**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MEETING**

**MARCH 21, 2022**

Mayor Michael VandeVelde presiding

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

OTHERS: Vince Luce, Becki Paternosh, Ed LeBarron, Andrew Thompson, Andrew Webster, Chris Reese, Bonnie Rae Strickland, Trustee Elect-Blake Maras, Edward Slate, Pete Holt, Wendy Graham, Grace Graham, Brooke Luce, Patty Bowen, Desiree Bowen, Bill Christ, Ann Kneer, Sandra Brown, Jean McCausland

**MAYOR/BOARD**

MINUTES

**The board made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/22/22 by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION #6-2022/MEUA DELEGATE (by Proxy)

**The board made a motion to approve the following resolution by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.**

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield, New York, is a municipal member of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association of New York State, and

WHEREAS, the Semi-Annual Conference of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association of New York State has been called on April 12, and April 13, 2022, to be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA, 311 Hiawatha Blvd W, Syracuse, NY 13204 and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the bylaws of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association of New York State, each municipal member may cast one vote on each transaction properly brought before this meeting,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the MEUA Executive Committee be and is hereby designated as the accredited delegate of the Village of Westfield, New York.

RESOLUTION #7-2022/NYSDOT ADA COMPLAINT SIGNAL UPGRADES

**The board made a motion to approve the following resolution by Trustee Catalano, Seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.**

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation proposes the construction, reconstruction or improvement of ADA Compliance and Pedestrian Signal Upgrades on Various Routes in the Village of Westfield located in Chautauqua County, PIN 5815.28, D264786, and

WHEREAS, the State will include as part of the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of the above-mentioned project the ADA Compliance and Pedestrian Signal Upgrades in the Village of Westfield pursuant to Section 10, Subdivision 24, of the State Highway Law, as shown on the contract plans relating to the project and meeting the requirements of the owner, and

WHEREAS, the service life of the relocated and or replaced utilities has not been extended, and

WHEREAS, the State will provide for the reconstruction of the above-mentioned work, as shown on the contract plans relating to the above-mentioned project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Village of Westfield hereby approves of the NYS DOT ADA Compliance and Pedestrian Signal Upgrades in the Village of Westfield, and the above-mentioned work performed on the project and shown on the contract plans relating to the project and *that the Village of Westfield will maintain or cause to be maintained the adjusted facilities preformed as above stated and as shown on the contract plans.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that Edward LeBarron, Public Works Superintendent ( or their designee) has the authority to sign, with the concurrence of the Village of Westfield Board of Trustees, any and all documentation that may become necessary as a result of this project as it relates to the Village of Westfield, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Clerk of the Village of Westfield is hereby directed to transmit five (5) certified copies of the foregoing resolution to the New York State Department of Transportation.

RESOLUTION #8-2022/FAIR HOUSING MONTH OF APRIL

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

WHEREAS, April 2022, marks the 54th anniversary of the passage of the U.S. Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, that supports the policy of Fair Housing without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability, and encourages fair housing opportunities for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield is committed to addressing discrimination in our community, to support programs that will educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and to plan partnership efforts with other organizations to help assure every citizen of their right to fair housing; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield rejects discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability and/or familial status in the sale, rental, or provision of other housing services; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield desires that all its citizens be afforded the opportunity to attain decent, safe and sound living environment; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Fair Housing Month.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Westfield, New York does hereby designate April 2022 as being Fair Housing Month and recognizes the policy supporting Fair Housing by encouraging all citizens to endorse Fair Housing opportunities for all not only during Fair Housing Month but throughout the year.

RESOLUTION #9-2022/AIM-AID AND INCENTIVES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

**The board made a motion to approve the following resolution by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

Whereas, AIM funding plays a pivotal role in funding essential municipal services such as water, sewer, public works, police, fire and ambulance for cities and villages across New York State and,

Whereas, the State has not increased AIM funding in 13 years and,

Whereas, inflation has eroded AIM funding by roughly 29% over that time period and,

Whereas, the New York State Conference of Mayors and nearly 400 of its members have signed onto a letter to the Governor requesting an inflationary increase of $210 million in AIM funding and,

Whereas, the Governor’s Executive Budget proposed keeping AIM funding flat and,

Whereas, the New York State Senate and Assembly have included increases of $210 million and $150 million, respectively, to AIM funding in their one-house budgets and,

Whereas, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York, and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Village of Westfield Board of Trustees urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2022-23 adopted State Budget.

*A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator, George Borrello, Assemblymember Andrew Goodell and the New York State Conference of Mayors.*

GIRL SCOUT TROOP SILVER AWARD PROPOSAL

**The board made a motion to approve the Silver Award Proposal for Girl Scout Troop 20173 on a motion made by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously**.

LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously to approve the request for the Little League Opening Day Parade on May 7th which will line up at Tops parking lot with the Parade beginning at 9:00 a.m. and travel down to the Little League field and for permission to use our loudspeaker system for opening day.**

SRO CONTRACT

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried unanimously to approve for the Mayor to sign the finalized SRO Contract.**

BUDGET DISCUSSION

The board will provide suggestions to the Mayor or Becki Paternosh regarding the budget. The Mayor noted that there is a healthy fund balance and if necessary, funds could be transferred to wherever needed. It was noted that the $7,500 is the share for the Comprehensive Plan which needs to be done by 2026 if we plan on using the ARPA funds.

TREE BOARD

Pete Holt provided the board with a budget for tree care and planting. Some items will be covered by the General Fund budget and some by the Electric Fund budget.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**The Police report was approved on a motion made by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**The board made a motion to approve the Fire Department report by Trustee Catalano seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

APPLICANT FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Fire Chief Chris Reese requested approval of Charles Mutch for membership into the Hook & Ladder Co. which was approved on a motion made by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

AMBULANCE EMS BILLING OPTIONS

Chief Reese noted that the department did vote to begin looking into billing for ambulance service, the Fire department didn’t agree to start charging for billing but they agreed to start looking into different options. We did contact Noel Guttman from Emergency Services and that is one option and will look into other options as well. A Committee has been created to review billing for ambulance services and whatever other options might be available.

The Mayor made note that currently if you get called out and the County responds with their “Fly Car”, your insurance is getting charged. Look at doing the billing ourselves only billing peoples insurance companies. It was suggested for the newly elected Trustee, Blake Maras to be put onto that committee to which he agreed and the Mayor requested to be included on that email listing too.

10 CLINTON ST. ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

**Following asbestos abatement at 10 Clinton Street, the Fire Dept requested use of the building for Fire Drill training which was approved on the motion made by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

ADDITION TO FIRE HALL

Chief Reese reported that the Exempts did vote to investigate an addition to the Fire Hall and a Committee was formed for that asking for the Board’s thoughts. And to possibly incorporating the bathrooms as was previously discussed and to have maybe the American Relief Fund for that too. The idea is to create some type of Banquet Hall.

**The board made a motion to approve for the Committee to investigate an addition to the Fire Hall which was approved on a motion made by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

**The board made a motion by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously to approve the transfer of $2,329.50 from Trust and Agency to Youth Recreation Capital Reserve.**

REFERENDUM FOR POOL FENCE

**The board made a motion by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried unanimously to approve, subject to Permissive Referendum, for the Welch Field Pool Fence replacement using Hoover Fence for materials $6,253.66. not to exceed the amount of $7,000.**

Other quotes received were as follows:

City Fence $7,936.90

Fence Material 10,193.66

American Fence & Supply 5,712.62

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

**The board made a motion to approve the Code Officer report by Trustee Lutes, seconded by Trustee Freifeld and was carried unanimously.**

**HISTORIAN**

**The board made a motion by Trustee Freifeld seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously to approve the Historian’s Report.**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

10 CLINTON STREET ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

**The motion was made by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously to approve for the use of Epic Contracting for abatement with the lowest quote of $7,300.**

WASHINGTON STREET EXTENSION DISCUSS

**Approval was made on a motion made by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously to maintain Washington Street Extension.**

FLASHING SPEED CONTROL SIGNS IN SCHOOL ZONE

Ed received an email from State DOT requesting we remove the speed control signs at the school. They say they are not in compliance. Everyone is in support of keeping the traffic signs.

SPRING CLEANUP DATES

Spring Cleanup will be April 25th through April 29th. Notices will be included in the Electric/Water Bills when they are sent out.

**WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT**

Hydrants will be flushed within the next few weeks. Notices will be going out.

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT**

AWARD BID-2 VACUUM BREAKERS FOR BOURNE ST. SUBSTATION

**The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously to approve the award of 2 Vacuum Breakers for Bourne St. Substation to Siemans in the amount of $95,445.**

AWARD BID-ENGINEERING FOR THE DESIGN OF NEW 34.5 Kv LINE

**The board made a motion by Trustee Freifeld, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously to award the contract for engineering for the design of new 34.5 kV line from Bourne St. Substation to Portage Substation to Power Systems Engineering with the low bid of $31,900 + possible additional fee of $500 if existing structure foundations on the Portage Street Substation need to be redesigned.**

Other bids received are as follows:

PLM $48,500

TRC 85,700

Ramboll 122,305

**TREASURER**

REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORTS

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

**CLERK**

METAL ROOF/EASON HALL GARAGE

**The Village Clerk gave a Thank you to Ed, Andrew, Don Farnmam, Shaun Waters and Nick Vacanti for installing the new metal roof on the Eason Hall Garage area.**

WARRANTS

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

**General W#44 $35,452.27**

**Water Proj. W#5 10,730.25**

**Sewer W#50 20,325.31**

**Water W#57 3,561.50**

**Electric W#50 260,080.50**

**General W#42 13,266.30**

**Electric W#48 118,674.79**

**Water W#53 8,153.88**

**Sewer W#47 10,723.18**

**Water Proj. W#54 2,900.00**

COMMUNITY KITCHEN REQUEST

The recent years’ losses have hampered the continuance of the Community Kitchen’s services. It was requested for some possible financial help for this organization.

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