

MEETINGS: 26  
NO. OF REGULAR: 25

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW**  
**March 22, 2021 7:00PM**

ROLL CALL: Trustee Hamernik – Pr  
Trustee Voll – Pr  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Pr  
Mayor Peterson– Pr

**ON A MOTION BY**, Trustee Hamernik and seconded by Deputy Mayor Jakubowski, the March 8, 2021 Village Board Minutes were approved.

**ON A MOTION BY**, Trustee Stempniak and seconded by Trustee Voll, the March 17, 2021 Special Canvass the vote minutes were approved.

**ON A MOTION BY**, Trustee Voll and seconded by Trustee Hamernik, the March 4, 2021 Planning Board Minutes were approved.

1. 5770 Transit Rd, Shakawat Hossain for site plan review for parking expansion for additional six spots. Approved as submitted with stipulation that work must be completed by 9-1-21.
2. 5770 Transit Rd, Adela Darwish on behalf of Joe D. Tire & Auto Repair 2 for rehearing from tabled 12-3-20 meeting requesting a special use permit to operate an auto repair facility in a C-2 Zone under Chapter 260 § 260-27 under the guidelines of Chapter 260 § 260-33(N). Approved with stipulation that parking is addressed by 9-1-21.
3. 571 Terrace Blvd, Joseph Palumbo of Carmina, Wood, Morris DPC on behalf of Dr. Kristen Robillard for final site plan review for parking lot expansion. Recommendation for Negative SEQR Declaration and approved as submitted.
4. 5636 Transit Rd, Mark Dean of Dean Architects PLLC on behalf of Paul Marinaccio requesting site plan review for plans to demolish 75ft x 100ft section of existing block building and to replace with at 75ft x 125ft new steel building. Recommendation for Negative SEQR Declaration and approve site plans as submitted.

Village of Depew  
Notice of Public Hearing

Please take notice that the Village of Depew Board of Trustees passed a resolution at their March 8, 2021 Village Board meeting to conduct a public hearing in the Council Chambers of the Depew Municipal Building, 85 Manitou St, Depew NY on Monday March 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider Local Law 2 of 2021 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c. If adopted, the proposed local law shall read as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Depew to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General municipal Law Section 3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to

override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3: Tax Levy Limit Override

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Depew, County of Erie, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

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 the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, form 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.

At said hearing all persons so desiring shall have the opportunity to be heard.

**AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR TENTATIVE 2021-2022 BUDGET**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Village Administrator is hereby authorized to advertise for public hearing for the tentative 2021 - 2022 budget to take place on Monday April 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the council chambers.

The forgoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Stempniak, and **CARRIED**.

**ADOPT LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2021 – TAX CAP OVERRIDE**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Depew, New York held a public hearing on March 22, 2021, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 85 Manitou St, Depew, NY to consider the adoption of a local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

**WHEREAS**, all persons were given an opportunity to speak for or against this local law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, this local law is hereby adopted.

If adopted, the proposed local law shall read as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Depew to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax

levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law Section 3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3: Tax Levy Limit Override

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Depew, County of Erie, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

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 the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, form 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.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y

Trustee Voll – Y

Trustee Stempniak - Y

Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y

Mayor Peterson – Y

Public Hearing was opened at 7:21 and closed at 7:25 by Trustee Hamernik and seconded by Trustee Stempniak.

**APPOINT PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS POLICE**

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

Tim Schaefer

to the position of Public Safety Dispatchers Police effective April 11, 2021.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y

Trustee Voll - Y

Trustee Stempniak - Y

Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y

Mayor Peterson - Y

## **SEQR Type II Determination**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Depew (Village) is currently under an Order of Consent with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) in the Village's sanitary sewer collection system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village completed a Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey (SSES) in Sewershed 4 to identify potential corrective actions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Depew Board of Trustees is considering various improvements to correct sewers system defects and reduce inflow and infiltration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees is seeking funding assistance under the New York State Cleanwater State Revolving Fund, and is, therefore subject to environmental review obligations required to participate in the funding program; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to sections 617.5(c)(1), 617.5(c)(2) and 617.5(c)(6) under SEQR, this project is a Type 2 Action as it involves the maintenance, repair and replacement in kind of existing sewer infrastructure with no substantial change to the existing sanitary sewer collection system.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that as a Type 2 action under SEQR, the project has been found categorically to not have significant adverse impacts on the environment and no further review under SEQR is required.

