



MEETINGS TO DATE: 16

NO. OF REGULARS: 15

AGENDA

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW

SPECIAL MEETING

November 1, 2021 7:00PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Trustee Kucewicz

INVOCATION – N/A

NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS

ROLL CALL: Trustee Hamernik - H
Trustee Ziembra - H
Trustee Kucewicz - H
Deputy Mayor Stempniak - H
Mayor Peterson - H

AGENDA ITEMS

1. ARPA FUNDS DISCUSSION – Deputy Mayor Stempniak opened the discussion at 7:05pm and Trustee Hamernik seconded
2. ADJOURNMENT Deputy Mayor Stempniak closed the discussion at 8:22pm and Trustee Hamernik seconded

Trustee Ziembra made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22, Trustee Kucewicz seconded.

Minutes:

Mayor Peterson opened the meeting stating that there was one item on the agenda and it's basically ARPA, American Rescue Plan Discussion. Just to give a brief background, for those of you who may not know, all during the pandemic, there was talk of some of the stimulus money finding its way down to the local level, to municipalities across the country. When President Trump was in office and the Senate was controlled by the Republicans, each of those proposals that came up did not include any money to the local Village, Town, City, County. Elections occurred and there was a change to Democratic President, but there was still another piece, the Senate was still in Republican control. In January, the 5th, the State of Georgia had their election for their two Senators and they flipped from Republican to Democrat which gave the ability, he believes it was 50/50 then plus the Vice President would be the 51st vote. So at that time, it became more evident that there was going to be money coming to the municipal level. In early February the number was higher than what it actually turned out to be, but you got a pretty good feeling of what the number might look like at our level. A lot of that had to do with the make-up of our Village population and our total population. Initially when County Executive Poloncarz reached out to the Mayor's and Supervisors of Erie County it was carte blanche, no strings attached. This was early on, mid to late February. At that time, we were looking at anywhere between \$2.8 million and \$3.3 million dollars from the Federal Government, not trying to tell you how they were going to give it to us, but it was going to filter its way down. It worked its way through Congress and the number that was just under \$1.6 million dollars, which is still a tremendous amount of money. Back in the early Pandemic, there were numbers floating around in those early Pandemic packages that the number might be \$805,000 to the Village which he thought again, was a tremendous amount of money. They released half of it in July of this year, the 22nd, it came via the State, from the Federal Government to the State, our Village is not above the 50,000 thresholds, which would have been a direct payment, they delayed it for a little bit and then it came into our bank account, he believes about \$766,000. There was a slight adjustment that came later, about \$3,500 thousand dollars from those municipalities who declined the funds. That's what they said and so the next half of it will be next year, July of 2022 when the rest of it will fall to the Village. A plan for this has to be encumbered by December of 2024 and monies have to be expended and paid out by December of 2026. There are a lot of things you can read about it, there were strings attached to it, some of the easiest things you could use it for were water, sewer and network infrastructure for internet

service. We started asking questions to NYCOM which is our body that over-see Mayors and Villages and Cities, trying to get somebody to commit to what the money could be used for. One of the things that finally became, from all up and down, whether it was the NYS Senators or Assembly people was that anything park related could be used. Originally that was one of the programs that we've been working on since July of 2019, putting money into Fireman's Park, into the pavilion.

At this point, this is the best way for the group to get together to meet and discuss any questions they may have to go through this. Just can't do it anyway, one on one. Open meetings law prohibits more than 2 of us getting together at the same time discussing Village business. So, this is an open forum for anybody to ask questions, we also invited the public and we're also live and on our Youtube channel. It's been almost two months, since August 23rd since we talked about it so we're going to open it up to people who might have possible ideas for use of the money. Hopefully they've done some vetting of the project they would be in favor of doing. If you are in the building just come up, state your name and your address, and address the board if you have an idea or thought.

First, I'll reach out to the board members if they had any other project they wanted to present. Trustee Hamernik was interested in the renovation of the dispatch department and she thinks we have addressed that and that it is going to be taken care of. She's happy with that. Mayor Peterson explained that Audrey had proposed a re-doing of the dispatch office, moving some walls around. It's a very small space to begin with. The Chief had brought up moving dispatch across the hall to the conference room, my comment back to that was that he had to find a space to do a large pre-board meeting. Since we've gone to the Youtube service, it makes more sense to bring the pre-board into here so we can go back to broadcasting pre-board like we did during COVID. It would not be a round table like it was down there, it would be pretty much the way you see it now. Anyone else would sit at the chairs. It would be a good thing we could work through to move dispatch over and give them the workspace they need.

