

**VILLAGE OF MANLIUS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Whorrall, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Chapman, Trusty Pilewski, Trustee Abdo-Rott and Trustee Oley

**OTHERS:** Lisa Baker, Clerk/Treasurer; Brad Hunt, Village Attorney; Kristin Rogers, Senior Centre Director; Brittini Hastings, Assistant Senior Centre Director; Jenee Scidberg, Mike Decker, Codes Officer; Chris Sherwood, Superintendent; Jeff Lewis, Assistant Superintendent; Chief Jansen Casscles; and Jennifer Staples.

Mayor Whorrall opened the meeting at 6:01pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone that attended the February 11, 2025, Board Meeting.

**COMMUNICATION**

**Senior Centre Proposal**

Kristin Rogers, the Senior Centre Director, and Britini Hastings, the Assistant Senior Centre Director, presented the Senior Centre proposal to maintain the Village Grant funding at \$54,300.00. The Village has played a crucial role in the growth and success of the Senior Centre. The dollars from the Village help the Senior Centre out tremendously, and they would not be able to do as much without it. They are also actively applying for grants and new fund raisers to continue the ability to grow.

Trustee Abdo-Rott asked if they are actively working on a strategy for the future. Jenee Scidberg a board member for the Senior Centre stated that they have started a committee to start working on a strategic plan. The plan to see where they will be in 1 year, 3 years and 5 years.

**Proposed Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway**

Resolution for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination  
and Corridor Management Plan Adoption

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they created during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to work cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic,

recreational, and economic well-being of the 544-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by forming local byway groups, encouraging public participation, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved transportation experience that preserves, interprets, and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Manlius supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Manlius confirms that they will not approve any requests for new off-premise outdoor advertising signs along the designated Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway route; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Manlius will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway program development and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation and methods to advance the Scenic Byway.

Date 2/11/25

Motion By: Trustee Chapman  
Seconded By: Trustee Abdo-Rott

Votes: 4-0

Clerk Signature Lisa Baker  
Date: 2/24/25

On the 24 day of February, 2025.

Notary Public

Jenna Spendle

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to adopt the sample resolution as presented.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Magni Flood Lights**

The Mayor and Superintendent Sherwood explained the idea of purchasing a light fixture that they have retrofitted to fit in our gooseneck lights. This will enable us to change the colors for different events They would like to purchase 10 of them at \$650.00 per light. Sherwood stated they will install this in one of the goosenecks so that we can see it on the streets before a purchase is made.

**Home Hero's Program**

Trustee Chapman would like to move forward with this process. We would install banners for village connected veterans from Veterans Day to Pearl Harbor Day. Cost would be incurred by the purchaser; we would just install. Chapman would like to go with Holiday Outdoor Décor.

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to move forward with the proposal for the Hometown Heroes Banners.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Auditorium Request for Syracuse Country Dancers**

Jennifer Staples was present to discuss the use of the Auditorium for the Syracuse Country Dancers. They do Country Dance and English Country Dance which would be open to the public. The request is for twice a month on Saturday evenings from 7pm – 10pm. They recommend a \$10 donation to pay for live music, caller and facility. Trustees felt this is a great idea. We will send them a contract to sign with the agreement of 80/20 payment.

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the auditorium request as presented.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Library Facility Requests**

The request is for their summer reading series for 5 weeks from 12:30 – 2:30pm on July 24, 31 and August 7,14,21 in the Auditorium weather permitting since this request is during our Playground Program.

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the request as presented.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

AGREEMENTS

### **NYSIF Disability**

Baker shared the annual renewal of NYSIF Disability Benefits to be signed. All agreed to leave the premium at the statutory rate.

### **Bonadio & Co**

Baker presented the Service agreement from Bonadio for the 2022 Audit. Looking for board approval to sign as presented at estimated \$22,000.00

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the Bonadio Agreement as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

### **MINUTES**

- January 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve January 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

### **REQUISITIONS**

- Crossroads Highway Supplies Plow Blade Cutting Edge COST: \$3,900.00

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Oley to approve the Crossroads Highway Supplies Requisition as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- American Rock Salt Rock Salt COST: \$49,274.00

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the American Rock Salt Requisition as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

Superintendent Sherwood explained this is normally brought to the board in the Fall, but had not been, so wanted to make sure it had been addressed. He discussed the shortage of salt, and that the Governor has issued a State of Emergency. We are in a better state than others since we had some left over from last year.

