

VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA
801 South Clark St.
North Utica, IL 61373
Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 31, 2016

AGENDA

- I. 7:00 p.m. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call

- IV. Appearance Request: Mr. Steven Wrobleski and Mr. Matt Baker, LP Twp. High School re: LaSalle Peru Facility Master Plan

- V. Clerk
 - 1.) Discussion regarding the 2016 Appropriations
 - 2.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation re: LP Band Tag Day request - 7-30-16 from 8 am – noon at the intersection of Rt. 6 & Rt. 178

- I. Treasurer
 - 1.) Update on the schedule for Grand Openings for Businesses
 - 2.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation regarding the Mill St. Grand Opening Celebration
 - 3.) Discussion re: July 2, 2016 Fireworks schedule
 - 4.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation re: Village Phone system and Internet

- VI. Finance Liaison

- VII. Donation & Advertising Requests
 - 1.) Consideration and Possible Recommendation re: a donation request to the following:
 - a) Jimmy D Golf Outing being held on 7-10-16
 - b) Operation Promise Campaign 5k Walk 7-12-16

- VIII. Park & Recreation Liaison

- IX. Water / Sewer Liaison
 - 1.) Consideration and Possible Recommendation re: ITRON Meter Reading Annual Tech Support \$ 2,298.01

- X. Streets, Lights & Alleys Liaison

- XI. Governmental Affairs Liaison
 - 1.) Update on the Grove St. Community Garden

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- XII. Police Department Liaison
 - 1.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation re: options for the elimination of the 2008 Ford Explorer squad from the Village Police Department
- XIII. Building/Zoning Officer Report
- XIV. Maintenance Dept
 - 1.) Update – Ongoing projects in the Village
 - 2.) Update on the schedule for Magnuson Park
- XV. Engineer’s Report
 - 1.) Update on the 2016 Mill St. Streetscape Project
 - 2.) Update on Aerial Topography and creation of a Village Action Plan for Flooding
 - 3.) Update regarding the status of an application for a Grant for the Clark Run Creek Flood Control Culvert Project
 - 4.) Update on possible application for CDAP Grant for Church St. Water Main Project
- II. Attorney’s Report
- III. President’s Report
 - 1.) Discussion regarding: 2016 – 2017 Possible Projects in the Village
 - 2.) Discussion regarding: Building Permits in the Village
- IV. Committee / Trustee Reports
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Executive Session
 - 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees.
 - 2.) Pending/Imminent Litigation
 - 3.) Purchase / Sale of Real Estate
- VII. Possible recommendations regarding Executive Session including:
 - 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees.
 - 2.) Purchase / Sale of Real Estate
- VIII. Adjournment

Posted: 05-27-16

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At 7:04 pm the meeting was called to Order by Village President Matt Jereb who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Village Clerk Laurie Gbur called the Roll Call. Present at the meeting were Trustees John Schweickert, Dave Stewart, Ron Pawlak, Joe Bernardoni, John Pappas and Kevin Stewart. Also present was Village Engineer Kevin Heitz.

Appearance Request: Mr. Steven Wrobleski and Mr. Matt Baker, LP Twp. High School attended the meeting to speak about the LP Facility Master Plan for renovations to the school.

Mr. Wrobleski provided a hand out with information about the Facility Plan including FAQ's, cost, items of renovation and a design concept. They provided a brief summary about the reasons that renovations are needed in the school and on the campus as well as the method used in determining the cost of such. A committee was formed and many people were involved in the study thus far. It was determined that building a new school was not necessarily what was best for the community as most people seemed to be in favor of keeping the historical value by instead renovating the current school. Renovations would include a new addition, larger classrooms, needed repairs to the current interior and exterior structure and a new more efficient HVAC system. Cost of the project would be approx. \$67,000,000 and would require a Bond for 20 years with a raise in the tax levy. The project would maintain the historical architecture of the building, provide for more accessibility and a necessary additional fire suppression system.

Mayor Jereb asked about the approx. future student enrollment.

Mr. Baker stated that they have studied the area including incoming enrollment based on elementary school attendance and they are able to project that the school will remain at approx. the same enrollment going forward which is between 1,200 and 1,250. The Building will be renovated with enough space to accommodate an increase in enrollment of up to 1,600 students.

Mayor Jereb then asked if the Bond rate would be a variable rate.

Mr. Wrobleski answered yes. LP currently has the lowest tax rate in the surrounding taxing district. The economy is also at a historic low for interest rates on bonds. The Bond would be held for 20 years at which time it would expire.

Trustee Bernardoni then stated that Waltham is also considering building a new school and jobs are not paying well right now. Taxes going up for two schools is a lot on residents.

Mr. Wrobleski stated that they are just gathering information right now. They are waiting for feedback from the community. They are giving tours and collecting surveys to try to decide which direction the community would like to go. They want to include the community in every step of the decision.

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Trustee Bernardoni then asked if this is a wish list of items.

Mr. Wrobleski stated that they have already reduced the project by over \$30,000,000. The list contains renovations that are necessary to the repairs that are needed and for the large enrollment the school has.

Mr. Baker then stated that building tours are available. They encourage people to come for a tour.

Mr. Wrobleski agreed and stated that they have tried to keep the community involved every step of the way.

Trustee Schweickert asked if there is a contingency plan of items that are needed right away if the entire plan doesn't go through.

Mr. Wrobleski stated that there is a lot of health, life, safety work that will be necessary in the next 5 years.

Trustee Bernardoni then asked if the north LaSalle sports complex was an oversight now that they know they need all of these repairs to the school.

Mr. Wrobleski stated that the sports complex was based on an idea that began 15 years ago. It cost approx. \$4,400,000 and is widely used by the school and other youth groups. That is a very small amount that wouldn't have answered to all of the renovations that are now necessary at the school. The HVAC system will cost approx. \$10,000,000. Right now there are certain classrooms that are closer to the furnace system and they get too hot so they have to open the windows during the winter and yet the classrooms on the other side of the building aren't warm enough because the furnace can't heat the building well enough on that end.

Mr. Bottomley stated that he agrees with the renovations and the repairs but not the new addition to the school.

Mr. Fry asked where they reduced the plan by \$30,000,000.

Mr. Wrobleski stated that they reduced some of the additional areas like adding a fine arts section, etc.

Mayor Jereb thanked them for coming to present their information to the Board.

Mr. Wrobleski and Mr. Baker thanked everyone for the opportunity and encourage them to come to the school and take a building tour.

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Clerk:

Laurie Gbur provided a draft of the 2016 Appropriations was provided to the Board for their review. All comments are needed by Friday June 1, 2016 so that the Ordinance can be prepared for the Board meeting.

The Clerk then spoke about the request received from LP Band to hold a tag day on July 30, 2016 from 8am – noon at the intersection of Rt. 6 and Rt. 178. A brief discussion was held about the intersection and traffic. It was decided that they could be located there until noon, but after that the traffic is too congested. It was then motioned by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Bernardoni to recommend approval of the tag day for LP Band on July 30, 2016.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Treasurer:

Jamie Turczyn provided the following updates:

Schedule for the Mill St. Grand Opening – It was discussed with the Business Association. They formed a Committee and they are looking at July 17, 2016 for the event.

Grand Openings of new businesses – Reminder, there is a Grand Opening planned for The Sweet Bar at 3:30 pm and Flutterby's at 4:00 pm on June 3, 2016. Everyone is invited.

July 2, 2016 Firework's event – The train is not available this year so we will work on other options for that. We will be having the face painting, bounce houses and food. Volunteers will be needed and a sign-up sheet will be available at the next meeting.

Jamie also spoke about the phone and internet service. Currently the Village is in a contract with ATT. IF we don't do anything the contract will automatically renew.

MTCO can provide internet and phone to the Village. The cost is \$120 month for internet and \$245 plus government taxes per month for the phone service. Currently we are paying \$140 per month for internet and \$500 per month for phone. This would be a savings to the Village. She will try to contact ATT again to see if their rate will be any lower in a new contract.

Finance Liaison: NONE

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Donations & Advertising Requests:

It was motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee Bernardoni to recommend a donation in the amount of \$100 to the Jimmy D. Golf Outing being held on 7-10-16.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

It was then motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee D. Stewart to recommend a donation in the amount of \$50 to Operation Promise toward their 5K race that is being held on 7-12-16.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Park & Recreation Liaison: The new Magnuson Park is coming along. We will look into the cost of a border of trees on each side to indicate a separation between the park and private property. Mayor Jereb also asked Curt to use topsoil to put into the low areas and then possibly the area can be re-graded in the spring.

