

**PUBLIC HEARING
Village of East Syracuse
January 6, 2014**

**RE: Local Law No. 1 of 2014
A Local law to Abolish the Village of East Syracuse Police Department**

Mayor Tackman called the Public Hearing regarding proposed local law No. 1 of 2014, a local law to abolish the Village of East Syracuse Police Department to order at 7:00PM.

Local Law No. 1, of 2014 reads as follows:

**Local Law No. 1 of 2014
Village of East Syracuse
To Abolish the East Syracuse Police Department**

The purpose of Local Law No. 1 of the year 2014 is to abolish the Village of East Syracuse Police Department pursuant to Section 8-800 of NYS Village Law and to transfer the function of the East Syracuse Police Department to the Town of DeWitt Police Department and further enter into a proposed contract with the Town of DeWitt for the extension of additional police services within the Village of East Syracuse.

Section 1. Abolishing the Village of East Syracuse Police department pursuant to Section 8-800 of New York State Village Law and the transfer of function of the Village Police Department with the Town of DeWitt Police Department and further to enter into a proposed contract with the Town of DeWitt for the extension of additional police services with the Village of East Syracuse.

This Local Law is subject to a permissive referendum and will be put to the qualified voters of the Village of East Syracuse at a special election to be held and conducted on Tuesday, _____, 2014.

This Local Law shall take effect upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

COMMENTS:

Mayor Robert T. Tackman provided brief update where the Board is in this process. Currently in negotiations with the Town of DeWitt and the East Syracuse PBA on possible agreements. Still working on options. Also reached out the Onondaga County Comptroller's team to prepare numbers necessary for evaluating the impact of proposal. Two years ago there were a lot of questions about the numbers. This time want solid numbers so that there is no confusion or misunderstanding.

Looking to hear everyone's concerns. If there are any questions, we will look into the matter and get the answer. If people are not comfortable speaking tonight, please feel free to contact the Village Office or send your inquiry via the Village's website.

People speaking tonight are asked to state their name and address for the records and please address all comments to the Board.

Mayor Tackman read the comments received via e-mail from **Rodney Sanford**:
"PLEASE READ AT THE MEETING!"

Dear Pat,

My name is Rodney Sanford. I live over here at 403 Silver St. I would like it to be known that I'm against the Village of East Syracuse contracting out the police services to the Town of DeWitt. I know how it's going to raise our taxes, but I want to see familiar faces in the same current uniforms. I stand in solidarity with the men and women of the East Syracuse Police Department. When this matter comes to a community vote, I will be voting "NO" for the merger. Thanks for your time in this matter!

Sincerely,
Rodney Sanford

Sent from my HTC on T-Mobile 4G LTE"

Diane Szlamczynski states that at the last referendum she was turned away from voting. Wants to know why she was refused.

Mayor Tackman reported that the qualification for voting is must be registered to vote with Onondaga County Board of Elections, but will look into the matter.

Ms. Szlamczynski continued asking what percentage of the overall budget is dedicated for Police.

Mayor Tackman again stated that exact numbers are not available tonight but approximately 20%. Waiting for assistance from the County in determining that but that also depends on negotiations and additional service agreements.

Mayor Tackman offered that this Public Hearing will be left open and continue on Monday, February 3rd at 7PM where more information will be presented.

Ms. Szlamczynski also inquired how many renters there are versus landlords or property owners that cannot cast a vote. Feels that is a concern of the business owners.

Lucy Forkhammer read prepared remarks stating that she is a long time Village resident of over 40 years. Parents came here to escape dictatorship and welcomed a democracy. In 2012 people voted almost 2 to 1 to keep the police. Now someone is not happy with that vote. In the Fall people voted to elect Obama – I didn't but it's a democracy. Now Mayor Tackman, Trustee Carr and Trustee Wagner say the vote in 2012 doesn't count. That's not a democracy.

Also, I attend as many meetings as I can. I heard in December that vouchers were \$204,000 but still don't know what that money was spent on. There's no transparency.

If it's over budget either fix it or get rid of it. The Police operate under budget.

The last Mayor said he knew the Village would be in this financial mess. He didn't raise taxes. He knew that wouldn't be popular with his political future plans.