Trustee Kucewicz asked if we were to move dispatch, where would we be getting the money from for that project? Mayor Peterson told her that initially we were looking at monies that were in the budget could be re-appropriated. He had hoped that Chief Miller would be there to answer questions that might come up for each department. At the meeting just recently, Deputy Mayor Stempniak said he talked about the money from the auction which is around \$30,000. The amount for the project is about \$50,000, so there's \$30,000 there and she just talked to Mary Beth & Heather in the parking lot to see if there are any grants available or CARES ACT funding. Maybe some state funds that we could get for that. Initially when Audrey brought this up, the money could be used for air filtration systems improvements said Mayor Peterson. Which is an issue in the smaller current dispatch area. Mayor Peterson asked the Chief, since he sits in there most all day. Chief Rzeszutek didn't want to speak out of turn but said if there was a code inspection right now with the current standards, it would absolutely fail. There is zero filtration in that room. There are 17 computer monitors now in a room that is half the size of his bedroom. The heat in there is out of control, our only actual form of fresh air ventilation is the side window that faces the sally port and we can't do that because it's been leaking sewer gas from the sewer grate that's down there for years. Got to a point that it actually registered on his fire radio. When we first talked about it, if we move, there is an old door space that can be knocked out with a new door placed there and have some kind of ventilation system, where we weren't breathing in sewer gas. Mayor Peterson said that there are some moving pieces in that OEM is in that room and there were some discussions last year during the Pandemic the Chief approached us that the OEM officers may become a part and over-seen by the Police Department. That would make sense that OEM would become a part of dispatch there. To answer your question about the funds Jackie, our fund balance is healthy, we're waiting on the final numbers from the audit this year, it could come from there, they've encouraged us to spend down some of our fund balance so we can look at that and as it was brought up earlier by Erica, we're looking at the three police cruisers that were recently sold at auction, theoretically the money should go back there. If you look at the department, the money came out of their budget. In years past, we've given them \$123,000 and typically that bought 3 maybe 4 vehicles. We cut it back as a cost saving measure during the Pandemic for the 20-21 budget to \$80,000. It only makes sense that the money came out of their budget and purchased out of that line and now we've auctioned them off and there should be a way to get that money back in the budget. I think there is some money in there and he is referring to that money that they've used to purchase vehicles out of that line. We could be looking at some of that money as funding. When Chief Carwile was here he asked for some of that money for windows in the project we are just doing. It was better doing it in a BAN where we got to do the roofing, the air conditioning and heating and cooling along with DPW equipment and the windows all bundled into one. This could be a case where we could take the money out of his existing budget as well. A lot of it would be done in house in a lot of ways with our DPW crew. Sorry, that was long winded. Jackie said it's ok she was just something, based on your comment that it's something we have to make a priority. There are a couple of pieces to it, they have been charged

with getting some numbers and one is the move over, another is, being in the fire service, Mayor Peterson sees it more than some do, in there are times when dispatch is really overwhelmed with one person being in there. So, he has asked the Chief to come up with some numbers to see if we can't beef up that department. As an example, in 2019, September with the twin fires Chief Rzeszutek was on board, and no offense to any dispatchers and to those dispatchers that are listening, if the Chief wasn't on, that was a very difficult call and difficult night. It would have been nice to have another hand there. The Chief said it's almost a life-saving call because a lot of times they get hot calls and another 911 call comes in or someone calls with a breaking in and we have to tell that person to hold. He believes they are only one of 2 that have only one person. It turns into a safety issue. It's been recommended that no one have only one person in there. And the situation now in there is that if we have to go to the restroom, they do not have that readily available and have to call someone, if they're on a call, you hope you have a good bladder because it could be hours before they get back to you. And in that area, there are two bathrooms available. Mayor Peterson said if there are issues with air filtration that can come out of this money as well. Audrey talked to Courtney Ball and relayed that to Mayor Peterson. Chief Rzeszutek said they have other people, officers dropping off warrants from other jurisdictions and they come back and see what we have back there and see what we have access to, the schools security cameras. Middle school, Cayuga, OLBS, we have access to all of that. Of course, those are big monitors that give off a lot of heat in a room that's half the size of a bedroom and if you don't have that filtration on a 16 hour shift it can turn into a long shift. It's a health situation.

Mayor Peterson asked Trustee Ziembra if he had anything and he replied no, he's waiting to hear from the public. Mayor Peterson said he will open it up to the public and Trustee Kucewicz wanted to say that when she first came, she met with each department head and asked them what their biggest needs were. The Police Chief did mention that so she is passionate about it and wants to make sure we make it safe. Mayor Peterson thinks there is enough behind it to make that happen. And as long as we have a location for pre-board, he thinks it's a good spot for it. There's been some talk about getting back the union office that was the old Mayor's office at one time, it's not anywhere near where we can bring in a large pre-board crowd but we could have an interview in there or department head meetings. The Chief has inadvertently answered some of those questions.

