

MEETINGS: 17
NO. OF REGULAR: 15

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW
November 12, 2024 7:00 PM**

ON A MOTION BY, Deputy Mayor Adolf and seconded by Trustee Kraft the minutes of the October 28, 2024 village board meeting were approved.

Trustee Ziembra – Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Ziembra and seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf, the minutes of the September 26, 2024 Zoning Board are approved:

1. Anthony Matuszak, 116 University, requesting relief from Ch.260 § 260-35C(1)(A)[6] to use artificial trees as a landscape buffer, DENIED
2. Anthony Matuszak, 116 University, requesting relief from Ch. 228 § 228-5(D) to maintain trees in the front yard that may adversely obstruct the view of drivers, DENIED
3. Anthony Matuszak, 116 University, requesting relief from Ch. 260 § 260-31(F)(3) to have screening over the maximum 6ft. height requirement in the rear and side yards, DENIED

Trustee Ziembra – Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson – Y

PERMISSION –WAIVE PERMIT FEE

Trustee Kraft offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Depew High School music department is asking for the sign permit fees to be waived for their November 16, 2024 and April 5, 2025 craft shows. A sign will be placed in front of the high school by Transit Rd to advertise the craft shows.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that permission is hereby granted to The Depew High School music department to waive the permit fees for the sign advertising the craft shows.

The following resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf, and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Ziembra - Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

PERMISSION TREE LIGHTING PARADE

Deputy Mayor Adolf, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, permission is hereby granted for the Annual Tree Lighting Parade including Fire Apparatus and Santa on Monday, November 25, 2024, beginning at 5:45pm. The Depew Police Department who will provide the necessary traffic enforcement has approved the parade route.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, permission is being granted for use of the Fireman's Park Pavilion and Ice Rink for event activities.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Ziemba, and **CARRIED**

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST

Trustee Ziemba, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, Rebeca Dell, Village of Building Department employee has requested an unpaid leave of absence from October 30, 2024 until March 31, 2025.

WHEREAS, Regina Grzankowski, recommends the approval of this request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board approves the period of leave stated above.

The following resolution was seconded by Trustee Kraft, and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Ziemba - Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson -Y

ACCEPT RESIGNATION – PLANNING BOARD MEMBER

Trustee Kraft, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, the resignation of Planning Board Member Robert Murawski Jr. effective November 8, 2024.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Ziemba - Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

RETURN UNPAID TAXES TO COUNTY OF ERIE

Deputy Mayor Adolf offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, the report of the Village Administrator, showing that in accordance with Article 14, Section 1436, Paragraph 2 of the Real Property Tax Law, is returning to the County of Erie, Department of Finance the 2024-2025 unpaid Village Tax accounts together with the unpaid sewer account pursuant to verification and certification of the Board of Trustees, and also that as of November 1, 2024, has collected the sum of \$11,649,414.92 leaving a balance of \$273,969.66. In accordance with section 987 of Real Property Tax Law, the Village has imposed a fee of \$2.00 per parcel for the “Notice of Unpaid Taxes”; the Administrator has added \$428 to the balance, we are also adding the unpaid lawn mowing charges of \$9530.05, and emergency enclosure fees of \$8434.64 and tree trimming fees of \$1154.98 thereby leaving a balance of \$293517.30, which has been transferred to Account A440, Due from Other Governments, for further collection on the Town/County bill, is hereby accepted.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Ziemba and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Ziemba - Y
Trustee Kraft - Y
Deputy Mayor Adolf - Y
Mayor Peterson - Y

PERMISSION – DEPEW FIRE DEPT

Trustee Ziemba, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Permission is hereby granted to the Depew Fire Department for Engine 6 & Rescue 7 to attend training at M & M U Pull It located at 2150 William Street in the Town of Cheektowaga on Tuesday, November 19th from 6:00 PM till 9:00 PM.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Kraft and **CARRIED**.

AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS

Trustee Kraft, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

The Administrator is authorized to advertise for bids an Access Control System for 21 doors in the Police Department with the bid opening to be held on December 4, 2024 at 12pm in The Council Chambers, 85 Manitou St, Depew, NY 14043.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf and **CARRIED**.