Superintendent Sherwood also brought up last month's pickup approval with Romano. They could not come up with the bid number with the state. Since this did not transpire, he was able to obtain this with Davidson. They have a bid number for the contract, and it came up \$1000 each less than the original bid from Romano.

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the purchase of the 2 pick up trucks switching from Romano to Davidson as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- NYCOM Lobby Day Training- Mayor COST: \$472.40

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Oley to approve the NYCOM Training Requisition as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- Sorbello's Flower display throughout the village streets COST: \$12,547.50

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the Sorbello's Requisition as presented.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

## ABSTRACT

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS** **February 11, 2025**

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 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 2024-2025	Abstract 009	\$193,205.37	(V664-V743)
Trust & Agency 2024-2025	Abstract 009	\$ 3,316.20	(V148)

AND

January Payroll Expenses for Payroll #01, 02, 02A (attached)	\$299,057.75
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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board of Trustees of the Village of Manlius approve the payment of claims **totaling \$495,579.32** by the Village Treasurer as outlined above.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the Abstract and Payroll as presented.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DPW – Superintendent Chris Sherwood was present.

- The Mayor thanked the DPW for all their hard work on the ice rink. Trustee Chapman posted on Facebook and commented on how many people liked and shared it. Sherwood stated that the locker rooms are open from 9am – 9pm and the lights are on at night and turn off at 9pm.

CODES – Mike Decker our Codes Officer was present.

- There will be a planning board meeting next week. One item on the agenda is Seneca Bank requesting flag banners when they open. Flag banners are not allowed in the village.
- Decker expressed interest in attending the 2025 Storm Water Training. He would like to take 3 classes which would total \$525.00. This is a zoom training.

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the 2025 Storm Water Training as presented.**  
**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- Decker is working on his budget and the hiring of a P/T employee to help with the clerical work. He also wondered if this person should be present at Planning Boards and ZBA Meetings. He feels this would be beneficial to them.

FIRE/EMS – Chief Casscles was present.

- Chief Casscles would like board approval to attend the six NYS Career Chiefs' meeting each year not to exceed \$200.00 per meeting.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman, to approve the meetings not to exceed \$1,200 for the year. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

CLERK – Lisa Baker was present

- Need Board approval for a corrected leave time buybacks totaling \$57,218.87.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the 2024 buybacks totaling \$57,218.87 as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- Need Board approval for separation payout for Matt Parker for \$566.25.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Chapman to approve the separation payout for Matt Parker as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- Village of Fayetteville Auditorium Request for a drama program this summer for a couple days. They are flexible to work around our playground program.

**Motion by Trustee Oley, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to approve the Auditorium request as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- The Hospitality Group is requesting to rent the Recreation Building for their interviewing process for Taco Bell.

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to approve the Recreation Building request as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

- Simon's Agency, who is our collection service is reaching out to us on a proposal that was received on a claim presenting a payment plan. All trustees agreed that the decision should be decided by Simon's Agency.

SENIOR CENTRE- Senior Centre Director Kristen Rogers was present.

- Valentine's Luncheon will be on 2/14. Thanked us for all the decorations being left up for their event from our Family Formal.
- Would like to start a garden club in the Spring. There are some raised beds behind the building previously used for growing herbs. They would like to re-purpose them to use as raised flower beds. They are asking the Village's permission to move the raised beds to an area easier to access for the seniors. Trustee Abdo-Rott mentioned they could also maintain the Rose Garden. The Veteran's Memorial also needs some attention and to be replanted.

Decker stated the library reached out to him today and they have retained Greenscapes to maintain their garden.