Does anyone have any other project that hasn't been talked about, if it's about the pavilion we might hold that off but if either of the two of you have anything else you want to present to us as a use for this? It's ok if you don't.

Tonight, this meeting was open to our department heads and I appreciate that you're here Fire Chief, Kenny from DPW, Tony from Code and Kevin from Rec if there are questions that can be answered. If we had George here from electric that might have been helpful too.

Mayor Peterson had our grant writing team come up to the podium. Heather Malone, Mary Beth Willis and Jean O'Connell. Mary Beth who does a lot of our recent grants, if you can come up and give us a background, dating back to when we first started talking about Fireman's Park which would be the summer of 2019. Jean O'Connell introduced herself as the owner of the company, but Mary Beth has been doing most of your grant writing so she will let her do most of the talking, she just reads the grants when they come across her desk, so she's busy but when we started this it was talk, it hasn't gone away and it's something the Village can benefit from. They work a lot of municipalities and parks are very important to them, and to young people and to the old people. She thinks it's a great project. She sees many of these come and go and its lot of money for us when we rent them out. Parks are great!!!

Mary Beth agrees with Jean, parks are very important! We will also tell you as your grant writers that NYS like to build on investment, so to get something started at the park, it will build on future projects for you. Mayor Peterson asked them both to take us back to when it first started. Heather explained that in April of 2019 Erica headed up a public meeting at the VFW and had UB students there. As grant writers we came in to do a needs assessment and Fireman's Park was on the drawing board before Kevin became Mayor there was a plan that was etched out and then it went into a corner and no one did anything with it. They started talking to Kevin and the board about reviving this plan and there's a grant application called the Consolidated Funding Application that comes out in May and is due in July every year and that is an opportunity to apply for funding for the parks. We put that into the conversation and said we really need to start planning this park and getting new drawings done and see what you want in the park. Mayor Peterson said this was 2019 and we were aiming for 2020. That was our original talk about the park. Then in April Erica headed up this public meeting at the VFW post and she had a friend that was in UB Urban Planning so they took it upon themselves to visit the park, get the lay of the land, do a presentation to the public. They came in with a sketch lay out of the plan and presented it to the public. There were quite a few people at the meeting, Audrey was there that

night. The proposed to the people, “what would you like to see at the park, what do you like at the park now, what do you not like about the park now?” Everyone was able to take sticky notes and put it on the plan, their ideas for this park. Students read them off, people wanted to see more trees, more ball diamonds fixed, people wanted to see a loop around for excursive, to possibly see an all-inclusive playground. The public came up with all these ideas with their sticky notes. At that point, Kevin got in touch with Liz, who is also here, from DiDonato and she started working on these renderings of what this park could look like. This is one of the concepts for the concessions/bathroom and it would be a phenomenal asset to have in this park. This would really give it a kick start, because with this facility you could rent it out, earn some income for your Village. New bathroom facilities, if you’ve visited the park recently you know that the ones there are not that good. This would encourage, I know Kevin (Rec) is great with all of his rec programs and everything, it would have a better layout for all of the children that use the park, people that come in for ball games, it would just be a real boost for us. Based on these renderings, Mary Beth came in. Mary Beth explained that when it came time to actually write the grant, this particular program was on hold for a year because of COVID. That delayed the project for a while, but we came up with a two to three phase project for the park. The actual grant application would cover phase two. Mayor Peterson stated that just looking at the timeline he was setting up earlier come in April and May it become pretty clear that we could use the money in the park from the Federal Government. O’Connell then came back to us and said the CFA grant was now back on the table. You said let’s move ahead with phase two which is a 50% match. Yes, they came up with a \$750,000 project so that the grant application was for \$350,000. The biggest component of the application is what they call the new multi-use trail which will make that park it all-inclusive. Strollers, wheelchairs, and now, anyone cannot get from the ball diamond to the playground without going through the grass or tramping through someone’s picnic, so Liz came up with a great design. Mayor Peterson explained that Liz would be coming to the podium soon as well.

