

**VILLAGE OF MANLIUS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
March 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; Jansen Casscles, Fire Chief; Dave Knapp, County Legislator and Steve Weiter.

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

County Legislator Dave Knapp from the 12<sup>th</sup> District which now includes the Village of Manlius. He wanted to take this opportunity to introduce himself to the Board. He wanted to inform the Board that the books were ready to be closed for 2021 and there should be a large surplus. They are talking about offering another round of the Mainstreet program and he will be in touch with the Mayor regarding those. Otherwise he would be happy to answer questions. The Mayor thanked him for coming and stated they still have a "long list" of projects the Village would like to begin in the Swan Pond area and on Main Street. Mayor Whorrall thanked Mr. Knapp for coming.

**Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law #1 – 2022**

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #1-2022. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

Mrs. Dygert stated that this was an attempt to bring uniformity to the exemptions for veterans – currently there is a discrepancy between their Village tax exemption and that of the Town. Mr. Hunt stated that this is the maximum exemption allowed by the State.

Otherwise, there being no one present wishing to speak, it was on Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

**ADOPT LOCAL LAW 1-2022 – Veterans' Exemptions**

**Village of Manlius Local Law No. 1 of the year 2022.**

A local law amending the maximum alternative veterans exemptions from real property taxes within the Village of Manlius allowable pursuant to New York Real Property Tax Law § 458-a.

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Manlius as follows:

**Section 1. Legislative Intent**

It is the intent of this local law to amend the Village of Manlius Code provision establishing the maximum alternative veterans exemptions from real property taxes within the Village of Manlius allowable pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 458-a, so as to permit the maximum exemptions allowed by that state statute.

**Section 2. Authority**

This local law is adopted pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 458-a, which expressly authorizes the exemptions set forth in section 3 this local law.

**Section 3. Maximum exemptions allowable.**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Manlius, County of Onondaga, hereby amends §89-31 of the Village of Manlius Code so as to state as follows:

The maximum alternative veterans exemptions allowable pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision 2 of § 458-a New York State Real Property Tax Law are hereby increased to \$45,000, \$30,000, and \$150,000, respectively.

**Section 4. Severability**

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to this clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

**Section 5. Effective date**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve adoption of Local Law 1-2022 pertaining to amending the Veterans' Exemptions. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

Mayor Whorrall allowed Ms. Roet to discuss her report and requests.

**Dept Reports – Recreation  
Summer Playground Rates**

Ms. Roet was present and explained the recommendation made by the Recreation Board relative to the fees to be charged for the Summer Playground program. They are looking for an across-the-board increase in rates by 10% with an application fee for registration - a \$10 fee for on-time registrations and then late registration fees of \$15 and then \$25. Mayor Whorrall questioned why there would be a registration fee over and above the regular fee. Trustee Pilewski stated that he thought the proposal for the \$10 registration fee was dropped – the late fee would be implemented (\$15) after April 15<sup>th</sup> and then \$25 for registrations received after May 21<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Roet further stated that the Recreation Board is looking to establish a committee to work on a revamp of the entire fee schedule.

The Board discussed the proposal. Trustee Chapman asked if there was discussion surrounding a greater increase for non-Village residents than for Village residents. He's concerned about the degree to which the residents are subsidizing the non-residents.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the increases in rate schedule for Summer Playground as submitted to include the late registration fee of \$15 for registrations received after April 15<sup>th</sup> and \$25 for those received after May 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Young Naturalists Summer Program**

Mrs. Dygert spoke initially with the gentleman wishing to use Mill Run Park as the "home base" for his program which is to be run through the Town of Manlius. She explained to him that the Village also had a Recreation Department and it would be beneficial to speak with our Recreation Director to discuss the possibility of having his program run through the Village. This would eliminate the need to pay to reserve our facilities. He stated that he would ideally like to use Mill Run Park as the main location with trips to Pratts Falls and another location. Ms. Abdo-Rott stated that the Village policy was that no individual could use Village facilities for financial gain. In the spirit of cooperation the Village has made a prior agreement with the Town of Manlius Recreation Department to use the gymnasium for the Fast Bees program – for which the Town pays the Village \$50/hour.

