

MEETINGS: 9  
NO. OF REGULAR: 9

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW  
July 26, 2021 7:00PM**

ROLL CALL: Trustee Ziemba  
Trustee Kucewicz  
Trustee Hamernik  
Deputy Mayor Stempniak  
Mayor Peterson

**ON A MOTION BY**, Trustee Kucewicz and seconded by Trustee Hamernik, the July 12, 2021 Village Board Minutes were approved.

**ON A MOTION BY**, Trustee Ziemba and seconded by Deputy Mayor Stempniak, the July 8, 2021 Zoning Board Minutes were accepted.

1. Frank Lerner of 64 Alys Dr West of Chapter 260, §260-14B(1)(h) to seek relief of the 3ft required setback to widen driveway, encroaching by 2'9". Denied
2. Mark Suchyna of 253 Bissell Ave of Chapter 260, §260-14B(4)(b)(1) to permit him to erect a fence within the required exterior side yard setback requirement for a residential corner lot of 10ft when the rear lot line abuts another rear lot line as per Village Ordinance. Granted

There were no public comments on the agenda items

**APPOINT POLICE OFFICER**

Pursuant to Section 4-400 of Village Law, I Mayor Kevin Peterson, do hereby appoint:

Matthew Wagner

to the position of Police Officer from the Electrical Department, pending the Civil Service medical evaluation and personal history check, effective August 2, 2021 at a starting salary of \$46,175.21. This appointment is from Exam No.64-264.

The forgoing nomination was acted upon in the following manner by the Village Board of Trustees:

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Ziemba - Y  
Trustee Kucewicz - Y  
Deputy Mayor Stempniak - Y  
Mayor Peterson – Y

Captain Curr added the following to Matthew's appointment:

Matt has been a long time resident of Depew, and attended Depew High school. Due to his passion for law enforcement he began taking criminal justice classes in high school, where he learned CPR, advanced first aid, and several police practical skills. He continued his criminal justice education at SUNY Erie community College and SUNY Buffalo State and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Matt has also been a faithful employee of the Village of Depew, working in the electric department since 2017. Matt has also recently assisted this department with our Police reform and reinvention collaborative last year and was a great contributor to the process.

**APPOINT FULL TIME DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER**

Pursuant to Section 4-400 of Village Law, I Mayor Kevin Peterson, do hereby appoint

Anthony Silveri

And

Brandon Atlas – Declined the job offer this afternoon.

to the position of Full Time Department of Public Works Laborer at the salary stipulated in the budget.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y

Trustee Ziemba -Y

Trustee Kucewicz – N – Have nothing against him, just statement, better qualified individuals in her opinion. Her vote is no.

Deputy Mayor Stempniak - Y

Mayor Peterson – Y – Individual department heads make their decision on their own. It's their department. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Make notice best qualified individual to work for village. He does not give special treatment to hire someone that he may know.

### **ACCEPT RETIREMENT – DPW CREW CHIEF**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the retirement of Michael Kinson, DPW Crew Chief, effective July 31, 2021 is accepted

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y

Trustee Ziemba - Y

Trustee Kucewicz - Y

Deputy Mayor Stempniak - Y

Mayor Peterson - Y

### **AUTHORIZE –NO PARKING SIGNS IN VARIOUS POINTS IN THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW.**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police has determined that a safety issue occurs due to a lack of sight lines when cars are parked at the following corners of the Village of Depew:

1. West side of Candace 35 feet from George Urban
2. North side of French Rd. from Transit rd. to Lewan Drive
3. **Bellevue Ave- No Parking west side from Terrace to Gould - Recommend continuing west side restrictions from Terrace to Broadway**
4. **Ellington St- No restrictions - Recommend west side restrictions**
5. **Canton St- No Parking east side from Broadway to Terrace - Recommend no parking on west side from Gould to Broadway**
6. **River St- No Restrictions - Recommend restricting west side from Broadway to Gould Ave.**
7. **N. Bryant- No Restrictions - Recommend restricting west side from Broadway to Gould Ave.**
8. **Lackawanna- No Parking east side from Broadway to Terrace - Recommend no parking on west side from Broadway to Gould**
9. **Erie - No Parking east side along gravel lot**
10. **Lehigh- No Restrictions - Recommend restricting east side**
11. **A St- No Restrictions - Recommend restricting east side**
12. **Terrace- No Standing both north and south side, west of A St. - Recommend restricting north side from Transit to A St.**
13. **Gould - No Parking north side, west of Lackawanna**

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police has recommended that a “No Parking Here to Corner” sign, be placed at the above streets and intersections, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board of Trustees wishes to follow the recommendation of the Chief of Police and place a “No Parking Here to Corner” sign as set forth above,

The forgoing resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Stempniak, and **CARRIED**.

**AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN COUNSEL FEE AGREEMENT**

Deputy Mayor Stempniak, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Depew is currently utilizing Hodgson Russ Attorneys 140 Pearl St #100, Buffalo, NY 14202.;

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Depew would like to continue the using Hodgson Russ for the use of Bond Counsel.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor Kevin Peterson is authorized to sign the agreement between the Village of Depew and Hodgson Russ Attorneys.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Ziembra - Y  
Trustee Kucewicz - Y  
Deputy Mayor Stempniak -Y  
Mayor Peterson -Y

**PERMISSION TO PURCHASE – LIVE STREAM AUDIO AND VIDEO FOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Deputy Mayor Stempniak, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Depew would like to purchase live streaming audio and video equipment from Robert M. Mejak, Engineer and Owner of Robert Mark Audio, for use in the Council Chambers during Village of Depew Council Chamber meetings. The cost to renovate the Council Chambers for the audio / video installation is \$11,500.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor Kevin Peterson is authorized to purchase the equipment and needed installation from Robert M. Mejak, Engineer and Owner of Robert Mark Audio.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Ziembra -Y  
Trustee Kucewicz -Y  
Deputy Mayor Stempniak - Y  
Mayor Peterson - Y

**PERMISSION CONFERENCE**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, permission is hereby granted to Lt Rochelle Menard to attend the LETDANYS 2021 Fall Conference from Wednesday September 29,2021 until Friday October 1, 2021 at The Ramada Plaza by Wyndham Geneva Lakefront Resort, 41 Lake Front Dr, Geneva, NY 14456. Use of a village vehicle is authorized.

AND

**BE IT RESOLVED**, permission is hereby granted to Lt Cory Skok, Officer Patrick Canna, and Officer James Wolf to attend the patrol Tactics Conference from Monday August 23, 2021 until Thursday August 26, 2021 at Turning Stone Resort & Casino, 5218 Patrick Rd, Verona, NY 13478. Use of a village vehicle is authorized.

The foregoing resolutions were seconded by Trustee Ziemba, and **CARRIED**.

### **AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION**

Deputy Mayor Stempniak, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Depew Board of Trustees does hereby authorize Mayor Kevin Peterson to execute and submit the Fireman's Park grant application to the State of New York for park improvement funds not to exceed \$700,000, further

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Depew will provide matching project funds as required of the grant program of an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Ziemba - Y  
Trustee Kucewicz - Y  
Deputy Mayor Stempniak -Y  
Mayor Peterson -Y

### **EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS**

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS - Building June 2021**

Fire Chief's Report  
Village Board Meeting  
July 26, 2021

Current Roster: 118 Firefighters, 6 Junior Firefighters

July 2021 Calls to Date: 25 YTD Calls: 166

YTD Structure Damages: \$368,000

The Fire Department remains hard at work. The last couple of weeks have proven pretty strenuous on our fire crews, with multiple structure fires that we have responded to, both in the Village and with our mutual aid partners in their respective jurisdictions. Our firefighters continue to answer the call, day in and day out, and continue training on a weekly basis to improve our skillset to provide the most professional service that our residents deserve. When you hear the Village fire whistle or firetrucks responding to a call, I ask that you keep our firefighters in your thoughts as they continue to work diligently to protect life and property in the Village of Depew.

Bob Brandon expressed his congratulations to the Mayor and Board of Trustees, as he attended the Founders Day Award ceremony. Each candidate that was given an award is very deserving of them, as they are what makes the Village work so well. It was a very nice presentation to all. Senator Kennedy had his radio show this week and spoke about the payment plan process for citations. The State is getting a large amount of money to be used to help fight the opiate addiction problem. These funds are ear-marked for that

and that only. There is also a moratorium on the assistance to people who need help making their mortgage and rent payments. For renters, the funding to help them will be given directly to the landlord. Don't hesitate to call their office at 826-8263 if you need assistance.

Assemblywoman representative Liz Brinkworth was very impressed with the Founders Day Celebration and the business she chose was Majestic Pools, she donated \$30,000 to help fund the Cheektowaga Girls and Boys Club. Their office is open and you can reach them at 686-0080.

DPW – Superintendent Pyc said that the first wave of milling and paving is done and went very well. They will now catch up on brush pickup and mowing of grass.

Electrical – George said that the Gazebo is done. There is some further re-wiring that will be done a little later. They will be looking at the fireman's horn to address some issues there.

Trustee Hamernik thanked the Depew FD and PD for all of their help when a fire at a neighbors' home engulfed her home with thick black smoke. Especially Office Jones for taking such good care of her and all of her neighbors to help them stay calm and to get through the situation.

Trustee Ziembra wanted to thank our new officer for stepping up at a time when the job of police officers is so difficult.

Trustee Kucewicz congratulated all of the employees who won awards at the Founders Day Celebration.

Trustee Hamernik said that Matthew's table will be a sit down meal with 150 guests. Other after that number will use the drive through method.

Deputy Mayor Stempniak informed everyone that the deadline for the RFP's that went out will be Friday of this week.

Mayor Peterson congratulated all of the winners of Founders Day and announced each one. Each department head submitted the person of their choice for the award.

#### **CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS**

**ON A MOTION BY** Trustee \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by Trustee \_\_\_\_\_, the following claims are to be paid: \$378,142.80 General, \$7.53 Community Development, \$1310.70 Sewer Fund, \$115,272.00 Capital Projects Building Reno, \$494,733.03 Capital was **CARRIED**.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ON A MOTION BY** Trustee Ziembra and seconded by Trustee Kucewicz the meeting was adjourned A moment of silence for Cheektowaga Police Chief Michael Sliwinski at 7:56 PM. The motion was **CARRIED**.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Wachowiak  
Village Administrator