To backtrack a little bit, we know, as grant writers, that the benefits of a park to a community are expediential. Economically you will draw residents, you’ll draw visitors who will spend money in your community and up your property values, increase your tax base. Environmentally you’ll bring in trees, green space, drainage areas, all good for the environment and individuals for mental health, mental health and having a place to exercise and also to identify you as Depew! You’re not Cheektowaga, you’re not Lancaster, this is Depew!! We chose all things that were accessible and sustainable. Things that NYS looks for when we write grants. The bike path and putting in new lighting standards, some new playground equipment and we’re going to update some existing playground equipment and re-do some surfacing with this project. Make the surface safe around the playground. There will be one new shade shelter, new rain garden which is a pretty way of saying drainage. Re-surface some of the courts.

Mayor Peterson explained, not to muddle this, that’s phase two with the idea that phase one would be a piece that’s moving forward. We would find out about this piece in December.

Deputy Mayor Stempniak wanted to add a little caveat to the funding. We have to match 50%, but we can do in-kind service. We can use our DPW guys to do our re-surfacing of the walkway because their salaries count towards the match. We don’t always have to have \$350,000 on hand if we use our own resources, that counts towards that funding. Plus, to add to that, I know Jackie, your dad asked at the meeting in the summer, what about next year’s money, the matching \$760,000 let’s say \$350 or if your guys, Kenny, could do \$50,000 of that for whatever services that might be the walk ways or what have you. That could come out of the ARPA money as well. At that point, if those two pieces have been finished, the Village basically gets a pretty brand-new park for really no direct tax payer funding. There’s still money left over and I know we talked about the Dom Pulski which is a big project for Audrey and her not for profit group and we would hope to be able to help out with as well. We feel, even though we’re not the lead on that, it’s an important part of the Village make up of this particular area.

Trustee Hamernik as what is the cost of the whole project? Mayor Peterson explained that that is when we’re going to get with Liz. Jean explained that one thing we have to remember if this grant is awarded, you have three years to spend it. You’re not going to spend money all in one budget year. We have the ability to budget it over a few years so it isn’t like you have to come up with the match on the day it does get granted, the CFA grant.

Mayor Peterson said that’s where we’re at and it’s not really the basis of the discussion we’re having tonight, just so you see the whole picture. There is actually a third phase which is the ice rink component. Even two years ago was the biggest chunk and not even yet reachable yet. Keeping that in mind if this goes through as phase one, the CFA goes through as phase two, once you start moving on that, probably not this year, but maybe not next year but the following year you’ll be well on your way to restoration we’d be on our way to the ice rink phase. If everything is going well,

things are being built and they look timely, they look favorably upon the Village that has their ducks in a row. They like to see things achieved. They will keep tabs on what we're doing after we receive the money to see you get to the end of your goal as long as you are following their rules. Does anyone have any questions of our grant writers, including you guys in attendance? He knows that this is a little unusual, but ask if you have anything.

Trustee Ziemba asked, on the application, page 4, statement of need question Q976, the last sentence reads the construction of this project will create 10 jobs in the park upgrades will maintain jobs in the parks and recreation maintenance and program. So, the 10 jobs it will create are the construction jobs to build it correct? The grant writers answered yes to the question. And then the upgrades and maintenance so we can count that as part of our money for the match over the next three years? The recreation maintenance and program are part of our 50% match? Is that what we can do? Erica responded that she does not know about that, but she does about actually build the structure but not sure about the maintenance component. He was only asking because it was in the grant. Mayor Peterson reminded everyone to keep in mind, that there are a lot of things that go into writing the grant to make it sound proper. Mary Beth agreed. Those 10 jobs are based on a standard formula of the cost of the project. Mayor Peterson explained that he doesn't know that we can use the application to say we have to have 10 jobs there. There are a lot of things that go into writing the grant to be successful in getting the money. Trustee Ziemba said it wasn't so much the 10 jobs, it was more of the match to maintain this facility. Mayor Peterson explained it's more of the construction which is the DPW, and Mary Beth said yes, the in-kind service. Trustee Kucewicz asked what the date was again that we would find out about the grant? December? Heather replied usually mid to late December. With COVID and everything they don't really know; it could be January. It won't be much later than that she thinks.

