

**VILLAGE OF MANLIUS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 8, 2022 Regular Meeting**

PRESENT: Mayor Whorrall, Trustee McGrew, Trustee Chapman, Trustee Pilewski and Trustee Abdo-Rott.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: **Martha Dygert, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer;** Brad Hunt, Village Attorney; Chris Sherwood, DPW Superintendent; Mike Decker, Codes Enforcement Officer; David Haase, MVFC; David Tyler; Erika Lambert; Scott Zukher, Elise Eng and Evie McGuird of the F-M Girl Scouts.

Mayor Whorrall opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and he welcomed those present.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one present wished to speak under public forum.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manlius Volunteer Fire Co – Membership Changes

From the Company Secretary, Rob Furey, the following membership changes voted on at the January 13, 2022 meeting were brought before the Board:

Voted to Probationary Membership

Kyle Tran EMS

Removed from Membership due to inactivity:

Rae Earl
Bryan Franco

Resigned from Membership

Aaron French

Changed membership status from “Active Member” to Auxiliary Member”

Julie Francis

Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee McGrew to accept the membership changes as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Manlius Volunteer Fire Company – Election Results

Also from the January 13, 2022 meeting, the following election results were submitted to the Village Board:

Elected Line Officers

Deputy Chief: Gregory VanDyke
Captain: Matt Whitford
Lieutenant: Brandon Heffernan
Lieutenant: Joey Grosso
Fire Police Captain: Bob Bennett
Fire Police Lieutenant: (Open)

Elected Company Officers

President: David Haase
Vice President: Rachel Rochelson
Secretary: Rob Furey
Treasurer: Dan Stiles
Sergeant at Arms: Glenn Roet

Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee McGrew to ratify the election of Deputy Chief VanDyke.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

PETITIONER

F-M Girl Scouts – Sidewalk/Crosswalk Request for Information

Scott Zukher representing the F-M Girl Scouts was present with a few of the girls from the troop to inquire about the process for seeking installation of sidewalks and crosswalks in the Village. They are looking into this particular topic as part of the work they are doing on a Senior Girls Scout Journey which is the first step towards achieving the Gold Awards.

They are interested specifically in a crosswalk across Rte 92 at Kelly Drive or Eastgate Apartments. There are a couple girls who live in the Kelly Drive area and find it difficult to cross. They are trying to gain a clearer understanding of the process. Dr. Erika Lambert representing Troop 10410 and 10486 stated that the Scouts she is working with are an amazing group of people.

Mayor Whorrall explained the process for gaining approval for sidewalks and crosswalks in general however there are more obstacles when the location requested falls under the jurisdiction of the NYSDOT. He and Trustee McGrew have been meeting regularly with representatives from the SMTC (Syracuse Metropolitan Transit Commission) regarding the Main Street Revitalization project. SMTC will be holding a public meeting in the near future for community input and involvement on the plans for this project. Trustee Chapman will be interviewing Danielle Krol of SMTC in his next podcast which should air some time in February in order to promote and announce the date of the public meeting.

APPOINTMENT

Custodian - Widger

Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the appointment of Jason Widger of Syracuse as custodian effective immediately with salary as per the current Teamsters' Collective Bargaining Agreement. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

DEPARTMENT REQUISITIONS

Fire/EMS

- Dival (5-2022) Fire Helmets Cost: \$5100.00
Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the requisition for fire helmets as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0
- Binder Lift (6-2022) Binder Lift (x2) Cost: \$1496.00
Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee McGrew to approve the requisition for lumber as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

MINUTES

- January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting
Motion by Trustee McGrew, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the January 11, 2022 minutes as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

ABSTRACT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS
February 8, 2022

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees desires to audit and pay the claims asserted against it; and

WHEREAS, payment of certain claims in advance of the audit of claims has been approved by the Village Board annually at the Organizational Meeting, as required by law; and

WHEREAS it is required that all such claims shall be presented at the next Regular Meeting for audit, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has been presented with the following abstracts for approval and payment;

General Fund	Abstract 008	\$198,034.86	(V672-736)
Trust & Agency	Abstract 344	\$5,849.55	(V86-93)

and

January Payroll Expenses for Payroll #01, 01A & 02 (attached) \$226,162.18

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

On motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Manlius approve the payment of claims **totaling \$430,046.59** by the Village Treasurer as outlined above.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DPW – The Board had the DPW report and there was nothing additional requiring discussion or approval. Mayor Whorral thanked the DPW and Rec Departments for their work on the ice rink which has been well received by the community. He was impressed by how many cars were at the Village Centre over the weekend either sledding or skating. He also thanked the Fire Department for their assistance as well.