Where has the money gone? I look at the budget and see that spending for Parks & Rec Supervisor's went up 405%; other Parks charges up 128%, DPW equipment 223%, DPW repairs 340%.

This is not a democracy.

Trustee Daniel Wagner suggested that stating the percentages is misleading. The Pool Supervisors was a new line item – going from zero to something creates a high percentage increase. Repairs were actually minor if stated as a dollar amount.

Nancy Churchill stated that she too is a longtime resident. She has needed the Police and they were there in less than two minutes. Believe that Chief Morris saved her life. East Syracuse has an extraordinary Police Department and Chief Morris is fantastic. Could never do better than what we have. Sure that the Police could tell just how lawless this Village could be without their presence.

Mayor Tackman stated that this is not about Police performance. Our Police department is fantastic. It's about doing what is right fiscally and exploring all options.

Cathy Crandall another longtime resident states that she loves this Village and the Police have always been here. Runs BINGO on Sunday night and the police are there to stop in whenever there's a problem. If I ever needed someone I wouldn't have to wait for help. With the kids in this Village, if we don't have the police they will take advantage of that situation. Would hate to see the Village go down. It's a pleasure and a privilege to live here.

Jim O'Donnell was born and raised here. What else are we going to get rid of? Outsourced the trash and water and those costs doubled. Not going to save any money with the Town of DeWitt. The Town of DeWitt doesn't care about East Syracuse. The East Syracuse Police take care of the Village. Nonsense to keep bringing this up. Are we going to have to go through this every time someone new gets elected?

Patricia Bacon hopes that everyone realizes what the East Syracuse Police get paid because the DeWitt Police makes more. Our taxes will only go up!

Tim Powers has lived here for 44 years. Understands it's all about the money. The Village is in a tough place having inherited these problems from the former Mayor. The new Board needs to take control. Have they done any preliminary investigations into what the cost of the proposal are? As a taxpayer and a resident a 22% tax increase is not the fault of the Police. Comfortable with our Police. Maybe should consider other changes, such as number of shifts or officers on patrol.

His opinion that need hard facts before deciding this issue. Syracuse newspaper quotes the \$249 number used 2 years ago. Hard to imagine that it is still accurate.

Mayor Tackman concurred that need more information. We will get that with the County's analysis. This is an opportunity to explore the options and discuss alternatives.

Wayne Cunningham spoke as the owner of the Village Deli with a long history with the Village before that since 1968 at Leo's Big M. Recalled starting the East Syracuse Chamber in 1986. Was looking then to devise a 10 year plan to take back the Village. It's been 26 years and has still not brought the Village back! It continues to deteriorate. But it's not just here it's every municipality. Use to have 2 grocery stores and Dentists and businesses. Now there are about 10 to 15 empty storefronts.

Applaud our Police but with increasing costs of everything, including pensions and insurance, we just can't continue this way. Don't know what the answer is but we have to find a way to turn things around and lower taxes.

Rob Byrnes owns a business on West Manlius Street. Wants to bring to the Board's attention again the discrepancies in Village assessments. Before make drastic cuts should take a look at equalizing assessments. A more level playing field with everyone paying their fair share would enhance the Village's tax base.

Trustee Wagner offered to look at documents Mr. Byrnes provided and work with the Town to resolve.

Mayor Tackman reminded that this proposal is not based on Police performance. They are the best, but at the end of the day it's a fiscal decision. Appreciate the involvement and discussion of the community.

Tammy Piseczny spoke as a renter. Would like to buy a house here and raise her kids but with the taxes so high just cannot afford to do so.

Lucy Forkhammer noted that no one from the Town of DeWitt is here.

Mayor Tackman reported that because of the Town's Annual Organizational meeting tonight they were not able to attend. Hope to have them available at the Public Hearing on February 3rd.

Ms. Forkhammer asked if had projections for next year in anticipation of the budget.

Mayor Tackman noted that with the loss of assessed value, if the budget were to stay the same we are already looking at a 3.4 % increase or \$0.56.

Diane Szlamczynski asked if the Board is looking at other means to reduce taxes than eliminating the Police.

Mayor Tackman offered that the Board is looking at every department and all operations. \$16.41 is way too high. Will continue to look for ways to save and increase revenues.