Mayor Peterson gave the floor to Liz Meegen. He asked Gina, there are a couple laptops on the podium with a power-point presentation that Liz did with some photographs of the bathroom and the sheds, the long-shed that would be demolished. It is live on YouTube, right? The power-point presentation is live on YouTube. Mayor Peterson confirmed that Liz's company, DiDonato, was brought in by former Mayor Steve Hoffman in 2011/2012. When he came in as a Trustee, the beautiful rendering was there. As Steve said it was over \$4,000,000 and was sort of the Taj Mahal in park pavilions and it would have blown away anything that Lancaster or Cheektowaga had. Mayor Peterson thinks the version we are using is more appropriate to the Village of Depew and Liz confirmed that they did modify it. She believes it is a beautiful addition and will be very user-friendly space. It's multi-functional. When they first started, they walked the park, they walked all the buildings and tried to look at the condition of them to tie it in to the Village's need and found them to be in need of serious improvements. The mayor handed out an updated version of pricing that he received today from Liz for everybody. If you have questions on the numbers, Liz will take specific questions. With the numbers, they've been adjusted since early 19-20 before the Pandemic and the health crisis into play. The numbers he gave out back in August are fairly close to the numbers in front of you now were not solid numbers. He knows Liz is a little apprehensive about the exact numbers because no one is willing to commit to something that is down the road a bit. The program they used for this is RSMMeans Data and it is pretty well known in their industry. They have their finger on the pulse on the going rates. This is the square footage estimate report that is based on the type of building. The specifics of your building will bear out a finer tuned number once they have every item selected. They looked at making this a simple structure, something that is very functional that will offer a lot of different options for the use. We situated it East and West on the site with these over-hangs. She was a mom that sat there at all the ball diamonds and not a tree to be found, it's boiling hot. She is very familiar with this park; her kids grew up in this park. She was an Administrator with the Saints and that is actually how she became familiar with Steve. She is very excited to see it resurface after this amount of time. She is here to really answer any questions you have about the building. Numbers can change here as we move forward with the project. It would be really nice to see this community get use of this money. Deputy Mayor Stempniak questioned with these types of buildings if we contracted some of our guys with electrical or plumbing, is that allowed or is it whoever we bid out to? Liz explained that that would be something they would work into the engineered drawings. They would still engineer it, if you wanted to go that route that would be stipulated in the documents, that it's by owner. Mayor Peterson offered that like George's department would like a pretty big chunk of that business. Erica offered like roof construction, our DPW guys could do that to save costs. Liz usually approached something that like to maybe get the shell up and in terms of doing the wiring is the easy part. Trying to coordinate it with a general contractor. If you start breaking it out into large components, it's really difficult to say, they want it buttoned up and they want to guarantee the frame work. We can certainly discuss it and see what her departments are willing to take on in order to save the money. Mayor Peterson thinks that Liz built into this that we might handle the demo of the block in the bathroom and the long shelter. That is savings there or in phase two the walkways might very well be a DPW project. We have to keep in mind that we don't want to burden Ken's crew too much. To that point Liz commented that what they do and everything she has

inspected, they do very well. The buildings are beyond useful life and it's time to update. Mayor Peterson said that Kevin's crew are the ones that keep a fresh coat of paint on the buildings. One of the other things that they have to work into the project is that they have to survey the park. Survey the actual buildings, each department. There is really nothing on file. They have some drawings of the ice rink but the original drawings are not available to them. Like where the drainage is, they have to document the existing conditions. They would have a survey crew come out and document the entire parcel. Right now, it's 6 or 7 parcels if you go to Erie County GIS. Trustee Hamernik asked about the pavilion, is it necessary to have two multi-purpose spaces, is that something that is feasible, to have something to rent out to use? Erica responded they thought it would be better to have two so we have something to rent out, to have two rental spaces for extra income. We currently use the long shed for some storage, looking at having a little room for storage and two rooms to rent out. Mayor Peterson said you can't really just cut it in half and have half the savings. If there was a smaller party you could almost section it off to three. You could have a small birthday party on one side and do yoga on the other side. It's meant to be a very versatile space. Like a farmer's market, trying to make it so it meets your festival needs. The idea of you having food trucks on the side and the fact that you have these open-air porticos. Trustee Hamernik asked if there would be heating and cooling in the multi-purpose rooms. Liz explained that these would be full year-round use. Erica said it will be nice because people could rent it out for holidays. Audrey knows they used to do a lot of parties there but over the years it became dilapidated. Mayor Peterson knows if we invited Holley from the group of yoga and when the ground is wet, she has to end up cancelling that turns away 40, maybe 44 people from doing it. If we had a facility like this, they could use one of the sides. Useful all year round.