Recreation – Ms. Roet gave her report.

Regarding the skating rink, she has fielded a lot of calls about whether we offer skate rental. Mrs. Dygert thought the Village may want to purchase skates from the Ski & Skate sale or Mrs. Whorral stated that there are companies who will come with a truck to provide skate rental. They have discussed holding the Daddy-Daughter Dance in the spring with more details to be announced. Monday, February 28th Doug’s Fish Fry will be in the parking lot by Sno Top.

Pay Rate – Recreation Counselors

The question was posed regarding the pay rate to be offered for the Summer Playground counselors. The minimum wage rate as of 2022 is \$13.20 per hour which is a \$.70 increase. Mrs. Dygert explained that there should be an increase in compensation for those who have been with us longer. Mr. Pilewski stated that the Village Board would approve the pay rates and any recommendations would come from the Rec Board for registration rates for playground. Trustee Pilewski is proposing that the Board approve minimum wage for entry-level counselors and a \$.70 increase across the board for everyone else returning with more than one year of service.

Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the pay rates for summer Playground counselors as proposed by Trustee Pilewski. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Fire/EMS - Chief Casscles was present. Trustee McGrew spoke to the staffing issues in the Fire Department. He stated the call volumes have been increasing and will be increasing exponentially once the urgent care facility is open on Fayette Street. The calls increased from January 2020 to January 2021 by over 60 calls for one month. Chief Casscles stated that transports have increased. Mr. McGrew stated we will need to look at staffing levels in the department in the near future.

Chief Casscles gave an update on the current issues with the hospitals. Trustee Chapman asked Chief Casscles to add the transport information to his report in the future.

Codes Enforcement – Mr. Decker was present to give his report:

- Multi-Residential dwelling units – helping to bring up to compliance with fire codes.
- Hearing life in Limestone Commons are moving to former Cherry Blossom Spa location.
- Yo Burrito will take up some space where the Hearing Life space was located.
- Knox boxes – after attorney research, there are codes cited in the Fire Code that the CEO can request Knox boxes onsite. He is also working with the Fire Chief to look at other locations.
- PUD Plan – Fayette-Manlius LLC – working with the developer and engineer on the construction plans.
- Residential new builds – there are currently four (4) new residential construction sites in the works on Pauli Drive.
- Manlius Car Wash – upgrades are completed and working well.
- Townhouse East Apartment is still battling the insurance adjusters and they have not come to any agreement as yet so the reconstruction will be delayed.

LOSAP Resolution – For Referendum

RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MANLIUS DATED February 8, 2022
REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, the Village’s LOSAP program for volunteer firefighters currently provides that, for sleep-in or standby duty, a volunteer firefighter may earn a maximum of 15 points per year in-station duty, and a maximum of 5 points per year for standby from-home duty, for a total of 20 points maximum; and WHEREAS, the New York State General Municipal Law, section 217(c)(iii), provides that a LOSAP program may allow volunteer firefighters to earn a total maximum of 20 points per year for sleep-in or standby duty without regard to whether that duty occurs at the station or at home; and

WHEREAS, the Village currently contributes \$700 to the LOSAP program on behalf of each volunteer firefighter who is credited with one year of service; and WHEREAS, the New York State General Municipal Law, section 218(b), provides that a sponsor of a LOSAP defined contribution plan, such as the Village, may contribute up to a maximum of \$1,200 per firefighter who is credited with one year of service;

Now, be it RESOLVED as follows: The LOSAP program is amended to allow volunteer firefighters to earn a total maximum of 20 points per year for sleep-in or standby duty without regard to whether that duty occurs in the station or at home. The sleep-in or standby portion of the LOSAP program shall now state as follow:

Sleep-in or Standby – 20 points max

- Sleep-in – 1 point per night – 20 points max
- Standby
 - In-Station – 1 point for every eight hours – 20 points max
 - On schedule from home – 1 point for every 40 hours – 20 points max

And, be it RESOLVED as follows: The LOSAP program is amended to provide that the Village will contribute \$1,200 to the defined contribution plan on behalf of each volunteer firefighter who is credited with one year of service;

And, be it RESOLVED as follows: Except as stated in this resolution, all existing provisions of the Village’s LOSAP program remain unchanged and in effect.