Mayor's Report

- The Mayor attended the NYCOM Legislative Conference. He attended the Employee Relations and Public Safety meeting. One issue is the OSHA requirements. Listed are meetings attended, Briefing of the Governor's Budget, State Comptroller spoke on audits, Innovative Solutions for EMS deliver, Attorney General & Lieutenant Governor Spoke, Navigating the challenges surrounding local code enforcement, intermunicipal agreements-

understanding the risk, strategies and best practices for worker safety. He also attended the reception at the governor's mansion.

- The Mayor attended a dedication for Len LaFollette. He presented him with a proclamation.
- Reminder there will be a Budget workshop- 2/18 at 6pm and Special Meeting 2/25 at 6pm
- Mayor's Association Meeting Feb 19 at 6pm. A person from Civil Service will be making a presentation. She explained the HELP program that we may be eligible for to hire a recreation director and Codes Officer and not have to take a civil service test. They are also looking to expand the test scores from 3 to 5.
- The auditors are present and will be here every day for 2-3 months.
- The Onondaga County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been submitted and approved.
- The Mayor had a request for Playground Equipment for a Memorial. The wife had passed away and she had been a nursery schoolteacher. They want to pay for the equipment and put it in one of our parks in her name. They requested the bicentennial park. The Parks and Rec board will review their idea once completed.

## TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Pilewski was present.

- The court was very busy this past month.
- Attended the CRC meeting last Tuesday at Onondaga County Emergency Management Ofc.
- The next Police Committee Meeting is at the end of the month.

Trustee Abdo-Rott- was present.

- The Family Formal Dance was a success. Thanked everyone for their help. A report will be following on the event.
- We have started the Interviewing process for the Recreation Director, would like to go into executive session to discuss wages and the position. She would also like the Parks and Recreation Board to participate in the interview process.
- Seneca Savings reached out to participate in our events. We would like to have more businesses participating in our events.
- Working with Sherwood on Liberty Ln. There are 2 parks, the clock park and Liberty Ln. It would be a nice idea to rename the parks. Could be people's names.
- Concerned on the visible trash cans on Seneca St. that utilize Syracuse Haulers. Sherwood has been in touch with the property owner and is trying to rectify the issue.
- Mayor Whorral stated great job on the Family Formal.

Trustee Chapman was present.

- Great job with the February Family Formal, the event was a success.
- Thanked DPW for all their hard work with the winter that we have had so far. Also thanked them for the hard work completing the ice rink and getting it up and running.
- Met on the budget with Mayor Whorral and Superintendent Sherwood and Assistant Superintendent Lewis. Chapman feels that they are in good shape to move forward.

Trustee Oley was present.

- He will be attending the Planning Board Meeting next week. Taco Bell is looking for a site plan for parking.
- Asked about the codes for vacant properties and getting them registered. This is being worked on.
- Observed the exhaust fans are left on plus pilot lights need to be lit in the kitchen. Sherwood has a vendor coming to investigate.
- Questioned about the cardboard signs that are up. Decker states he does take them down.

Abdo-Rott questioned the status with Wellnow. Decker stated no updates at this time. Attorney Hunt explained we did get the final bond for that project.

- Oley stated that we received documentation from Napierala on the Everglades. This report is not complete though.

The Mayor asked Decker to check on Duncan Donuts. They have buckets around the store since the roof is leaking and the ceiling is starting to cave. He will investigate.

ATORNEY Hunt was present.

Nothing else to report. Planning board meeting next week.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

**No one was present.**

#### ADJOURN

Mayor Whorrall asked to adjourn to executive session for a personnel matter and to seek legal counsel.

**Motion by Trustee Pilewski, seconded by Trustee Oley to adjourn the meeting to executive session at 7:57pm.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Motion by Trustee Abdo-Rott, seconded by Trustee Oley to adjourn from executive session at 9:21 pm.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, Seconded by Trustee Oley to consider Jeff Lewis to be eligible for Health Insurance on retirement since he is a Public Officer.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Motion by Trustee Chapman, seconded by Trustee Pilewski to authorize Fire Chief Casscles to take probationary action on Conor Haney and to proceed to offer employment to Galasso.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

**Motion by Trustee Oley, seconded by Trustee Abdo-Rott to adjourn from the February 11, 2025 Board Meeting at 9:39pm.** **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**



Respectfully Submitted by,

Lisa Baker  
Village Clerk