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 Voll - Y

Trustee Stempniak - Y

Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y

Mayor Peterson – Y

## **BOND RESOLUTION**

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

**A BOND RESOLUTION, DATED MARCH 22, 2021, OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW, ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "VILLAGE"), AUTHORIZING A SEWER SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (PHASE 5) IN RESPONSE TO NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ORDER ON CONSENT NO. R9-20140128-1, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$2,913,000, AND**

**AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SERIAL BONDS IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,913,000, PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL FINANCE LAW TO FINANCE SUCH PURPOSE, SUCH AMOUNT TO BE OFFSET BY ANY FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND/OR LOCAL FUNDS RECEIVED, AND DELEGATING THE POWER TO ISSUE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SALE OF SUCH BONDS TO THE VILLAGE TREASURER.**

WHEREAS, the Village of Depew, Erie County, New York (the "Village") has entered into a Consent Agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to remediate issues related to the discharge of sewer system overflow; and

WHEREAS, such DEC agreement requires that the Village undertake sewer system monitoring, repair, remediation and reconstruction in order to avoid civil fines and penalties; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village desires to undertake a capital improvements project (Phase 5) for the reconstruction of and construction of improvements to the Village Sewer System; and

WHEREAS, the Village intends to apply for grant funds from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board of Trustees (by the favorable vote of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the Board) as follows:

SECTION 1. The Village is hereby authorized to undertake a certain sewer system capital improvements project being undertaken in response to a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Order on Consent No. R9-20140128-1, such work to generally consist of (but not be limited to) the installation of a cured-in-place pipe ("CIPP") lining system for approximately 27,200 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe, manhole rehabilitations, replacement of defective sanitary sewer pipe, point repairs to sanitary and storm sewer pipes, and various restoration work, as well as other improvements as more fully identified in (or contemplated by) a report dated January 10, 2020 that was prepared by engineers at GHD in connection with the project, all of the foregoing to include all preliminary work and necessary equipment, materials, apparatus and related site work and other improvements and costs incidental thereto and in connection with the financing thereof (collectively, the "Purpose"). The estimated maximum cost of the Purpose is \$2,913,000.

SECTION 2. The Village Board of Trustees plans to finance the estimated maximum cost of the Purpose by the issuance of serial bonds of the Village in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,913,000 of the Village, hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the Local Finance Law, such amount to be offset by any federal, state, county and/or local funds received, including, but not limited to, any grant funds received. Unless paid from other sources or charges, the cost of such improvements is to be paid by the levy and collection of taxes on all the taxable real property in the Village to pay the principal of said bonds and the interest thereon as the same shall become due and payable.

SECTION 3. It is hereby determined that the purpose is a class of objects or purposes described in subdivision 4 of paragraph (a) of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of such purpose is 40 years.

SECTION 4. Current funds are not required to be provided prior to the issuance of the bonds authorized by this resolution or any notes issued in anticipation of the sale of such bonds.

SECTION 5. It is hereby determined the proposed maturity of the obligations authorized by this resolution will be in excess of five years.

SECTION 6. The faith and credit of the Village are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds (and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of such bonds) as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation will be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds or notes becoming due and payable in such year. Unless paid from other sources or charges, there will annually be levied on all the taxable real property of the Village a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds or notes as the same become due and payable.

SECTION 7. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and of the Local Finance Law, pursuant to the provisions of Section 21.00 relative to the authorization of the issuance of bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, Section 30.00 relative to the authorization of the issuance of bond anticipation notes and of Section 50.00, Sections 56.00 to 60.00, Section 62.00, Section 62.10, Section 63.00, and Section 164.00 of the Local Finance Law, the powers and duties of the Village Board of Trustees pertaining or incidental to the sale and issuance of the obligations herein authorized including, but not limited to, authorizing bond anticipation notes and prescribing the terms, form and contents and details as to the sale and issuance of the bonds herein authorized and of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of such bonds, and the renewals of such notes, are hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer of the Village. Without in any way limiting the scope of the foregoing delegation of powers, the Village Treasurer, to the extent permitted by Section 58.00(f) of the Local Finance Law, is specifically authorized to accept bids submitted in electronic format for any bonds or notes of the Village.

SECTION 8. The temporary use of available funds of the Village, not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were borrowed, raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the purpose or purposes described in this resolution.

SECTION 9. This resolution shall constitute the declaration (or reaffirmation) of the Village's "official intent" to reimburse the expenditures authorized in this resolution with the proceeds of the bonds, notes or other obligations authorized herein, as required by United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2.