Water/Sewer: It was motioned by Trustee Pawlak, seconded by Trustee Schweickert to recommend approval of the annual ITRON tech support maintenance contract in the amount of \$2,298.01.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Streets, Lights & Alleys Liaison: Trustee Bernardoni commented on the heavy rains and the debris that was across Hallet Rd as a result. Spayer cleaned up the area.

Governmental Affairs Liaison: Trustee Pappas stated that a group will be to be planting the Community Garden with marigolds and vegetable plants. He is also working on a sign for the garden.

Police Department Liaison: Trustee K. Stewart asked Police Chief Jay Stachowiak to speak about the 2008 Explorer. Chief Stachowiak stated that the value of the vehicle is only approx. \$100. This is the vehicle that is being replaced by the new pick-up truck. A suggestion was made to donate the vehicle. If the vehicle is donated to the Fire Department, it could be used for auto extrication training and then hauled to the scrap yard. If the Village chooses to sell the vehicle, we would have to go out for bids. Mayor Jereb and the Board liked the idea to donate the vehicle to the Fire Department. Chief Stachowiak will reach out to the Fire Chief and get back to the Board at the next meeting.

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Building / Zoning Officer: NONE

Maintenance Department: Public Works Director Spayer stated that a new VFD is needed at Well 2. The cost would be approx. \$2,397.26 for a refurbished VFD with a 2-year warranty and \$337.87 for the filter system. It was motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee Pawlak to recommend approval of the purchase.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Spayer then stated that a new blower motor is needed for the sewer plant in the amount of \$1,500. It was then motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee D. Stewart to recommend approval of the purchase.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Engineer's Report: Engineer Heitz provided an update of ongoing projects in the Village. Mill St. Beautification Project – New lights are due in at the end of June. Tree grates are due in within a couple of weeks. Decorative concrete will be power-washed and joints will be caulked. Mayor Jereb and Eng. Heitz will be looking at trees. Because some trees are not able to be pulled and planted at this time of the year, we may need to wait until Fall to plant trees on Mill St.

Clark Run Creek – The Grant application is being submitted by NCICG on June 1, 2016. Heitz provided an overview of the application which included a history of flooding from 1948 and the proposed solution of a box culvert to divert water away from the downtown areas. The cost of the project will be approx. \$1,862,000 with the Village share being \$465,000.

Heitz also provided an aerial photo showing the Pecumsaugum Creek diverting water into the I & M Canal because of a berm that was located between the two. He also provided an aerial photo from 2015 that shows that the berm is no longer there and water is no longer being fed into the I & M Canal. This information can now be brought to the IDNR for their review and a possible solution for the lack of water and additional weed growth can be found.

CDBP Grant – The Grant application for the Church St. Water Main will be due on 8-16-16. A Community Survey will need to be included in the application.

Aerial Topography – Heitz will begin working on the Action Plan for Flooding issues in the Village.

IL. River Bridge - More information will be available on the Il. River Bridge Project next month.

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President's Report: Mayor Jereb stated that he had received a complaint from resident Tom Joiner. Mr. Joiner stated that the landscape rock at Neighbor's Park is being thrown into his yard by kids. He hit a rock with his lawnmower and then it put a hole in his new fence. After some discussion, the Board decided that although the Village paid for the fence initially, the matter of damage to the fence is not the Village's responsibility.

Starved Rock would also like the Village to participate in advertising on the Trolley. The Board agreed that advertising on the trolley would not be beneficial; The Village is already doing a lot of other advertising.

The advertising budget was also mentioned. It was agreed that the Board would like to continue advertising as we had in the previous year.

Committee Reports:

Trustee Pappas stated that the Make-a-Wish garden that the Village donated to was for a little girl in Marseilles. She will be able to go out to feed the birds and enjoy the garden.

Mr. Don Robey then stated that the Village gazebo looks nice.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm. Motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee D. Stewart.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Gbur
Village Clerk

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