Jim O'Donnell asked if cut Police what is left? Why would we need a Court when all tickets would go to the Town? What else would the Board do other than oversee DPW Superintendent and Parks programs. Fire Department wants to go.

Kim O'Brien inquired about the debt on this building - with the Police gone would still have to pay for the building.

Claim that the 22% increase is police, but if abolished what is really saved?

Mayor Tackman repeated hopes to have accurate numbers from the County. Will disseminate this information once it is available. Corrected that it is not the Board's claim that the increase is due to the police or any other department.

Tammy Piseczny asked if when the building is paid for will taxes go down?

Mayor Tackman reminded that there will still be building repairs and other equipment needs. Also anticipate heavy legacy costs with an aging workforce heading to retirement. Looking at what will happen down the road.

Bernie Ment spoke on behalf of the Save East Syracuse PAC. He pointed out that when the Town of DeWitt Police ticket within East Syracuse those go to that location's Court.

Noted that the Village of East Syracuse has the highest tax rate in Onondaga County, almost \$17. Comparably the Village of Skaneateles has one of the lowest, under \$7. Yet East Syracuse has the lowest per capita income while Skaneateles the highest.

Has been door-to-door circulating petitions. People want the opportunity to reconsider this proposal. The 22% tax increase changed things for a lot of people. People are not happy.

Kim O'Brien identified herself as representing the Friends of East Syracuse Police. Inquired if these petitions were handed in to the Village or if they mean anything to the Board?

Mayor Tackman reports that the petitions were not filed with the Village.

Ms. O'Brien further inquired about a budget entry for \$100,000 for wetland sampling.

Mayor Tackman reported that this is due because of the DEC Consent Order.

Bernie Ment reported that he has over 350 signatures on the petitions. They were not turned in because he hopes to have 500 people sign.

Richard Summers reports listening to everything it seems that the bigger question is the viability of the Village.

Mayor Tackman stated the goal of the Board is to make sure the Village is fiscally sound. Want to make sure that we can pay our commitments and prepare for the future.

Brian Powers asked if there was anyplace else in the budget where we can save a million dollars.

Amiee Clinkhammer inquired if the Board has looked at how other municipalities do things or spoken to other Mayors. The Town of Manlius covers the Villages of Minoa, Manlius and Fayetteville and it seems to work for them.

Mayor Tackman reported meeting with several Mayors – from Villages with and without Police Departments. The Villages in the Town of Manlius are all happy with their police services and are able to direct their resources elsewhere in those Villages.

Pat Bacon asked how many of the 350 names are homeowners.

Hearing no other comments, at 7:40PM Mayor Tackman adjourned the public hearing until Monday, February 3, 2014 at 7PM.

Mayor Tackman thanked everyone for attending and expressing their concerns. If there are any further questions, please call the Village Office or inquire through the Village's website.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Village of East Syracuse
January 6, 2014**

Following a brief recess and the Pledge of Allegiance, **Mayor Robert T. Tackman** called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Village of East Syracuse Board of Trustees for Monday, January 6, 2014 to order at 7:55PM.

Present: Trustee James E. Carr, Jr., Trustee Carol Para, Deputy Mayor Barbara Falcone Quonce, Trustee Daniel J. Wagner, and Mayor Robert T. Tackman.

Also Present: DPW Superintendent Ron Russell, III, Parks Director Tom Richardson, Chief of Police Donald Morris, Village Clerk Patricia J. Derby, 1st Assistant Fire Chief David J. Brewster, Code Enforcement Officer Randy Capriotti, and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

Approximately 60 Village residents and guests attended, including East Syracuse PBA members, East Syracuse Volunteer Fire Department members, Planning Board members: former Mayor Tony Albanese, Mary Albanese, and David Boldt, Zoning Board of Appeals members: Pat Bacon and Jim Voodre, Housing Authority Chairperson Sally M. Seeley, representatives from Save East Syracuse PAC, representatives from Friends of East Syracuse Police PAC, and representatives from the media including: *The Eagle News*, *The Syracuse Newspapers*, *Time Warner YNN*, *Channel 9 WSYR*, and *CNY Central*.

