

This special meeting was published in the Union Sun & Journal, posted in 4 places in the Village, as well as posted on the Village website.

## VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 2017 6:00PM



Mayor Aaron Nellist  
Deputy Mayor Gregory P. Kerth  
Trustee James Baker  
Trustee Kimberly Ruffini  
Trustee Seanna Corwin-Bradley

In **Attendance:** DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Victoria Baker, Dale Howard and Robert Wendler

At 6:03pm meeting was called to order by Mayor Nellist by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **Approval of Minutes** for the monthly board meeting October 2, 2017 was motioned for approval by Deputy Mayor Kerth and was seconded by Trustee Baker.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5-Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None  
Motion Carried.

### **Resolution #18-2017 Paid Family Leave Benefit Opt-Out Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Barker is permitted, but not required, to offer paid family leave benefits to its employees, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Village will not offer said benefits. The Village Clerk shall give notice of this determination to all employees in writing and the Worker's Compensation Board prior to December 1, 2018.

A motion to adopt Resolution #18-2017 was made by Deputy Mayor Kerth and a second was offered by Trustee Corwin-Bradley.

The previous Resolution was ADOPTED. AYES 5-Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None  
Resolution Adopted, Motion Carried.

### **Health Insurance Renewal**

**Current-Blue Cross & Blue Shield Platinum Standard-Total Cost \$2,548.97**

**Proposed-Blue Cross & Blue Shield Platinum Align** (Only for Erie & Niagara Counties)

Total Cost \$2,608.38 Increase of \$712.92

Annually

**Blue Cross & Blue Shield Platinum Standard-** Total Cost \$2,867.71 Increase of \$3,824.88 Annually

**Independent Health Platinum Standard-** Total Cost \$2,816.78 Increase of \$3,231.72 Annually

**Univera Platinum Standard-** Total Cost \$3,393.11 Increase of \$10,129.68 Annually

**MVP Platinum Standard-** Total Cost \$3,952.02 Increase of \$16,836.60 Annually

A motion was made by Trustee Baker to allow eligible employees coverage through Blue Cross and Blue Shield Platinum Align plan and a second was offered by Trustee Ruffini.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5-Nellist, Keth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None  
Motion Carried.

### **Grant Update: SAM Grant (State and Municipal Facilities)**

A brief explanation of the SAM moneys was given to the Board and public participants. This project includes milling and paving of Main Street, as well as the milling and paving of the Village Hall municipal parking lot. Replacing the piece of playground equipment in David Barker Park, as well as install drainage and pave the DPW lot.

A motion to authorize the **Execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement** by Mayor Nellist was made by Deputy Mayor Kerth and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None  
Motion Carried.

### **Grant Update: 2017 Lake Ontario Shoreline Erosion/Flooding Grant**

As listed under correspondence the Village was notified that we are receiving the \$49,390.00 requested from the erosion damage sustained during the high Lake Ontario levels this past spring and summer. This project entails erecting of a new break wall at the Lake Park to protect from further erosion. Next steps will be forthcoming from the NYS Dept of Homes and Community Renewal.

**Grant Update: DEC Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program** final application is due by January 4, 2018, now that I have been granted access to the online portal; I should be able to start the final application.

### **Correspondence:**

Praxair-Natural Gas Awareness materials

Liquor license renewal-Pizza Wings & Things

Barker Farmer's Market-Faith United Methodist Church-No Longer Hosting

NYS Homes and Community Renewal awarding the Village NYS Lake Ontario Flood Relief & Recovery Program Grant \$49,390.00

### **Clerk-Treasurer:**

- ✓ Lime Energy would like to know if we would like another quote for the Police Station.  
Larry Grouse said the lighting over there is the really old stuff that they don't make anymore; we could even look at doing T-8's instead of going LED. The Board felt that it wasn't necessary at this time.