Trustee Ziemba asked of the picnic shelter with a pre-fabbed metal foundations and slabs, Kevin told him in phase two, he commented that we are keeping the gazebo, right? Yes. The picnic shelter will face the soccer fields, there would be two. They aren't removing anything just improving and adding some shelters. Trustee Ziemba said so right now we have the pavilion and we want to add 3? Liz replied that we want to add 2. Mayor Peterson said people can rent out the long shed, one side of it, and the gazebo, those are the two rental spaces that the Village has. If the pavilion is built as it looks, there will be two rentable spaces or as Liz eluded to maybe the spaces could be partitioned. In phase two there would be the two areas you see there and the gazebo. Theoretically speaking we could be going from 2 rental spaces right now to 4 or 5 rentable spaces. If the two phases get done, Audrey questioned if it will be handled by the recreation department for the rentals? Mayor Peterson said with that great program we invested in a couple of months ago. Keep in mind too Erica said that the shelters aren't in use during the week, if someone brings their kids to the park and need some shade, people could sit in the gazebo for addition shade until the trees get bigger.

Mayor Peterson asked Chief Rzeszutek if maybe the fire department would come back, we could do inspection dinner there maybe. Chief responded that he when he has been in the department for just over 20 years now, when he first got in, they did a lot of their parties there and fundraisers. Their own members rented out the park for their own private parties. Unfortunately, he is in the same situation as Liz, just different, he grew up at that park, he played hockey for the Saints his entire life, played baseball for Depew/Lancaster, he lives right next to it. Personally, he is invested because his kids are invested. He doesn't want to sound bias from that end but at least from a fireman's standpoint, it's named Fireman's Park, he remembers how it used to be and how everyone used to enjoy that park when he was a kid. When he goes to the baseball games now it's called the Grandparents' Park because it's always in the outfield because the elderly people can't make it through walking through there because it's in rough shape. He just thinks the way the Village took care of it in his generation, we owe it to the generations coming up so they come out of their homes and stop playing video games and enjoy the park like it is supposed to be enjoyed. Bringing that back to the pavilion itself would be awesome, and not only that, the ability for the residents to be able to rent that out. That's the one reason why they left, he's been Chief now, or as an Assistant Chief capacity for over 10 years now and they just can't afford tetanus shots for all of their members. It has literally come to that unfortunately. They can't take the risk and they don't want to take the risk of somebody getting hurt having a family picnic with the kids all running around and there are nails sticking out. It seems like a good project. Trustee Hamernik commented as speaking for the elderly, that she knows when she goes to the gazebo for different functions, when it came to the fireman's inspection, when it came to the walking on the grounds that are so un-level, I had to watch myself and my ankles or whatever, she was afraid of falling. She felt it was very difficult walking from the monument spot, all the way across the street for the inspection. Liz explained they are working these trails into it, in phase two. Even your little grandchildren can bring their tri-cycles, they are not in traffic, not near traffic. It just makes it safer; she often rides her bike on the trail that goes out to Alden and doesn't have to worry about not hearing a car coming up on her. By the time Audrey walked from the monument to the street, half the ceremony was over. Erica added from a family's perspective the sidewalks in the Village are older, they have cracks and bumps while you are pushing a stroller, you're hitting something. She's not

going to walk in the street on Terrace Blvd and risk getting hit by a car. She thinks from a family perspective and an ADA perspective this is something huge that we have to make the bathrooms and the walkways our two top priorities.

One of the other things they wanted to touch on Liz said was like the grant writers brought up about the water. NYS really promotes water quality so this all has to do with our run offs. The rain garden idea is being worked into this. Some of the swails and they might create a berm in this area that will help with your water quality. Mayor Peterson stated that one other thing to make mention of from those meetings with the public, there was an ala carte list of things that would like to get done. As an example, this CFA Grant Application that was submitted at the end of July that we would love to have that parking lot across from the gazebo other than millings and boulders and the environmentally friendly parking lot you proposed is just a little too costly. It was over \$250,000 perhaps. Liz suggested that maybe we could parlay that into what you are discussing. In other words, there are other things on this “menu” that can be picked and chosen at a later date. It’s a beautiful piece of property and there is a lot of opportunity for growth there Liz added.

