

MEETINGS: 18
NO. OF REGULAR: 18

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW
December 11, 2023 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Trustee Hamernik -PR
Trustee Ziemba – PR
Trustee Kraft - PR
Deputy Mayor Adolf - PR
Mayor Peterson - PR

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Hamernik and seconded by Trustee Ziemba, the minutes of the November 28, 2023 village board meeting were approved.

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Ziemba and seconded by Trustee Hamernik, the minutes of the November 9, 2023 Zoning Board Meeting minutes were accepted.

1. Maria Rejent for the property located 57 Madaline Lane, Depew, NY 14043, of Chapter 260,§260-23(A)(2), requesting 8ft of relief from required 25ft rear yard setback. Granted
2. Kathy O’Brien, Power of attorney, for the property located 173 Gould Ave, Depew, NY 14043, of Chapter 260,§260-14(B)(4)(b)(2), requesting 8ft of relief from required 18ft minimum side yard setback for corner lots. Granted.

Public Comment Agenda Items Only:

ACCEPT RETIREMENT – DPW MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR (MEO)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the retirement of Gregory Urbanski, Motor Equipment Operator for the Department of Public Works is effective November 30, 2023 is accepted.

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

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

APPOINT POLICE OFFICERS

Pursuant to Section 4-400 of Village Law, I Mayor Kevin Peterson, do hereby appoint:

- **Justin Handley** – effective December 18th, 2023
- **Michael VanDusen** – effective January 19th, 2024
- **Jacob Qualiana** – effective January 20th, 20024
- **Alex Hangen** – effective January 21st, 2024

to the position of Police Officers from eligibility list 67-729. All hires are contingent on passing their physicals, psychological examination and personnel review conducted by Erie County. The salary will be per the budget.

The forgoing nomination was acted upon in the following manner by the Village Board of Trustees:

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

CHANGE OF PAYROLL DATE

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

BE IT RESOLVED, due to the July 4th holiday our payroll pay date will be Wednesday July 3, 2024 instead of Thursday July 4, 2024.

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

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH CIVICPLUS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that permission is given to Mayor Kevin Peterson to sign the agreement with CIVICPLUS for an upgrade to the Code Enforcement Department software.

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

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

ACCEPT RESIGNATION – PLANNING BOARD MEMBER

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the resignation of Planning Board Member Art Aigner effective December 31, 2023 is accepted.

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

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

ACCEPT FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTION RESULTS

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

WHEREAS, on Tuesday December 5, 2023, the Depew Fire Department held their Annual Fire Department Chiefs Election with the following results.

Fire Chief - Brian Musielak
1st Assistant Chief – Joseph Aquino
2nd Assistant Chief – John Hughey

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the above election results and congratulates the elected Chief and Assistant Chiefs.

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

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that permission is given to Mayor Kevin Peterson to sign the agreement with Tyler Technologies for upgrade to the financial software.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – November 2023 - Police

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kate Zaganiaczyk: Wished everyone Happy Holidays, Make sure you take care of driveways and sidewalks when the snow starts flying, renewal notices for plumber licenses have gone out, if interested in obtaining one from the Village contact the Building Department or the application is available online.

Chief Miller, Police Department: thanked Board for hiring these four candidates, it will have a huge impact on the department for years to come. November 2023 report, we responded to 11970 calls for service, in November we had 965 complaints, 855 non-criminal, 110 criminal, we had two stolen automobiles, we recovered one, 47 property accidents, we arrested 21 males and 14 females, and issued 181 summons. Reminder to lock your cars and take your keys, a lot of stolen cars are because of key fobs left in the car and have a nice, safe holiday season.

Chief Gauthier, Fire Department: I'd like to congratulate the newly elected Chiefs: Brian, Joey and John. Congratulations to all of you. I'd like to thank our Fire Department and the Village for the opportunity to serve in this position for the last year and eight months, I do appreciate it. For the month of November, 6 calls, year to date 361. Winter time is coming, make sure if you have a wood stove that the chimney is clean, be smart if you are burning wood in your house and also carbon monoxide detectors have a 5-year life expectancy, so if you have had one for a while, within 5-7years that detector should be replaced.

Kevin Ferguson, Recreation: Rink is going real good – 30 in this learn to skate class, about 40 for open skate on Saturday and Sunday, and if you go by the park, the Pavilion and Gazebo are well lit and they look nice.

Ken Pyc, DPW Superintendent: Still picking up leaves for the next couple of weeks, weather permitting and all our plows and salters are ready to go, hopefully we don't need them.