**Public Works:**

- ✓ **Tree removal/stump grinding in David Barker Park-Pine Trees by Playground \$600.00**
- ✓ **Authorization to remove current playground to prepare for SAM Funding replacement**

The Board of Trustees felt that the pine tree removal and stump grinding, as well as the removal of the old playground were satisfactory due to the imminent finalization of the SAM Grant moneys. Therefore, Trustee Ruffini made a motion to remove the pine trees, grind the stumps and remove the current playground equipment. A second was offered by Trustee Corwin-Bradley.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

- ✓ **Quotes to plant new trees in David Barker Park (Main Street)**

**Faery's Nursery- \$1,800.00** for 4 new trees planted

**Steadman's Nursery-\$1,600.00** for 6 new trees planted, mulched and staked

A motion to allow Steadman's Nursery to plant 6 new trees (5 in David Barker Park & 1 at Bi-Centennial Park on the Lake) was made by Trustee Baker and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Kerth.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

No **Public Comment** was offered.

**Board Comment** was offered by:

Mayor Nellist: ***Gave an update on the Niagara County Health Care Consortium***

Chris Grant will be the Grant Assistant from the NYS Dept. of State. The moneys for this grant have come from the Municipal Restructuring Fund that came from the Economic Development Fund that was from a bank settlement.

The grant moneys are first come, first serve. The City of Niagara Falls is now on board with the Consortium, which will help increase the number of participants. The County of Niagara is presenting obstacles by not releasing the data; the union was quoted as saying. The next step is to develop a project development plan which will entail who is on the committee, who is the chair and how is this project communicated to the public. Phase 3 will include a small scale implementation that really isn't possible due to the nature of the project, but will be worked out. Phase 3 will also include a Municipal Co-operative Agreement where all interested parties sign on and outlining all the things that have been agreed discussed and agreed on. Phase 3 is 35% of the award which can be used for legal or account fees. At this point a Certificate of Application is submitted to the NYS Dept. of Financial Services where they will calculate the figures and give the project a thumb up or thumbs down. When the contract is approved then the remaining 65% of the remaining moneys may be awarded. The next RFP is huge (RFP=Request for Proposals). The first RFP the Village would have had to spend a little bit more money, but would have gained stability and manageable increases. It will take approximately 2 to 3 months after getting the required data from the participating municipalities to complete the 2<sup>nd</sup> RFP. It looks like a total of 6 plans will be offered that mirror Niagara County's and Niagara Falls and 1 high deductible plan. Three of the plan designs will mirror Niagara Counties; two will mirror the City of Niagara Falls and one high deductible option. Two levels will be offered, single and family plans. Mayor Nellist had the following questions: How long before we go out for the 2<sup>nd</sup> RFP? Is there still talk about lowering the number of participants needed to have a consortium? Would it take an act of Legislature to lower the number threshold for the health care consortium under Article 47? Currently there is no legislation in the works that would allow this and if there was the insurance company lobbyist would make sure it wouldn't go far. Overall the State is very excited about this project.

***Capital Improvement Plan Update with Paul Chatfield***

Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm Paul Chatfield had a meeting with Mark Remington, Amanda Detschner and Mayor Nellist (on the telephone) to discuss projects they would like to see in the updated Capital Improvement Plan. By far number one on the list is Drainage; we discussed adding the Lake Park to the plan. For instance adding a retaining wall that could be utilized for seating or a nice arbor for weddings. Sidewalks need attention to become ADA compliant, especially at intersections. Streets are in good shape, as long as we continue to do a little each year. Street lighting was discussed, especially switching fixtures from current ones to LED. The David Barker Park was also discussed at length.

***Dollar General Update***

Mayor Nellist received an email from Bohler Engineering, which is the firm working on the Dollar General Project, which contained a preliminary Ariel view of what the site would look like. Nothing formal has been submitted, to change the zoning from R-2 to Business an application for a use variance will have to be submitted.

Seanna Corwin-Bradley: Stated that she knows the Traffic Safety Coordinator for the Niagara County Sherriff's department and would like the Village to sponsor a child seat safety check at some point in the future, which the rest of the Board was approving of the idea.

A motion to enter into **Executive Session based on a Personnel matter** was made by Trustee Corwin-Bradley at 6:54pm and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

All present during Executive Session:

All 5 Board Members, DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Vicky Baker and Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner.

A motion to **exit Executive Session was made at 7:02pm** to continue the regular meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Kerth and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

A motion for **Adjournment was made at 7:04pm** by Deputy Mayor Kerth and was seconded by Trustee Ruffini. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES 5- Nellist, Kerth, Baker, Ruffini, Corwin-Bradley NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Work Session on November 6, 2017 is CANCELLED.**

**Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, November 13, 2017 at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amanda M. Detschner, Clerk-Treasurer