Review of Correspondence A record of recent correspondence has been distributed to the Board of Trustees and all department heads to assist in monitoring activities.

Motion – by Deputy Mayor Quonce, seconded by Trustee Wagner - To accept the following vouchers for payment:

From **Consolidated Fund** Abstract, vouchers numbered 49190 through 49366 and Abstract in the amount of \$113,932.03.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Motion – by Trustee Carr, seconded by Deputy mayor Quonce - To authorize the Mayor to execute the Fire Service Protection agreement with the Town of DeWitt for 2014.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Changes to Employee Handbook

Motion – by Trustee Wagner, seconded by Trustee Carr - To adopt the following changes to the Employee Handbook regarding §710 New York State Disability Coverage and §711 Worker's Compensation

§710 New York State Disability Coverage

New York State Disability benefits are available to all full-time employees as a benefit for employees who become disabled by a non-work related injury or illness.

Employees generally receive fifty percent (50%) of their previous average weekly wages to a specified maximum. The determination of whether an employee is eligible to receive disability benefits is made by the insurance carrier.

Eligible employees are covered for the period of disability specified by their physician, up to a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks. ~~There is a seven (7) calendar day waiting period before disability payments begin. The Village will pay employees their regular wages for the first five (5) working days of the leave. An employee's accrued sick time will not be charged.~~

Benefits, including vacation, sick, and personal time, will not accrue during a disability leave that extends more than thirty (30) calendar days. Employees will not be paid for any Village observed holidays that occur while on such leave.

Eligible employees who are on an authorized unpaid leave of absence for any reason other than their own disability will remain eligible for New York State Disability insurance benefits for up to four (4) weeks after the unpaid leave of absence commences should a qualifying injury or illness occur. After being out of work for more than four (4) weeks on an authorized unpaid leave of absence, employees will no longer be eligible for New York State Disability insurance benefits.

§711 Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation benefits, including payment of medical costs and replacement of lost wages up to the regulated maximum, are provided for all eligible employees who suffer a job related injury. The cost of Workers' Compensation is paid entirely by the Village.

~~There is a seven (7) calendar day waiting period before workers' compensation benefits begin for employees who are unable to work due to a work related injury. The Village will pay employees their regular wages for the first five (5) working days of said injuries. An employee's accrued sick time will not be charged. Should the employee receive workers' compensation benefits for this waiting period, the employee must reimburse the Village for such payment.~~

It is the employee's responsibility to submit a written report of the injury to their department head and the Village Clerk within twenty-four (24) hours of the accident in order to ensure prompt coverage of the claim. In the event of the employee's incapacitation, the department head will complete and submit the required forms on behalf of the injured employee.

The cost of workers compensation is paid entirely by the Village;

It is the policy of the Village of East Syracuse, as of September 21, 2009, to make direct payment to employees who suffer a job related injury of replacement lost wages, up to the regulated amount, as determined by the Workers' Compensation provider. The Village of East Syracuse shall continue to make authorized payroll deductions, including the employees' portion of premium for health & dental insurance, and contribution to New York State & Local Retirement System.

The Village of East Syracuse will seek direct reimbursement from the Workers' Compensation provider for all payments made to the Village employee; and

An employee may opt to receive direct reimbursement from the Workers' Compensation provider by submitting written notification to the Village Office.

Benefits, including vacation, sick, and personal time, will not accrue during a workers' compensation leave that extends more than thirty (30) calendar days. Employees will not be paid for any Village observed holidays that occur while on such leave.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Mayor Tackman reported that other matter regarding changes to earned benefits time for sick, leave personal leave and vacation will remain unchanged, for now. There are no cost savings derived from this changes and employees are going through enough. Will re-visit employee benefits during budget review process.