There were no questions submitted from YouTube so far. Paul Sprada, 58 Argus, for Liz, this proposed long house, the roofing on it, what kind of roofing on it? Liz proposed a metal roof on it. They were looking at the other buildings on the site, the gazebo has a metal roof so they keep it the same. That’s what Paul was going to suggest because the existing buildings now all need re-roofing. The garage/storing near the pool, they all need new roofs. You put a metal roof on that’s going to last 50 years. About the cupola, is that going to be functional? Liz replied that she would like it to be. He would too. It’s for ventilation and if you put light in there.... Liz said the idea was to always have natural light in there. Paul asked if there are any fire hydrants in that park? Chief said not right in the park, but exterior. Kenny told him that there is one right outside of the park right on Terrace and Erie. Paul just wanted to make a suggestion because accidents happen when you least expect them, could have one or two strategically placed hydrants. Kevin told the Chief that we could get someone involved with that. You were talking about the water gardens, you know Lancaster, with their extension they’re having a water garden there. His cousin is involved with that. He said Liz might want to talk to Lynn Ruda about what they’re doing. Selection of trees? Is there going to be an arborist involved? Yes, and there will be one involved with Erica’s tree committee as well. What will be nice is that we’re going to know how many trees we have and what kind because we are going to be doing that inventory. Paul stated that it is a big park and there is a minimal number of trees in it. Erica reminded us that we planted four about two years ago, it’s a drop in the bucket but we’re trying to do a little every year. Some of those trees in there are probably 20 or 30 years old and they are Sycamore trees. But you need a variety. Liz thought it might be a fun idea for a fund raiser to bring it to the public to “fund a tree”. Fund one for your grandchild and you can say that’s their tree! Chief Rzeszeutek told Paul just for his knowledge, there is a hydrant at Terrace and Erie that covers the whole front of the park near the volley ball courts, we also have a hydrant at Erie and Gould by the ice rink as well and then at A Street and Terrace. From a fireman’s stand point we would always want to look at that and review it. The square footage does not justify a sprinkler system Tony explained to a suggestion by Liz. Back to the ball diamonds, is that going to have all new fencing around the ball diamonds? How many diamonds are there? Mayor Peterson said 2 little league, one true softball and another one there for adult. Will they be similar to the new ones at Dawson Park? The backstop is great plus the fenced in area by the park. It’ll be that black covering Mayor Peterson said. Just talking about safety, the backstop where the foul balls stay in. The curved backstop is gorgeous! Todd thinks that’s done by USA Baseball or USS softball depending on what type of diamond you’re playing on are the new safety requirements. Paul asked if Dawson Park was a village park now or who is in charge of it? Mayor Peterson said it is the Lancaster Baseball Booster’s Club. It is no longer Depew Schools. He thinks they are in their third year of a lease to own which is a 10 year. After 10 years he believes they will own that property. Bruce and his crew have done a tremendous job there. Now the park at the end of West Dawson the neighborhood park which is being done by Ken’s crew, Paul said it’s coming along nice and Kevin said we’re waiting on a couple of peoples for the train part.

Steve Hoffmann, 31 Ridgeway Street – Working backwards, you asked about the roof, he would think you would want to gobble up tearing down that facility and getting that match Kenny, just like electrical, he would think the electrical department would want to gobble that up as well. The plumbing and the roof, get it shelled out to your point Liz so you’re not stacking contractors up. Trustee Ziemba you asked about page 4, whenever you talk about maintenance, it’s typically is an expense. It’s an expense item, there are no match dollars on that. He would not expect that to be a match. Thinking about this building, I kind of go back to I grew up in this Village as well and it’s an opportunity to invest in the Village. It sounds like everybody is on board with getting what we want as far as the dispatch, an opportunity to invest in the Village, invest in our future. I stood in front of you a couple months ago and talked to you about the meaning of the park and representing our legacy, our past and present and future firemen, this models that. Fire Chief, couple suggestions, if you are in dispatch for a period of time, based on this building, you probably have

about 4 air handling units. An air handling study is not that much money. Get Mollenberg to do it, Danforth to do it, Quackenbush to do it, probably with the size of the building probably about \$3500 bucks. As far as the sewer gas, typically a dry trap or stuff like that unless you have something going on down there. Kenny said it's a sewer line that runs between Manitou and Sanilac, they flush it, it's a small moving line and with everything and sometimes it is what it is. The air handling study is not that much and any time you change a room size, change of structure, you really need to reevaluate that CFM. Todd said right now where dispatch is, the three-room area, there is nothing. Steve said he'd leave us with this, with COVID comes all these state mandates, our air handling units cannot handle that static pressure, you're going to burn up motors and bearings. You'll never be able to get mir 15's in there and even if you could get them, it would be a boat load of money. Mayor Peterson told him that we were successful in getting money for the senior center that we applied for last year and all 4 units are being replaced with new heating and air conditioners and all the touchless faucets that the DPW guys are doing. A touchless facility, faucets and toilets and so forth. Out of the \$750,000 the county was doling out, we got almost \$80,000 of it of the 16 Senior Centers so we got our fair share of it.