SECTION 10. The Village Treasurer is further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to ensure the continued status of the interest on the bonds authorized by this resolution, and any notes issued in anticipation thereof, as excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended

(the “Code”) and may designate the bonds authorized by this resolution, and any notes issued in anticipation thereof as “qualified tax-exempt bonds” in accordance with Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

SECTION 11. The Village Treasurer is further authorized to enter into a continuing disclosure agreement with the initial purchaser of the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, containing provisions which are satisfactory to such purchaser in compliance with the provisions of Rule 15c2-12, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

SECTION 12. The Village Treasurer is further authorized to call in and redeem any outstanding obligations that were authorized hereunder (at such times and in such amounts and maturities as may be deemed appropriate after consultation with Village officials and the Village’s municipal advisor), to approve any related notice of redemption, and to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to effectuate any such calls for redemption pursuant to Section 53.00 of the Local Finance Law, with the understanding that no such call for redemption will be made unless such notice of redemption shall have first been filed with the Village Clerk.

SECTION 13. The Village determined that the Purpose is a Type II action that will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, no other determination or procedures under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) is required.

SECTION 14. To the extent applicable, the Village Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Village a project financing agreement prepared by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (“EFC”) (the “SRF Project Financing Agreement”). To the extent applicable, the Village Treasurer and the Village Clerk and all other officers, employees and agents of the Village are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the Village to execute and deliver all certificates and other documents, perform all acts and do all things required or contemplated to be executed, performed or done by this resolution or any document or agreement approved hereby, including, but not limited to, the SRF Project Financing Agreement.

SECTION 15. In the absence or unavailability of the Village Treasurer, the Deputy Treasurer is hereby specifically authorized to exercise the powers delegated to the Village Treasurer in this resolution.

SECTION 16. The validity of said serial bonds or of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said serial bonds may be contested only if:

(1) (a) such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village is not authorized to expend money, or

(b) the provisions of the law which should be complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with,

and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within 20 days after the date of such publication of this notice; or

(2) such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of New York.

SECTION 17. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish this resolution, or a summary thereof, together with a notice in substantially the form provided by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Village and hereby designated as the official newspaper of the Village for such publication.

SECTION 18. This Resolution is effective immediately pursuant to Section 36.00(a)(5) of the Local Finance Law.

\* \* \* \*



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

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll - Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson – Y

#### **PERMISSION – FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

**WHEREAS**, Depew Fire Department would like permission to take Engine #2 to the Tonawanda Fire Training Center, 70 Fire Tower Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150 on Saturday April 10, 2021 from 9 AM – 3 PM for the Emergency Vehicle Operators Course.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** The above foregoing resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Jakubowski and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll - Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson -Y

#### **PERMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – DEPEW FIRE DEPARTMENT – JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, membership is hereby granted to the following in the Depew Fire Department pending the passing of his physical:

#### **Junior Firefighter**

Cody Whiteside

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll - Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson - Y

#### **PERMISSION – DEPEW FIRE DEPT**

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

Permission is hereby granted to Cayuga Hose Co. #3 to use the Southside Fire Station for their Company Installation Dinner on Saturday April 10, 2021 from 5:00 PM–12:00 AM. All Covid 19 guidelines will be followed.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Hamernik, and **CARRIED.**

#### **AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN PENFLEX AUTHORIZATION FORM FOR 2020 SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor Kevin Peterson and Board of Trustees are authorized to sign the 2020 Service Award Program Administration Form and after the 30 day period forward to Penflex, Inc for the purpose of administering the 2020 Service Award Program for Depew Firefighters.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll -Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson - Y

#### **AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor Kevin Peterson is authorized to sign the agreement, retroactively, with regards to Sanilac Street.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll -Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y

Mayor Peterson - Y

**APPOINT DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS MEO**

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

Jeff Morgan and Spencer Sojka  
to the position of Public Works MEO effective March 22, 2021

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll - Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson - Y

**APPOINT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER**

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

Daniel Wypij

to the position of Department of Public Works Laborer.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y  
Trustee Voll - Y  
Trustee Stempniak - Y  
Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y  
Mayor Peterson - Y

**ADOPT - THE NYS POLICE REFORM & REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE**

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

**WHEREAS:** The NYS Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative was directed by NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order No. 203 of June 12, 2020; and

**WHEREAS:** All municipalities in New York State that have police forces are required to participate and submit a written plan by April 1, 2021; and