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS – Court – Timothy Rush, Donald Mound

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS –

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Bielefeld: No new businesses since last meeting applied that I am aware of. Like last time we were here, keep your garbage picked up and cleaned up, get rid of unregistered vehicles if you don't need them anymore, and try to get everything ready for the winter months. 51 Dean, the garage came down.

Ken Pyc, DPW Superintendent: Not too much, working on leaves, we're about halfway through putting up our new salt shed with Hybrid Solutions.

Kevin Ferguson, Recreation Director: We started learn to skate and open skate the last two weeks. Its been kind of slow during the bills games but for learn to skate there is about 16 kids coming in on Mondays, good crew.

Chief McNamara, Police Department: For the month of October we handled 120 criminal complaints for a total of 1248 complaints, three stolen vehicles, all three recovered, two of them locally, one in the city. As a reminder, we're seeing an uptake in the Western New York region and Depew was well, of larcenies from vehicles, so reminder to lock your vehicles, take your keys, put them somewhere safe. A total of 40 accidents, five of them injury accidents, one was a pedestrian, and 324 tickets issues this month.

Fire Department: 347 year to date, 24 since last meeting.

Trustee Kraft: We posted about Audrey's Angels snow removal, we're currently just looking for volunteers, see who we have out there that can help out our neighbors with snow removal when it eventually comes. Just the removal experts for now.

Trustee Ziemba: I had the pleasure of attending the Veteran's Day Memorial Mass yesterday that was hosted at the Lutheran Church, St. John's Lutheran Church and hosted by Galen Purpura from our Fire Department. I had the pleasure of listening to the experiences of Mr. Chapman and he read an email from his son on his experiences and I hope I get the pleasure to be invited again to attend it next year, it was an honor.

Deputy Mayor Adolf: I'd just like to thank Ken's crew for planting trees, including the new Christmas tree which is in Fireman's Park and will be lit up two weeks from last

night, the 25th of November, so please come out to the tree lighting ceremony and see the new bigger, better Christmas tree.

Mayor Peterson: Tag off of that, I do appreciate you working with Grant Getzoni from the Getzoni Agency, he donated the tree to the Village, it's got to stand about 30ft tall. I know he had a good experience working with your crew.

Regina Grzankowski, Village Administrator: Just a reminder about the tree lighting again, Santa will be there again to read a holiday story, there will be cocoa and cookies for the kids, some open skate if you donate a toy for Toys for Tots.

Mayor Peterson: And the horse drawn carriage, going around starting at 5 until 8 even though the event actually kicks off at 6:00 with Santa arriving.

Dominic Corigliano, 5230 -5246 Transit Rd: I just wanted to say thank you for the opportunity to looking at correcting the sidewalk problem. Two years later we are in the same weather pattern of a lot of rain and some nice days. Two years ago the forms for the sidewalk were put in and left behind over a week, during that time, there was a lot of other construction activity on the street. I'd like to thank Code Enforcement, I'm getting less complaints from my tenants, although there's a few less tenants, the ones that stayed to hold out, less complaints. The street is quieter two years later. My photos from the last meeting showed Cheektowaga is able to get these sidewalk projects done during the month of October successfully. I think we have all learned when the design errors have been made, don't try to defend their work, don't expect a property owner to sign off on a bad design, just make the corrections and move on, lesson learned. Don't have a contractor make a mess and have the DPW try to correct it. The letter that was sent to me is an acknowledgement from the Village a correction for the driveway is needed. Finally, the Board should be aware we have three safety concerns that are left behind: the driveway with unsafe grading, broken pipe under the sidewalk creating freezing water and a slip hazard, third a photo of students walking in the street because a sidewalk is not completed. These safety concerns are a liability for the Village created by the rollercoaster sidewalk. I was hoping Sam would be in this week, I understand he's not here, I just want to leave this copy behind with you for Sam. I appreciate your time here, I realize the construction season's over with, which makes it my last meeting of the year to try to make an attempt on it. I appreciate this time, I'm trying to correct this thing and unfortunately with the construction season over it kind of feels like we're not getting to that point, but thank you for your time.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Ziemba and seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf the following claims are to be paid: \$357,686.89 General, \$859.00 Sewer for a total \$358,545.89 was **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Ziemba and seconded by Deputy Mayor Adolf the meeting was adjourned with a moment to honor our Veterans at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Grzankowski
Village Administrator