Trustee Ziemba: Fire Chief Gauthier, thank you for everything you did to keep our residents safe, to our new recruits, good luck in the Academy, try to be safe in the Academy and when you graduate, try and keep our residents safe.

Trustee Hamernik: Happy Holidays to all! Congratulations to our new Chiefs, I know they are going to do a great job. I want to say that our Village, between our Police Department and our Fire Department are the best and welcome to our new Officers.

Deputy Mayor Adolf: Chief, Congratulations on your term, it was well served and we appreciate everything you did for us, welcome to the new Fire Chiefs! Justin, Michael, Jacob, Alex, welcome – you'll see how collaborative this Village really is – the Departments, everyone pulls their weight and really works as a team, so we are excited to have you on board and bring you along and have you contribute to the collaboration we have here. It's what makes this Village so great, so welcome, congratulations, Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah.

Mayor Peterson: Thanked Chief Gauthier for his time as an Assistant Chief and Chief and appreciate his efforts and service to the Fire Department. I just wanted to thank everyone who helped out, donated toys for our first Toys for Tots campaign. I came in a distant second to my brother – he had like 62 boxes of toys in the Albany area. We had more like nine or ten, but it was still a great start, we learned some things and being a first time participant with the US Marine Corps, they started us with two boxes, we actually got four towards the end. Great to have Audrey back – this past Thursday she was honored by Legislator Todaro as Citizen of the Month at the Legislature, big kudos for that, congratulations!

Brian Musielak, 46 Stewart Drive: Want to start off by thanking Chief Gauthier for his years as Assistant Chief and as department Chief. It was a pleasure working with him for my four years as an assistant, I think we got a lot accomplished and laid some good groundwork for the future. Secondly, I'd like to congratulate my Assistant Chiefs: Joseph Aquino, First Assistant and John Hughey, Second Assistant. I'm going to count on them a lot and ask for their support and cooperation, I know I'll get from them and I think we have a lot of great things on the horizon, like I said, a lot of groundwork has been made over the past few years between Past Chief Todd Rzeszutek and Chief Gauthier and I look forward to working with the Village Board, Mayor Peterson, Administrator Grzankowski, and all the other department heads and of course, membership in our Fire Department. Our goal is to give those residents the best service we possibly can give along with the ever needing changing world that we live in uh with that being said like Mayor Peterson had stated uh there's a lot of changes going on in our Fire department right now, you know a lot of things that worked for the last 125 years 126 years you know, are a little bit antiquated and we felt the need that as a membership that we needed to change to move forward in a positive direction uh to better meet the needs of our our membership and also to better meet the needs of the residents of the Village that we serve. You know like I said we're I look forward to look working with everybody and you know we're going to achieve some great things I believe for the Fire Department, for all the departments and for the Village of Depew and the residents. I got a little saying that I'd like to like to share, sounds a little cliché but it's one of those things that I think is I believe in anything worth doing is overdoing anything done in moderation is not worth doing and failure is never an option so you can promise that you'll continue to get the best service that you can from our FD. We have great membership and we're going to work hard for the Village. Thank you.

Paul Sprada, 58 Argus Drive: Congratulations to our new police recruits and the two more that are going to come this weekend, welcome to our Village and hope you find interesting and not eventful. Questioned the passing of the E-Bike/Scooter Law and whether there had to be a warning signal like a bell or whistle? Asked Trustee Hamernik if the fire hydrant snow removal program was going to continue. Questioned about the replacement of the bridge on Marrano Drive. Merry Christmas to everybody and Happy Hanukkah and Kwanza.

Joseph Milazzo, 479 Lein Rd: Happy Holidays and Thank you. He is building two homes on Rossiter Ave, and looking for a permanent no parking sign right on the corner by the stop sign, trying to get equipment in the driveway where the buildings are going to be built, and access for Fire equipment. The problem is blocking the driveway and the Police cannot enforce anyone to move their car – no access to his lots and it's a concern for safety as well. It's the way the street is being developed. Was told to send a request to Chief Miller for them to investigate the request for the no parking sign. Village Attorney Alba asked if it was an active construction sight or if there was a curb cut – mentioned that remembered this project from Planning Board, need to make sure that any disputes

between him and the surrounding neighbors remain with him – the Village can only do so much.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Ziemba and seconded by Trustee Kraft the following claims are to be paid: \$211,595.52 General, \$7,996.13 Community Development, \$985.00 Sewer, \$55,678.13 Capital Projects for a total \$276,254.78 was **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY Deputy Mayor Adolf and seconded by Trustee Hamernik the meeting was adjourned with a moment of silence for Catherine Bielefeld, Code Enforcement Officer Don Bielefeld’s mother 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Grzankowski
Village Administrator