval more to mean, they considered it, they thought it was good but if something comes up at the Public Hearing, the law could be changed prior to its final approval.

Mt. St. Mary's Hospital - Site Plan – Storage tanks

Public Hearing needs to be scheduled.

**Geiben MOVED to hold a Public Hearing for Mt. St. Mary's Hospital - Site Plan – Storage tank request for Monday, March 12, 2018 at 6:15 pm, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.**

Resolution - Electric Car Charge Station Project – additional information is needed prior to approval.

Morreale said this is a rebate program for an 80% - 20% grant. The project total is \$21,634, making the Town liable for approximately \$4,000 of that. It would be placed in the east side parking lot of Town Hall. This is one more step to help Lewiston go green.

Geiben spoke to Morreale today to express his concern for the placement of the charging station. When people are traveling into the community and the charging station is located at Town Hall, this is where they will sit, for an extended period of time, while the car charges. They will have the Hill-View restaurant and Smoking Joes to go to. If the station was put in the center of the community it would have more access to more people.

Geiben asked Broderick to add this to the agenda for when the Board meets with the Village of Lewiston. Have them apply for the same grant, the second station could go there or another location.

Blazick said discussion started on this because of the Town's use of vehicles, and they would be parked here. The Town now has two leased cars and there is discussion of purchasing electric cars.

Geiben said everything he has read about electric cars is it's a judgment call as to; are you being pro-environment or fiscally responsible. In many cases you don't save a lot of money, but you're doing the right thing environmentally.

Geiben is in favor of the charging station, the best place needs to be decided.

Morreale said the Village can apply for the same grant if they would like it there.

Jacoby said the likelihood of the Town purchasing electric cars is slim if there is no charger. This grant is at the eleventh-hour, finding a new place might not be the best idea.

Broderick said when the charger is used by the Town it will not be charged, but the public will pay.

#### RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Warren, Rose Mary – Griffin Street – Warren is again disappointed on the Cold War Veterans Exemption. The Veterans will be in their 80's and dying off every day. Why is it pending, is it something legal?

Parisi said it is for anyone that served from 1945 – 1991.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 26, 2018

6:00 pm

Warren said the Board should acknowledge the students in the audience. Warren is not clear when they should have their papers signed.

Broderick noted Marjorie Maggard, member of Historical Association, is working on the Bi-Centennial celebration for 2022.

**Broderick MOVED to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Morreale and Carried 4 – 0.** (6:51 pm)

Transcribed and respectfully submitted by:

Donna R. Garfinkel, Town Clerk