**WHEREAS:** If communities fail to submit a written plan, their funding will be withheld by the NYS Department of Budget; and

**WHEREAS:** This process was structured according to the guidelines provided in the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, requiring community input and

participation, along with an assessment of the Police Department's policies, practices, and procedures; and

**WHEREAS:** The Village of Depew understands that maintaining public safety is extremely important and is one of the essential roles of government. To achieve that goal, there must be mutual trust and respect between police and the communities they serve; and

**WHEREAS:** The Village of Depew has followed the guidelines of the Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative in the following ways:

- Convened local stakeholders in the community with the formation of a "Village of Depew Police Reform and Reinvention Team; • Reviewed the needs of the community served by the Village of Depew Police Department and conducted a comprehensive review of the Department's current deployments, strategies policies, procedures and practices;
- Developed a "Policing Reform Plan" to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices;
- Involved the entire community in the discussion by way of a public survey distributed in December 2020;
- Offered the Plan in draft form for public comment to all citizens and hosted a communitywide conversation on March 1, 2021 and held a public hearing on March 8, 2021. No comments or recommendations were received from the public; and

**WHEREAS:** The Depew Village Board has reviewed and considered the information presented in the Plan; therefore, be it

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Depew Village Board accepts and adopts the Village of Depew Policing Reform Plan and will use it as a guide for future decision-making; and be it further

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:** That the Depew Village Board, upon adoption of this resolution, hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute and submit the Plan Certification Form and Policing Reform Plan to the New York State Division of the Budget by the established deadline of April 1, 2021.

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

Trustee Hamernik - Y

Trustee Voll -Y

Trustee Stempniak -Y

Deputy Mayor Jakubowski - Y

Mayor Peterson - Y

## **EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS -**

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS –** Police – February 2021

Village Board meeting March 22, 2021

Depew Police

Our department and our officers are doing a great job. They are engaged with the community and are doing their jobs in a professional manner. I want to thank the for their dedication to this Village and our residents to achieve a safe and secure community.

The Police reform and reinvention collaborative was a big project, it took a lot of time in effort to put this plan together. SO, I just want to thank all our collaborative members – we started without a template, without a guide and we all met via zoom and created dialogue, created partnerships and through shared decision making, shared goals and shared responsibilities – we were able to create this document that exceeds all of our expectations that we believe will foster trust, fairness and legitimacy for years to come.

Highlights – In this process we created a survey for all residents to take part and allow us to see what their thoughts are and their perception of this police department – the positive feedback was astonishing. And tells us that we are doing are jobs well.it also pointed out things we could do better. The communities biggest concern was unsafe driving and aggressive driving issues on Transit rd. We acknowledge that and have changes are strategies to fix that issue. Some residents want to see the officers more and will make efforts to make sure the officers are more visible in the communities. The need for transparency was noted and the introduction of body cameras will begin sometime tis year, the need to have a mechanism to keep are policies updated to reflect best practices was also noted and will be also handling that issue with a partnership with Lexipol – a well-established leader in law enforcement policy and training development. We added civilian oversight by including the public safety committee to review disciplinary issues. We clarified the role of our school resource officer and identified alternative arrest programs or diversion programs. We will expand our crisis intervention programs and mental health training and so much more we also had several recommendations by the team:

- Getting involved in more community events
- Creating a community liaison
- How w should identify ourselves at a car stop
- Requiring our officers to certain number of hours dedicated to community service
- Creating more public safety announcements / press releases
- Updating and improving our social media presence
- Partnering with local schools on career days
- Increased training
- Increase the use of scenario-based training
- And improve officer wellness

Last time we spoke, I Describe car larcenies and ask assistance from community – lock their doors. We are expanding our efforts and will be sending cards out to our residents that notifies them of the problem and telling them to lock their doors. This public safety announcement will be also put out in all our social media pages. In the meantime, don't be a victim and your lock your car doors

We have an upcoming 2021 enforcement and education initiative sponsored by the Gov traffic and safety committee to combat distracted drivers. This initiative is U drive, U text, U pay. This initiative will begin April 8-12<sup>th</sup>. SO, please put your phones down when you drive and arrive alive.

I want to thank all our residents for their support, we couldn't do this increasingly difficult job without it – so thank you. The safety of the public is our highest priority and we are committed to ensuring all our residents feel safe in this village.

Thank you

## **UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS – N/A**

### **PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS**

Father Josh Baker said the church is gearing up for Holy week services!

Police – please see report

DPW – Started the low bridge and speed signs on GUB. Probably see them working on them in the next week or so.

Code – Kenny spoke for Tony on the water line replacements. There are repairs and replacements being done in the Village. If you see any “mark outs” and flags in your neighborhood, it is most likely for that purpose. Residents can call the office if they are in question.

Rec – There will be yoga this year in Fireman's Park on Wednesday's and Saturday's. They are all set with volleyball and soft ball and everything is going as scheduled. Kevin will be taking a look at the pool soon since the cover has not been off in quite a while. They will check if any repairs are necessary. Working with Cheektowaga and Lancaster as to opening the pool. Possibly 2 hour time slots and asking people to bring their own chairs, masks, etc.

Attorney – Very busy lately, a lot of FOIL requests, bonding information for borrowing. Working on a pilot program with the dispatchers for radios with Bob Brandon's help.

Resident asked what a FOIL is and Attorney Alba explained it is a Freedom Of Information Law to release information to the public, such as Board Minutes, Police reports, etc. There are many rules on what can and cannot be released.

Trustee Hamernik – Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> is Matthew's Table, drive through with pulled chicken sandwiches.

Trustee Voll – Thank you Jake for your long service with the Village. Best of luck to you!!!!

Trustee Stempniak – March is International Woman's month. Congrats to new female board members! First time the board will be female dominated. Looks forward to working with everyone. Tree grant inventory will soon go out for requests for proposals to complete this and she is working on the Quarterly Progress report that is due March 31<sup>st</sup>. We ordered seedlings again and they will be available to the public. Notices will go out as to how to get them. To Jake and Ed, it is sad to see you both leave, and excited to begin the journey with the new board.

Mayor Peterson gave a quick synopsis of when he and Jake were first on the board together, sitting next to him as a trustee, moving his chair at board meeting when Kevin was Mayor. Kevin explained that he tried to sponge off of all of Jake's knowledge and he learned a lot from him. Mayor Peterson has something for him but he will be personally dropping it off at his house when it is ready.

Deputy Mayor Jakubowski thanked everyone for their kind words and said that he will always be available if anyone needs anything in the future. He has said it before and will say it again....Depew has the BEST group ever and BEST department heads too!!!

Trustee Hamernik – Thank you Jake. Audrey told Jake that he taught her a lot over the years and Ed, same to you. Going to miss you both.

Mayor Peterson said he will be doing something for Judge Willis, hopefully in person in May sometime at Village Hall. He's been here some 24+ years and worked in the Police Department as well. We will honor him properly!

Bob Brandon added that March is Woman's History Month. A bill was passed in order to allow nursing staff in hopes that the nursing homes will find more qualified people to hire to improve the nurse to patient ratio in nursing homes. Shaved one month off of the length of training.

Trustee Jakubowski thanked everyone again for their kindness.

Public Comment:

Asked if the DPW takes care of the sewer receiver repair and Sup't of PW Pyc said yes, just call the office.

Is the senior's health insurance through the Village going out to bid this year and Administrator Wachowiak answered not this year, possibly in the next fiscal year.

Jacki K. offered a thank you to Ed and Jake and she looks forward to working with you too Erica.

Question regarding the re-building of the Veteran's Park Gazebo and Administrator Wachowiak replied that we are hoping repairs will begin in early April and be done in June, prior to the Summer Concert Series beginning.

Question on hearing and word on the garbage bids? Administrator Wachowiak replied that we are opening bids on Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and collating them to find out who has submitted the best bid. Results will be shared with the public when known.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ON A MOTION BY**, Deputy Mayor Jakubowski and seconded by Trustee Stempniak pursuant to Open Meeting Law Section 105 we adjourn to executive session to discuss a matter.

The Executive Session Began: 8:16 PM and was adjourned with the meeting being called back to order by Mayor Peterson at 8:27 PM

### **CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS**

**ON A MOTION BY** Deputy Mayor Jakubowski and seconded by Trustee Hamernik, the following claims are to be paid: \$216,685.22 General, \$921.00 Sewer, \$7,884.67 Capital Sewer Projects, \$2,536.32 Capital Building Project and \$228,027.21 Capital was **CARRIED**.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ON A MOTION BY** Deputy Mayor Jakubowski, seconded by Trustee Voll the meeting was adjourned with a moment of silence for The Gauthier Family, Tony our Code Enforcement Officer's brother, Robert Pittman, former water dept, Steven Zeluski, & Devon John at 8:31 **PM**. The motion was **CARRIED**.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Wachowiak  
Village Administrator