Motion – by Trustee Wagner, seconded by Trustee Carr - To authorize the Mayor to execute agreement with Virtual Towns & Schools to design and develop website (\$2500) and provide annual maintenance, training and support (\$1750)

Discussion: Mayor Tackman commented that looked at several vendors. This vendor was recommended by several other municipalities. They only do websites for municipalities and schools. Cost is comparable to current website.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Motion – by Deputy Mayor Quonce, seconded by Trustee Para - To authorize the Treasurer to make budget adjustment from fiscal year 2013/2014, as follows:

FROM ACCOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
A1990.0430 Contingency	A1680.0404 Website	\$4250
A1990.0430 Contingency	A1680.0200 Data Processing Equipment (Time Clock)	\$6259

P Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Motion – by Trustee Carr, seconded by Trustee Wagner - To authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with Onondaga County to use the Village’s Municipal Building as a polling place, for primary and general elections for a five (5) year period 2014 through 2019.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Motion – by Deputy mayor Quonce, seconded by Trustee Carr - To accept the NYS Police Traffic Services grant in the amount of \$3185 for statewide enforcement to increase seatbelt usage and reduce dangerous driving.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

Park Activities & Trips

Motion – by Trustee Para, seconded by Deputy Mayor Quonce - To offer the following schedule of events for February Break 2014:

Tuesday, February 18 th	Gymnastic Party Ages 5 – 13 From 11:00 to 12:30 No transportation	Cost \$10 payable to CNY Gymnastics
Wednesday, February 19 th	CNY Karate From 1PM to 2:30PM	Free
Thursday, February 20 th	Bowling Tournament at Bowl Mor Lanes ages 4 – 11 check in starts at 9AM	Cost is \$6.00 directly to Bowl Mor
Thursday, February 20 th	Youth BINGO & Movie Municipal Building Court Room BINGO at 1PM Movie TBA	Cost \$1.00 residents \$2.00 non-residents
Friday, February 21 st	Intermurals & Pizza Party at ESE 12:30 to 2:45PM	\$5 to Steve Graham

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,
Motion – by Trustee Wagner, seconded by Trustee Carr - To approve a senior trip to **ESM Musical West Side Story** on February 8th as guests of Dr. DiSiato. ESM will donate 10 tickets. There is no charge.

Polling the Board: Trustee Carr – aye, Deputy Mayor Quonce – aye, Trustee Wagner – aye, Trustee Para – aye, and Mayor Tackman – aye. Motion carried,

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Department of Public Works – DPW Superintendent Ronald A. Russell, III

SNOW REMOVAL – The following is a comparison, to date:

	2012/2013	2013/2014
Salt trips	14	25
Street Plow	9	19
Municipal Lots & Street ends	8	19
Sidewalks	6	14

Snow was removed with the snow blower on Burnet Ave & NYS Rt. 290 Bridges over CSX and also portions of Manlius Street. Snow was loaded and removed from Municipal properties and consolidated at Fire Station #2. Plow stakes were put up at various hazards and trucks, blades etc. were repaired as needed.

DRAINAGE – Culverts were cleaned on East Ellis Street and snow and debris was removed to reduce flooding and ice formation near catch basins.

TRASH – Special trash pick-up was done December 11th, 23rd and 27th due to high winds.

SANITARY SEWERS – The sewer lateral at 203 Upton was flushed from the house to the connection at East Yates Street. Numerous sewer vents and cleanout caps were replaced and vents repaired. A manhole riser and cover were replaced at Fire Station #2. The cover installed during construction was too high and could cause potential damage during plowing operations. An asphalt lip kept breaking up requiring replacement.

LEAF REMOVAL – Leaf removal was completed and the leaf machine and leaf box was cleaned and stored for next season. Leaves stored at DPW were hauled to the compost site.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING – DPW replaced light bulbs in the Fire Department bays with more efficient bulbs. Hose reels that were leaking were repaired and some plumbing problems at Station #2 were addressed. Drains that had become plugged in the Police sally port were cleaned and flushed.

PARKS & REC – Numerous benches from the Park were repaired and repainted. Broken lights at the Veterans Park were repaired.

January DPW activity will address snow operations, yearly PESH requirements, sign work, tree work and all other normal operations and assistance to other departments. Truck #3 (back-up plow & snow hauling) was damaged in a property damage accident. A car slid into the truck as it was stopped and waiting to turn onto Bridge Street. The fuel tank ruptured and bracing was damaged. The truck will be out of service until returned from repair.

DPW Superintendent Ron Russell reported that we have been hit hard by winter already. Already had 4 salt deliveries where last year only had 6 for the entire year.

