**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MEETING**

**JULY 19, 2021**

Mayor Michael VandeVelde presiding

MEMBERS: Mike Catalano, Dennis Lutes, Judy Einach, Josh Freifeld

OTHERS: Becky Jackson, Becki Betts-Paternosh, Rob Genthner, Ed LeBarron, Andrew Thompson, Andrew Webster, Nancy Rose, Bonnie Rae Strickland, Marybelle Beigh, Jeff Thomas, Ed Slate, Steve & Kate Mayer, Charles Mutch, Mike Stratton, Judy Loomis, Carol Widrig, Judy Fingerhut, Kate Hentz, Celeste Kerns, Sandra Brown

**MAYOR/BOARD**

MINUTES APPROVAL

**The board made a motion to approve the June 21st minutes by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

CAT CONTROL DISCUSSION

Following a presentation by a representative from the Stray Cat Rescue in explanation of a method they would like to pursue for the TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) of feral cats which are in abundance in Westfield. It is a humane and effective program for managing outdoor, free-roaming cat populations. The cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped, and returned to their outdoor home. An appeal was made for any type of funding available if possible.

**A “starter fund” was agreed to in the amount of $1,000 on a motion made by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

The subject could be revisited when the new budget term comes up next fiscal year.

FUNDRAISER FOR BENEFIT OF RESCUE SQUAD

A request was made for the use of Ottaway Park in September for the purpose of having an annual benefit to raise funds for the Rescue Squad of the Fire Department. and games/raffles to take part in and a variety of bands and that any income would not be “hidden” from the Village. And they would like to be able to have tents for staying overnight there during this 2-day event. The purpose would be to raise monies for the Squad to assist the Village and the needs of the Squad. Also, to make it a recruiting method as well. The board felt there were many issues involved that would require further research and additional discussion with questions answered. More organization is essential.

The Mayor felt if a Committee could be assembled and come to the next meeting with their organized plan which would be submitted ahead of time, that would be acceptable.

Chief Genthner noted it sounded like the Gala Days which were shut down due to so many accidents happening. It was expressed that there would be no “beer tent” at this event.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE EXPENDITURE REPORT (CDBG)

**The board made a motion to approve the submitted Expenditure Report by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Lutes; with Trustee Einach and Trustee Freifeld abstaining, the motion was carried.**

RESOLUTION #16-2021/MAIN STREET GRANT

**The following Resolution was approved on a** **motion by Trustee Lutes, seconded by Trustee Catalano with Trustee Freifeld and Trustee Einach abstaining; Mayor VandeVelde voting Aye, the motion was carried to approve as presented.**

Resolution by the Village Board of the Village of Westfield approving and endorsing Chautauqua Housing and Rehabilitation Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) in its application to NYS Homes and Community Renewal for funding under the New York Main Street Program.

WHEREAS, the CHRIC desires to apply for $20,000 dollars for a technical assistance project for the blocks contained in the downtown target area through the 2020 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) under the New York Main Street Program; and

WHEREAS, the application proposes funding to assist the community and property owners to complete renovations to downtown “main street” and prepare buildings owners on Main Street between North Portage Street and Union Street and along Market Street to participate in a future New York Main Street renovation project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding will contribute to ongoing community revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant obtain the approval and endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Westfield approves and endorses the 2020 New York Main Street program for assistance prepared and to be submitted by CHRIC.

TIMBER SALE ON MARTIN WRIGHT ROAD

**The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously to approve for the sale of timber to Harley Davis in the amount of $19,000 as was recommended by our Forester.**

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PROPERTY

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

PROGRAM REPORT

**The board made a motion to approve the Program Report by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

**HISTORIAN**

REPORT

**The board made a motion to approve the Historian Report by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried unanimously.**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

REPORT

**The board made a motion to approve the Police Report by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

REPORT

**The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously to approve the Fire Department Report as read by**

**the Mayor.**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

REPORT

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously to approve the Code Office Report and to allow the Mayor to sign corrections of tax bill exempt form.**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

PARKING LOT UPDATE

Ed discussed Parking Lot Zones which will require a Local Law change and gave a brief update on the Route 20 new signage. Also, he noted there will be a new manhole on the corner of 394 and Main by September.

**WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT**

WASTEWATER PROJECT`

Andrew discussed the Wastewater infrastructure engineering planning project.

He stated further that the Digester issue has been resolved.

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT**

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL

**TREASURER**

EXPENSE REPORTS

**The board made a motion to approve the Expense Reports by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.**

2020-2021 BUDGET TRANSFERS

**The board made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Transfers by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.**

**CLERK**

WARRANTS

**The following warrants were approved on a motion made by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

**Water W#8 $14,068.18**

**Capt’l Proj. W#5 1,055.00**

**Sewer W#8 13,558.97**

**General W#7 26,053.52**

**Electric W#8 21,120.21**

 **Capt’l Proj. W#6 4,408.00**

 **Electric W#11 330,060.00**

 **Electric W#10 205,404.29**

 **General W#10 43,528.72**

 **General W#9 38,978.85**

 **Sewer W#10 38,874.32**

 **Water W#10 9,556.12**

 **Capt’l Proj. W#7 31,365.40**

VISITORS

Village residents voiced concerns over branches that are hanging down over the streets and in the way of thorough traffic, hitting vehicles and blocking the view of various street and stop signs. Public Works will address this situation.

Judge Thomas wanted it noted that he had been exonerated of any charges which were lodged against him by another resident of Westfield. And further, he warned of the need for everyone to be cautious with words that are spoken lest they be misconstrued.

**The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously to enter into Executive Session to discuss property and Personnel issues.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Following the Executive Session, the board made a motion to enter back into regular session by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

ACTION

Action taken resulting from the Executive Session is as follows:

**The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously to approve Electric Department employee Tyler Borowski as permanent and upgraded to Lineman B.**

**The board made a motion by Trustee Lutes, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried unanimously to extend Electric Department employee Bryant Stevens probationary period another 6 months.**

**There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**