CEO Fischione added that what we have to keep in mind here, especially this building, it's a re-purposed building. It used to be an elementary school. Obviously, the design standards from back in the 40's and 50's, they don't meet what we have required today. Yes, we do need ventilation in dispatch, he highly suggests getting those lockers out of there, they don't belong there and he thinks that's a big part of the problem. We do need better ventilation, better heat and air conditioning, even natural light. To be under artificial light all day has to be depressing. The pavilion building, we have there, if that was operated by any other facility, you would be fined heavily. If you go to any County Park that's within a 10 miles radius, Chestnut Ridge, Como Park, even way out to Emery Park all those bathrooms, what we have now, have been eliminated at least 25 years ago. Restroom facilities are important, privacy is very important and these buildings are so old, you can't even maintain them anymore. It is time to move on to the next step. The design is nice, he has a couple suggestions for some changes. Square footage, it's a decent size building, the roof is 500 square feet, enclosed space is 3,000 square feet. It does not justify sprinklers until you get to that 10,000 square foot threshold, it's not even mentioned in Code. With the progress we've seen here in the Village, bringing in new businesses, new investors, the revitalization that we have been experiencing, he thinks it is a perfect time. We've been talking about this for 10 years. Obviously, the initial plan was a little pricey. His opinion, if money is available, we have to take that first step. Even if it's half of what this is, we have to start somewhere. Keep expanding and we have to dedicate money to it because it's a gem. When was the last time any of the fire companies had a family picnic in this park? Todd said he honestly can't remember one in the past 10 years. You guys used to have picnics there all the time. Todd said like a couple meetings ago, they used to have fireman's carnivals there and the whole community would come. Audrey asked if there was going to be handicap bathrooms in the facilities too and Erica said yes.

Paul had one more thing he wanted to bring up. In the long house, are you going to incorporate any solar panels? They'd like to, if they can work something in. Paul just thought of it because we have the solar farm going up. Kevin told him it's estimated that that solar farm is going to save us between \$15 and \$30,000 a year.

Audrey had one last question, the total cost of the project, the ball park figure? \$800,000 is for phase one which is what we are talking about today. The \$873,000 she found it. That could change, and Kevin said that's their estimate based on the square footage. When it goes out to bid, like we saw with the municipal project, we had to re-bid it and had to make some adjustments on it. Even on the solar farm, the remediation cost for our portion up to the creek, fluctuated from \$210,000 to a little over \$300,000, so these numbers are just hard to nail down. Liz added that once the final engineering numbers come in and we have a closer idea we can try to work it in to where it fits the budget.

Kevin asked our Community Development Director is he wanted to add anything. Andrew Adolf would just like to put his support behind this park project. Unfortunately, the Fall Festival had to be cancelled about two weeks ago because of the weather, the rain, which was very unfortunate, there was a lot of work put in, both by myself as well as Regina and the Mayor. It was unfortunate that due to the lack of drainage at Veteran's Park we were unable to hold it do to safety and we didn't want the park to get torn up. So, a structure like this would allow the ability to hold community events such as the Fall Festival which we know we could have a space we could rely on. It looks like a good project where we have the funds and a good opportunity that we should take advantage of. Mayor Peterson explained that when they were looking at the flooding that day, it was a hard decision for the two of you and his wife had a little to do with it too. The two of you put in countless hours, Andrew agreed, it was a lot of work. That's one of those tough decisions you have to make. However, when you look at the rendering there, with the 20 vendors you guys had lined up, 10ft spacing, 100ft on either side, you've got all 20 of them. Andrew agreed and added as well as the 4-5 musicians lined up, a puppeteer lined up, they had a WNY Charity the WNY Super Hero's coming, they would have each been

able to take a turn inside. We would have been able to keep families and kids out of the rain. It's unfortunate, but hopefully we can look to the future and have things like that with a new structure like this. Trustee Kucewicz thanked Andrew for all of their hard work. Audrey said it's a good basis for next year.

Mayor Peterson asked Kevin, our Rec Director if he has any questions since it's his park. Kevin did not have any questions for them. Our grant writers told Kevin to keep in mind that we will now be eligible to apply for the Environmental Forestry Grant because we were awarded the inventory grant. We actually meet with Lori on Wednesday to get everything going.

Trustee Kucewicz wanted to thank the Mayor for giving them the time to and opportunity to learn more about the American Rescue Plan, as she has put a binder together because she needs to take the time to really educate herself on what we could use the money for so thank you.

Mayor Peterson added that it's not easy to get everyone together properly with the Open Meetings Law, so he is glad that we did. He is sure we're going to get some feedback as people watch the broadcast which would be great and we'll take that into consideration too. He appreciates everyone doing their due diligence in setting aside this time and coming up with some questions.

Deputy Mayor Stempniak made a motion to adjourn at 8:22pm and Trustee Hamernik seconded the motion.

An official adjournment motion was made by Trustee Ziemba and Trustee Kucewicz seconded the motion.