Mayor Tackman extended his thanks to the DPW crew. Got a new appreciation for the job riding along on the salt run last week. Guys do a fantastic job.

Also, reminded people to help out and shovel out the hydrants.

Police Department – Chief of Police Donald Morris

The ESPD had the following statistics for the month of November:

- 07 Arrests
- 47 Traffic stops
- 42 Traffic tickets issued
- 31 Parking tickets issued
- 24 Motor vehicle crashes investigated
- 482 Incidents

Reminder that parking is prohibited from November 1st until April 1st.

Residents are also reminded to lock their vehicles and never leave valuables in plain sight within a vehicle.

Chief Morris announced that the East Syracuse Police Department will receive the AAA Gold Award for traffic safety next month. Have received this Gold level award the last several years.

Mayor Tackman asked that Sgt. Vinch be thanked for his help in pushing the car out of the way on Bridge Street. Helped unsnarl traffic.

Fire Department – 1st Assistant Chief David J. Brewster

Reports that last year the East Syracuse Volunteer Fire Department responded to 1055 calls for service.

Mayor Tackman congratulated the Fire Department – nice job! Have had 17 calls already this new year.

Parks & Recreation – Director Tom Richardson

Breakfast with Santa was a success. Approximately 140 people (children & their families) attended. Participants were served pancakes & sausage, had a picture taken with Santa and had the chance to make ginger bread houses

The Senior Christmas Party at American legion was attended by 45 seniors. Thank you to Mrs. McGinley Class and Miss Albanese Class from East Syracuse Elementary. The children put on a Christmas concert and made Christmas crafts for all the seniors

32 Seniors and children attended *Lights on Lake* on Tuesday, December 3rd.

34 seniors attended the *Texas Tenors* Christmas show at the Turning Stone on December 11th.

22 seniors attended the December 13th card party at the Village Municipal Building. Next Party will be on January 17th. Upcoming trips include the Turning Stone Casino on January 23th and February 25th.

24 seniors, adults and children attended *Disney on Ice* on Thursday, January 2nd. Deadline for Food \$ense program is Friday, January 10th. Call Tom Richardson at 952 – 0038 to get your order in.

Mayor Tackman thanked Tom for his efforts in scheduling the Tree Lighting event. Unfortunately had to cancel due to weather, but put together in a short period. Next year we will plan better and hopefully weather will cooperate.

Code Enforcement Office – Director of Operations Randy Capriotti

- I. Rental Inspections
 - A. Initial inspection – 25 units
 - B. Re-inspections – 5 units
 - C. Total potential rental UNITS – 913; Currently rental UNITS – 811
 - D. Registered 2013 – Roughly 332 STRUCTURES as of 12/31/13

- II. Fire Inspections- 5
 - A. Place of Assembly – 1
 - B. Commercial – 4
 - C. Multi-families;
 - 4 structures
 - 15 units

- III. Housing Court
 - A. Court Order to Inspect - 0
 - B. Rental Inspections - 0
 - C. Ordered to apply to ZBA for use variance – 0
 - D. Ordered to register – 0
 - E. Outdoor Storage – 1
 - F. Nuisance Vehicles – 0
 - G. Parking Violation - 0
 - H. Property Maintenance - 0
 - I. Illegal Signs -0
 - J. Zoning -0
 - K. Container Location- 0

- IV. Notices/Violations Cited

- A. Outdoor Storage – 0
 - B. Nuisance Vehicles – 1
 - C. Grass – 0, Ordered cut - 0
 - D. Property Maintenance – 0
 - E. Signs – 0
 - F. Pools – 0
 - G. Rental Reg. – delinquent notices - 0
 - H. Communication Towers – 0
 - I. Sprinkler Inspections – 5
 - J. Stop Work Orders – 0
 - K. Order to repair/demolish - 0
 - L. Disruptive Conduct Notices Mailed – 0 Eviction Proceedings - 0
- V. Uniform Code Complaints – 1 Corrected/Unfounded – 1 Pending - 0
- VI. Planning Board – 617 W. Manlius St. (Clearwood Storage) & 326 W. Second Street
- VII. Zoning Board of Appeals – No meeting
- VIII. Building Permit Plan Reviews – 7, Permits Issued- 3
- IX. Appearance Tickets Issued - 0

Director Of Operations Randy Capriotti reported that 2013 rental inspections are almost complete. Kerry did a great job picking up the slack where he could and working as sole Inspector. Will start Friday on 2014 inspections. Over 2/3 are registered for 2014.