Ms. Roet will go back to the Town and discuss further and bring a recommendation back to the Board. She then read her report to the Board as follows:

- The Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Village Center.
- Soccer shots will start back up again this spring
- Len Lafollette will once again hold baseball camp during Spring Break.
- Erin Sawyer is interested in becoming an independent contractor and holding outdoor yoga classes.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Manlius Volunteer Fire Co – Membership Changes**

From the Company Secretary, Rob Furey, the following membership changes voted on at the February 10, 2022 meeting were brought before the Board:

<u>Voted to Probationary Membership</u>	
Brianna Purdy	Fire/EMS
Jessica Rivera	Auxiliary

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

DISCUSSION: Chief Casscles wanted the Board to be aware that Brianna Purdy was the first bunk-in at the new Station and now has signed on for Fire and EMS – evidence that this program will help promote new volunteer membership.

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Town of Manlius Public Hearing – Solar Voltaic Energy Systems**

Mrs. Dygert brought to the attention of the Board the public hearing to be held by the Town of Manlius on 3/23/2022 at 6:35 pm relative to the Solar Voltaic Energy Systems local law.

**OCRRA - Earth Day – April 22<sup>nd</sup> & April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

OCRRA sent out a notice of the Earth Day cleanup on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at their Rock Cut Road facility. Chris and Jeff are working with Christine to send out notifications for the Village cleanup. Ms. Roet will put on the website.

**DEPARTMENT REQUISITIONS**

**DPW**

- PubWorks (7-2022) Tracker Software Corp Inc – Annual Maintenance Cost: \$2845.00  
**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the requisition for software (PubWorks) annual maintenance as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**
- S&W Services (8-2022) Software Update Phoenix Fuel System Cost: \$3460.50  
**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the requisition for Software Updates as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**
- Clifton Recycling (9-2022) Tub Grinder Cost: \$7437.50  
**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the requisition for Software Updates as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**
- Big-4 Tire (10-2022) Tires for Skid Steer & Service Call Cost: \$1193.36  
**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee McGrew to approve the requisition for maintenance on the Bobcat Skidsteer as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**
- Builders Best (13-2022) Metal Roof & Siding Cold Storage Bldg Cost: \$14,440.77  
**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the requisition for materials for the cold storage building as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Rec/July 4<sup>th</sup>**

- Letizia and the Z Band (11-2022) Performance 4<sup>th</sup> of July (22-23 Budget) Cost: \$1500  
**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the requisition for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July performance as submitted. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- **Ralston Supply** (Hold pending receipt of more information)

**MINUTES**

- February 8, 2022 Regular Meeting  
**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the February 8, 2022 minutes as submitted.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**ABSTRACT**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**  
**March 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 010	\$170,435.15	(V737-831)
Trust & Agency	Abstract 346	\$660.00	(V94)
Main Street Revitalization	Abstract 413	\$50,701.50	(V15)

and

February Payroll Expenses for Payroll #03, 01A & 02 (attached) \$179,106.06

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

**On motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Manlius approve the payment of claims totaling \$400,902.71 by the Village Treasurer as outlined above.**

DISCUSSION: Trustee Pilewski asked about the cost of the hose reel purchased by the Fire Department and the two LogMeIn accounts. Mrs. Dygert stated that we have canceled one of the accounts and one remains.

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**DPW** – The Board had the DPW report and there was nothing additional requiring approval. Mr. Sherwood stated that a new claim may need to be submitted to our insurance carrier relating to some storm damage at the DPW yard. A tree fell on equipment, and he will be obtaining quotes for repair. He also stated that the DPW staff have completed the inventory of the totes in his report and Mr. Chapman asked how they were accomplishing this. Mr. Sherwood stated that they were matching the location of the totes with the master list to make sure the totes were accounted for and in the right location.

