

A joint meeting of the Town of Newstead and Village of Akron Boards was held on April 7, 2008 at the Village Hall.

Present: Village Board Members

Mayor Carl Patterson
Trustee Peter Forrestel
Trustee Mike Middaugh
Trustee Kathy Capan
Trustee Bill Kaufman

Village Attorney Don Shonn
Village Clerk Dan Borchert
DPW Supt. Bob Kowalik
Police Chief Rick Lauricella

Town Board Members

Supervisor David Cummings
Councilman Tom George
Councilman Justin Rooney
Councilwoman Esposito

Town Engineer Scott Rybarczyk
Town Attorney Nathan Neill
Town Clerk Dawn Izydorczak
Highway Supt. Mike Bassanello

The Boards convened at approximately 9:00pm at the Village Hall with Mayor Patterson calling the meeting to order.

Joint Facility Study- A site evaluation sheet was distributed to those present. Councilman George recapped the study to date and discussed the evaluation sheet which compared a newly constructed vs. purchase and renovation of the Indian Falls Rd complex. Councilman George explained that the towns Jackson St complex would be converted into a cold storage facility for both municipalities use. A final copy of the report will be available to both boards by early next week. The committee made a formal recommendation to the boards to choose the newly constructed facility on the Buell Street site. Mayor Patterson stated the committee and boards agree that this project needs to address the long term needs of both communities and the Indian Falls Rd facility even with renovations is not an ideal fit long term. A new facility will be built to specifications. Trustee Forrestel stated the cost of necessary improvements at the Indian Falls Rd site added to the purchase costs make it too much to spend. The committee feels they have done an adequate and thorough job on this project study and have looked at all opportunities. They approve the drafting of an inter-municipal agreement on the project to move forward in the process for the Buell Street site design. They must continue to work towards addressing all the issues associated with the efficient delivery of services.

Bike Path- (signage & sealing) The Supervisor is getting quotes on the cost of signage to match the Town of Clarence's signage on their portions of the bike path, as well as the sealing of the bike path. He offered to get quotes that would include the village's portion so they could do the project jointly to save money. The Mayor and village board members approved this. Trustee Middaugh stated that they should look into grant funds available thru the Sno-seekers clubs. Trustee Forrestel stated that some of the tree roots that are growing under the path need to be cut and he would like to see that taken care of as well.

Annexation of Niagara Specialties property: The town board members stated they have no objections to the request for annexation of the Niagara Specialties parcel to the village as the parcel in question is surrounded by other parcels already annexed years ago. Both entities have been contacted by the attorney for Niagara Specialty and everyone agreed the village/town attorneys will work together with the business to get this accomplished.

Sewer services – Sewer District #1: the generator is in place, tested and working. They are still working out the draft agreements.

Sewer Services in general: the Supervisor stated that the town is still interested in pursuing a partnership on these services and expansion into the town areas surrounding the village and out Buell Street to Main Rd in the future. Councilman George stated the expansion could be focused on the areas specified in the Comprehensive Master Plan. Trustee Forrestel updated everyone on the proposed 2008 EPA grant purchases and work to be completed this year at the sewer plant. Once those updates are complete, they will discuss future plans for expansion with the town.

Archives- they are working towards a plan that will accommodate both the town and villages needs. The size and scope of work will be dependent on the decisions made regarding consolidation of the two courts into one. Ideally would like to start work in 2009.

Court Departments- both Justices Campbell and Freeman were present and asked for their input on the idea of consolidation by the Mayor. Justice Campbell stated he and Justice Freeman have discussed the idea and are both in favor of consolidating the courts and if it is done correctly this could save the taxpayers money. Justice Campbell informed the boards that there is a proposal to go to regional court systems which would eliminate local courts and the fine revenues they bring to the local municipalities. He feels the boards should be pro-active on this issue and look at true consolidation, which would abolish the village court although they would still retain their fine revenues for incidents in the village. It was proposed to set up a committee to investigate the logistics of this proposal. Justice Freeman agrees the committee is a good idea. He stated this would have to go to a referendum vote and he agrees the revenues from village police activities and how they will be distributed needs to be addressed. In the interest of staying on target with the addition at the town hall, the Supervisor would like to see the committee start meeting right away to address and hammer out issues and would like a final recommendation from the committee within 6 months. Everyone agreed.

Murder Creek Mitigation- no official notice has been received yet. They are hoping to hear a determination by May.

Police Garage- a 4 bay detached police garage has been proposed on the town complex for the State Troopers and Village Police to share. The Supervisor is still working on funding sources and talking to the State Police Commanders.

Comprehensive Master Plan Updates- it has been approximately 4 years since the plan has been adopted. The village has recently made a few changes to their portion of the plan. Both boards agreed that maybe this needs to be looked at again for an update.

LOSAP Issues- Trustees Forrestel and Middaugh will meet with two town board committee members to discuss on going issues with the plan/program.

John Street Waterline- the village DPW will be starting work within the next few weeks and will continue work on replacing 4" to 6" waterlines with new 10" lines thru October. This will be a major project and the town Highway Supt. offered any assistance the village workers might need them for.

Time Warner Cable Study- both boards received copies of letters the Town of Alden sent to local representatives requesting assistance in negotiating a switch of their services with Time Warner Cable from the Rochester region market over to the Buffalo region market. Both boards agreed they would work together to make the same request from Time Warner for the village and town residents being serviced by Time Warner.

Modern Disposal- the village received a proposal from Modern to enroll in a new program for scrap metal and tire pick up under a County issued contract. They questioned if the town had received the same correspondence. They had not. Clerk Treasurer Borchert will get the town a copy of the proposal letter. The town board will then compare the County contract offer to their costs for their current tire and metal pick up expenses and see if it would benefit the taxpayers to change their current practices.

Code Enforcement- the Mayor and Supervisor will meet to discuss a proposal for sharing this service with the impending villages CEO's retirement.

Celebration Committee- the Supervisor informed everyone that a contract for a ride vendor has been signed and the July 4th celebration will continue this year. The typical approvals will be requested for use of the park, streets, shelter, etc.

Soccer Tournament- an inter-municipal agreement needs to be done as soon as possible that addresses jurisdictional issues for liability for the Village Police. Both boards agreed pricing agreements can be addressed in an "Appendix A" addendum to be added at a later date. They need to address short term events vs. calls out for service by the police into the town.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.
Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn D. Izydorczak, Town Clerk