Village Office – Village Clerk Patricia J. Derby

Assessments - We received a final assessment roll from the County. This is the Town of DeWitt's roll finalized for their tax billing January 2014. The total taxable value for the Village went down 6,153,252 (last year's the Village was 188,067,201, now it is 181,913,949). This is due to the reduction at Bristol and Heman Street Apartments.

The total assessed value is also down 6,606,558. 2013 was 219,373,141. 2014 is 212,766,583.

This means that if we were to raise the same \$3,086,980 for our general fund budget the new tax rate would be \$16.97. That is a 56¢ increase from the current \$16.41. That is a 3.4% increase (already above the 2% property tax cap imposed by the State).

This also impacts the sewer fund. To keep the \$1.20 sewer tax rate that budget will have to be reduced \$7928.

Treasurer's Report – January finds us at the half way mark for our fiscal year, yet 72% of anticipated general fund revenues have been received. Spending in the general fund is at 57%.

There are no major purchases planned and the largest bond payment (for Municipal Building) was made in December.

There are 22 more weekly payrolls to be made. Police overtime is almost completely exhausted and DPW is seeing a lot with snow and weather conditions.

Budget Preparation – The Village Board has started preliminary budget review looking at department operations and employee wages and benefits. Department Heads are asked to submit their estimates by March 1st so that a tentative budget can be reviewed by March 20th. The Public hearing for the budget must be noticed before the 15th of April and conducted before the 20th. The budget must be adopted by May 1st.

Changes to Employee Handbook - Changes have been made regarding the payment of time for employees absent due to disability or workers compensation injury or illness. The Village will no longer pay the first five days absence for disability but will continue to issue a paycheck for employees absent with a workers compensation injury or illness.

Also, the time period for years of service as a condition for eligibility to remain in the health benefits group increased from ten (10) years to fifteen (15). Other conditions for age (55 years) and qualifying for NYS Retirement remain.

Grants

Brownfield Opportunities Areas

Saratoga Associates will present the final report later this month. It is expected that this final report will also serve as the application for the next step in the process. Step 3 is Implementation. This is intended for funding to complete an implementation strategy to achieve revitalization objectives.

Once the application is submitted the Steering Committee will continue to meet focusing their attention to the housing needs of the Village.

EFC funding – Roof Drains and Sump Pumps

Initial payment was received for engineering and design work.

Other Committees and Boards

Zoning – No applications pending

Planning – Will return in January working on site plan review for new construction of storage building on West Manlius Street for Clearwood.

Safety – Next meeting is January 14th.

Mayor Tackman commented on the changes in assessed values and impact on tax rate. Already looking at an increase if no changes are made.

Reported on the Brownfield Steering Committee continuing to work on the housing issues under this program while Saratoga Associates wrap up the final aspects of this phase.

Tim Powers asked about the Revitalization Study previously done.

The Main Street Vision Plan done in 2009 with the help of Syracuse University Center for Community Design research was able to be used to bring the Brownfield program in at Step 2. The final report is needed now to apply for Step 3 where incentives are offered to move forward on the plans and proposals developed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee James E. Carr, Jr. thanked the public for coming out and voicing their concerns tonight. Their comments will not be taken lightly. Talking about Police is a tough issue. But the Village is now going in the wrong direction – need to redirect and get back on course.

Deputy Mayor Barbara Falcone Quonce also thanked those who came out for the public hearing. Hope that can come to a reasonable decision.

Trustee Daniel J. Wagner thanked the Village employees for doing a great job. Hope for a long and happy future.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Robert T. Tackman summarized where we stand in the process on the Police issue. Working with the County to get accurate numbers on impacts. Also talking with the Town of DeWitt for police services. With new Town Board members they needed a few weeks to discuss the issue.

Want to have the issue settled by March so that we know where we are going and can make budget decisions going forward.