**Recreation** – Ms. Roet gave her report earlier in the meeting.

**Fire/EMS** - Chief Casscles was present. Mayor Whorrall spoke on the Firefighter Memorial Service held at the fire station honoring the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fallen firefighters Ginochetti and Lynch. He was pleased with the service and the turnout of those in attendance.

Chief Casscles had the following requests:

**Surplus Metal Double-Door Cabinets and Safe**

Motion by Trustee McGrew, seconded by Trustee Chapman to declare surplus the cabinets and safe and further authorize the Chief to dispose of them via auction as is the custom. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Community Room Reservation Status**

On recommendation by Chief Casscles and on motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee McGrew to authorize the reopening of the Community Room at the Fire Station for reservations by the public.

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

Administrator – Mrs. Dygert gave an oral report.

**Contingency Account Budget Transfer – Special Election**

On motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee McGrew to approve the budget transfer from the Contingent Account (A1990.400) to Elections Contraction (A1450.400) for the Special Election to be held on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Budget Transfers**

Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee McGrew to authorize the Treasurer to make necessary budget transfers within departmental lines as needed.

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Equestrian Training Request**

A request was received from a resident of Troop K road asking to reserve the Village Board room at Village Centre on two (2) evenings from roughly 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 pm each night. There would be a total of 6-10 people plus the instructor. Mrs. Dygert brought this to the Board as she wasn't sure if Ms. Roet had forgotten to include. She also stated that it isn't typical for reservations of any kind in the Board room after hours. She also isn't clear on whether there is fee for this equestrian training. The Board suggested Mrs. Dygert respond to the request by offering either the Recreation Building or better to reach out to the Library.

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

- Knox boxes have been ordered for plaza locations.
- Eastgate Apartments are now in compliance with the fire safety codes. Mr. Decker will next be working with Willowbrook Apartments.
- Townhouse East has gone to arbitration with their insurance carrier regarding the loss claim. They will be going through the remaining units/buildings and putting up fire walls.
- Manlius Smoothie has obtained the Certificate of Occupancy (former All Who Wander space) in the Manlius Mart.
- Tae Kwon Do Studio – permit issued for signage.
- Fayette St PUD – performing blue print reviews.
- Hearing Life – going into Limestone Commons.
- 101 Smith Street – citation is underway.
- Qty (30) permits ongoing and there are three (3) new residential constructions on Pauli Drive.

**Mayor's Report**

- Main Street Revitalization Committee will be meeting again soon. We are waiting for the warmer weather to begin any installation of the furniture.
- **FEMA Funding** – Mayor Whorrall, Chris Sherwood, Mrs. Dygert and Tim Carpenter of MRB Group have been meeting regularly with Nancy Kenny of FEMA. She has been very helpful in walking all through the process of the FEMA funding reimbursement for the storm damage.
- **ARPA** – spreadsheet of ARPA funding projects was distributed to the Board after the Committee came to a consensus on round 1 of the funding.
- **Mayor's Meeting** – will be Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- **Onondaga County Legislative Dinner** – to be held on Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6 and program to begin at 6:45.
- **Executive Session** – a brief executive session needed for pending litigation.

**Attorney Report:**

- **DISH Wireless** – Attorney is working on terms of the agreement with DISH which will be ready for Board review next month.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

**Trustee Abdo-Rott** – stated she has met with the DPW administration and the proposed budget looks good. The new sign up at the Station is a state historical marker sign.

**Trustee Pilewski** – The Recreation Board meeting held last week had all members present. Finance Committee to convene in the near future.

**Trustee Chapman** – stated he is anxious to begin budget reviews and has been working with the Mayor on the Mainstreet Revitalization Committee which is going well..

**Trustee McGrew** – gave an update on the recent Police Committee meeting.

Executive Session

Mayor Whorrall asked to enter executive session to discuss a subject of potential litigation.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

*Board adjourned regular meeting to executive session at approximately 8:45 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 9:05 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 9:05 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Respectfully submitted by,

Martha Dygert  
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer