

MEETINGS: 3
NO. OF REGULAR: 3

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW
April 27, 2020 7:00PM

ROLL CALL: Trustee Jakubowski – PR
Trustee Michaels - Pr
Trustee Stempniak - Pr
Trustee Hamernik - Pr
Mayor Peterson– Pr

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Jakubowski, and seconded by Trustee Voll the April 13, 2020 Village Board Minutes were approved.

ADOPT 2020-2021 BUDGET

Trustee Hamernik, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Budget for the Village of Depew for the fiscal year 2020/2021 is hereby **ADOPTED** with a tax rate of \$12.5707807 per thousand for residents on the Cheektowaga portion of Depew and \$13.8768358 per thousand for residents on the Lancaster portion of Depew.

The following resolution was seconded by Trustee Voll, and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Jakubowski - Y
Trustee Voll - Y
Trustee Hamernik – Y
Trustee Stempniak - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

APPOINT PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER

Pursuant to Section 4-400 of Village Law, I, Mayor Kevin Peterson hereby appoint Jenn Purpura to the position Full Time Public Safety Dispatcher in the Police Department effective April 27, 2020.

The appointment was acted upon in the following manner by the Board of Trustees:

Trustee Jakubowski - Y
Trustee Voll - Y
Trustee Hamernik - Y
Trustee Stempniak - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

ACCEPT FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTION RESULTS

Trustee Voll offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, on Thursday, April 9, 2020, the Depew Fire Department held their Annual Fire Department Chiefs Election with the following results.

Fire Chief	Todd Rzestuek	Aetna Hose Company
1 st Assistant Chief	Ryan Paolella	Cayuga Hose Company #3
2 nd Assistant Chief	John Gauthier	Hose Company #1
3 rd Assistant Chief	Brian Musielak	Hook & Ladder Company #1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the above election results and congratulates the elected Chief and Assistant Chiefs.

The forgoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Hamernik and **CARRIED**.

PERMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – DEPEW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Trustee Jakubowski, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, membership is hereby granted to the following in the Depew Fire Department pending the passing of his physical:

Aetna Hose Co.

Kevin Fusani

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Stempniak, and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Jakubowski - Y
Trustee Voll -Y
Trustee Hamernik - Y
Trustee Stempniak - Y
Mayor Peterson – Y

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Peterson led with explaining that after working with department heads the Village was able to take the Proposed Budget from a nearly 10% increase down to 4.2%. Thank you to all department heads for being so cooperative. In the midst of trying to work on the budget to make changes, which primarily affected the Police, Fire and DPW, the Village had to keep in mind that all 3 union contracts are in the middle of negotiations. The revenue loss projections also had to be considered due to the current Pandemic. Some revenues were reduced to reflect these possible, but most likely, shortfalls next year. When he was elected as Mayor, one of his goals was to use actual numbers from trends and recent year's actual numbers to predict where this year's numbers should be. One area was the DPW overtime line. It has been grossly under budgeted for a number of years so the amount this year reflects a truer number. Although hard to predict since the over time is usually a result of the snow fall season. Chief Miller worked with us to reduce his police car line in light of receiving the department's two new SUV's just today.

Andrew Harvey asked during the public comment portion if taxes were going up. Mayor Peterson stated that he could not remember a year that they had not gone up. We are all taxpayers here and wanted to be responsible with the rate. So in answer to your question, yes, taxes are going up.

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS – N/A

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS - Police – March 2020

UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS - N/A

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

Mayor Peterson began by thanking Chief Jamie Nusall for his dedication as Chief for the last two years and for ALL for holding so many fire department position over his long tenure with the department. Jamie was “presented” with a plaque to show the Village's appreciation.

Elizabeth from Assembly member Wallace's office wanted to pass on her thank you to Jamie as past Chief and to congratulate Todd Rzeszutek on his new role of incoming Fire Chief for the next 2 years. Assembly Member Wallace would like to offer her office's help to anyone who may be having trouble getting through to the unemployment office for benefits. If she or any member of her staff can assist you, please contact them at 716-686-0080.

Legislator Frank Todaro also was “present” to thank Jamie Nusall for his service and to our new Chief Todd Rzeszutek. Of note is that the anti-body tests are here. You do not need a script to be tested. You can call the COVID hotline at 716-858-2929. Mayor Peterson added that during his County conference call today, first responders and essential staff can call this hotline to inquire about getting tested as well.

Trustee Voll thanked Mayor Peterson for his amazing hard work that he put into the year's budget and to say the least it is very impressive that he was able to take an almost 10% increase and reduce it to a very respectable 4.2%. He also wanted to thank Legislator Todaro for getting around to so many communities and volunteering his time. Impressive that he hit the ground running! Leg. Todaro responded that it is his pleasure and to keep in mind we can all get through this by sticking at it and doing what we can for others. Go check on your neighbors, see if they need anything. Give them a phone call to let them know you are there for them.

Mitch Martin of Senator Gallivan's office joined the meeting and also thanked the Chief's and those members on the front line. His office is open with 1 person manning the phones. Feel free to call at 716-656-8544.

Chief Miller reviewed his report.

Chief Nusall reviewed his report.

Incoming Chief Todd Rzeszutek let everyone know that one tradition the department felt was important to continue was the ceremony of retiring Jamie's truck and holding his party which is when Todd will officially be sworn in and the truck being then his. The ceremony is Friday at 6pm with minimal members present.

RJ of OEM congratulated the Chief's. He also wanted residents and first responders to know that if you do get tested, as mentioned by Leg. Todaro, you must remain in quarantine until you receive the results of those tests which is approximately 24-48 hours. New systems of COVID-19 are chills, shaking with the chills, being achy and sore. Beware of scams as well. There is NO cure for this nor is there any treatment.

Ken at DPW said their new schedule of 3 team crews of 6 to 7 men each is working out great! Got the Village cleaned up, using the street sweeper and doing some patching as well!

Mayor Peterson reviewed and spoke on behalf of the Recreation Department report

Trustee Hamernik reported that 13 boxes of items in need was sent to the 914th base, which were received and appreciated very much. 10 more are going out on Wednesday.

Mayor Peterson asked Legislator Todaro if he knew anything about what was happening with the courts downtown. Apparently they are closed to the public but you can call there. He also said that for those having issues with the DMV he can look into helping us get the new street sweeper on the road.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Stempniak and seconded by Trustee Jakubowski, the following claims are to be paid: \$165,140.61 General, \$14.00 Sewer and \$165,154.61 Capital was **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Jakubowski, seconded by Trustee Voll, the meeting was adjourned with a moment of silence for Joseph Charles "Chaz" Gonzalez, 31 year old Depew resident who passed away on April 10, 2020 due to COVID-19 related causes at 8:00 **PM**. The motion was **CARRIED**.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Wachowiak
Village Administrator