Thanked employees for speaking up at employee meeting with concerns. Good to hear their comments, which is why try to get out to all departments to see, hear and experience what they do.

Thanked the Fire Department – 1055 calls is phenomenal.

Thanked Sgt. Vinch again. Last week had a 911 call to the house and he was the first responder there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senior Trips

Thursday, January 23rd

Turning Stone Casino

Tuesday, February 25th

Turning Stone Casino

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patricia J. Derby
Village Clerk

*Minutes were provided **unapproved** to Board of Trustees and Department Heads on Tuesday, January 07, 2014.*

Review of Correspondence

11/20/13 NYMIR; RE: Underwriting survey for Village;

11/22/13 OCRRA; RE: Amboy composting Facility;

11/25/13 NYS EFC; RE: eligible project for Clean Water State Revolving Fund;

12/2/13 Web Inquiry; RE: trash left out on Upton Street;

12/3/13	Village Clerk to Planning Board: Clearwood Site Plan review;
12/2/13	Web Inquiry; RE: questions about public hearing for police issue;
12/3/13	Crowley Insurance; RE: damage to Station 2;
12/4/13	Mayor to Onondaga County Community Development; RE: support for NYS Affordable Housing Corporation grant applications;
12/4/13	Onondaga County; RE: Mortgage Tax apportionment;
12/5/13	Village Clerk to Bloomberg Municipal Repository; RE: audited financial statements;
12/5/13	Village Clerk to St. Matthew's Church; RE: BINGO complaint;
12/6/13	Kishmish; RE: website change of ownership;
12/7/13	Web Inquiry; RE: code issues
12/9/13	Web Inquiry; RE: questions for Village Historian;
12/9/13	DPW Superintendent to national Grid; RE: annual holiday decorations;
12/9/13	Landlord to Mayor; RE: North Center Street property;
12/9/13	NYS Department of Labor; RE: unemployment claim determination;
12/10/13	Web Inquiry; RE: obstructed view;
12/10/13	NY State and Local Retirement System; RE: Standard work day reporting resolution;
12/11/13	NYS EFC; RE: project not selected for Green Innovation Grant program;
12/12/13	Mayor; RE: LDC Board concerning Station 2 maintenance;
12/12/13	Mayor; RE: Caretakers for Community Room;
12/12/13	Onondaga County WEP; RE: municipal wastewater collection system charges;
12/12/13	O'Brien & Gere; RE: wetland sampling program;

12/13/13 Web Inquiry; RE: utility taxes;

12/13/13 Landlord; RE: North Center Street property;

12/17/13 DPW Superintendent; RE: damage to dump truck #3;

12/17/13 National Grid; RE: nondisclosure agreement;

12/17/13 DPW Superintendent; RE: sidewalk plow out of service;

12/18/13 Crowley Insurance; RE: sidewalk plow

12/19/13 Web Inquiry; RE: location of public hearing;

12/1/13 SMTC; RE: NYS DPT proposals for statewide funding;

12/19/13 D'Amato & Lynch; RE: insurance defense;

12/20/13 Mayor to Department Heads; RE: changes to employee's time off;

12/20/13 Village Clerk to Department Heads; RE: changes to Employee Handbook;

12/20/13 CNYRPDB; RE: Stormwater coalition

12/23/13 DPW Superintendent; RE: sidewalk plow;

12/23/13 Village Clerk to Onondaga County; RE: Village Infrastructure program;

12/23/12 Onondaga County Bar Association; RE: mandatory electronic filing in NYS Courts;

12/23/13 NYS DMV; RE: Police Traffic safety grant \$3185;

12/24/13 Web Inquiry; RE: foreclosed property;

12/25/13 FOCUS; RE: Sustainability program – Healthy Population;

12/26/13 Web Inquiry; RE: Heman Street School Apartments trash collection;

12/28/13 Mayor to Clark/Evans; RE: purchase offer;

12/29/13 O'Brien & Gere; RE: update on mitigation efforts;

12/30/13 O'Brien & Gere; RE: review of SMTC funding opportunities;

12/31/13 OCRRA; RE: tree drop off;

1/2/14 NYS Civil Service Commission; RE: 211 waiver Randy Capriotti;

1/2/14 Kishmish; RE: SSL certificate;