And, be it RESOLVED as follows: Pursuant to New York Village Law section 9-902(6), a proposition for the approval of this resolution shall be submitted to the voters for a referendum at the general Village election on March 15, 2022;

And, be it RESOLVED as follows: Pursuant to New York Village Law section 9-904, the Village Board approves the following abstract of the resolution to be included with the proposition on the ballot in the general election:

Abstract: This proposition seeks voter approval of a resolution passed by the Village Board to amend the Village’s Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for volunteer firefighters. The amendments are intended to promote recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters by making the LOSAP program more beneficial to them, consistent with New York law. There are two amendments. The first amendment provides that volunteer firefighters may earn points in the LOSAP program for sleep-in and standby duty without regard to whether that duty occurs in the station or at home. The second amendment provides that the Village will increase its contribution to the LOSAP program from the current level of \$700 to a new level of \$1,200 for each firefighter who is credited with one year of service. Both of these amendments are consistent with New York law.

Motion to adopt the LOSAP proposition for referendum was made by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee McGrew. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Set Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law 1-2022

Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to set the public hearing on the proposed Local Law to amend the taxation section related to Veterans’ Exemptions of the Village Code, on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Mayor’s Report

- **FEMA Funding** – they are waiting for a response with regard to the funding for the trash rack replacement. Mr. Sherwood and Mayor Whorrall are working with FEMA and NYSDEC on this. The question is whether the Village is willing to assume the liability for the creek which is under the authority of the NYSDEC. It was suggested that the our legislators be contacted to assist with this issue.
- **ARPA** – Committee to meet on February 16th at 2:00 p.m.
- **Mayor’s Meeting** – will be Wednesday, February 16th at the Village Hall in Liverpool for anyone wishing to attend.
- **Executive Session** - needed for an issue related to the employment history of a particular employee.

Attorney Report:

- **Verizon Wireless** – Attorney Hunt has had conversations with Verizon Wireless regarding the lease amendment. Verizon is a current tenant on our tower. After Board discussion, Attorney Hunt was tasked with going back to Verizon and propose \$2400 per month plus a 2% escalator annually.

Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to authorize the Attorney to negotiate with Verizon Wireless and the Mayor to sign the lease amendment.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

- **DISH Wireless Proposal** – they are proposing \$1500 per month with a 3% escalator annually for five years or \$1800 with 2% annually. Analysis has shown that they will be using much less space on the tower for their service. Mr. Decker stated they needed a fraction of the space the other providers use. Legal negotiations still need to take place. Trustee Chapman is opposed to this low amount.

Motion by Trustee McGrew, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to authorize Attorney Hunt to negotiate the terms of the lease with DISH Wireless at \$1800/month with the 2% escalator.

MOTION CARRIED 3-1 (Chapman)

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Abdo-Rott – the order for flowers has gone been sent to Zerillo’s and the color scheme will be lavender/purple for the pots and lavender/blue for the baskets. Would like some money from the Main Street project to purchase more self-watering pots.

Trustee Pilewski – Nothing additional to report.

Trustee Chapman – stated he created both a Village Twitter and Instagram account and used those platforms to promote the ice rink. Agendas for meetings will also be posted on those social media platforms. He received a request from a resident on Highbridge Rd regarding whether there are plans in place for culling programs for deer management. As stated previously he will be interviewing Danielle Krol from SMTC for his next podcast.

Trustee McGrew – Attended the CRC training which encompassed Tier 3 Emergency Management services 2-hour course.

Executive Session

Mayor Whorrall asked to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular employee.

Motion by Trustee McGrew, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to enter executive session. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

Board adjourned regular meeting to executive session at approximately 8:35 p.m.

No decisions having been made in executive session it was on Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee McGrew to leave executive session and re-enter the regular meeting at 8:55 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Board it was on motion to adjourn the meeting made by Trustee McGrew, and seconded by Trustee Pilewski at 8:55 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Respectfully submitted by,

Martha Dygert
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer