

**VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2024 7:00PM**



Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley  
Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis  
Trustee Val Ditommaso  
Trustee Melanie Hirschman  
Trustee-Alexzander Detschner

In **Attendance**: DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Attorney Dan Seman, Barton & Loguidice Engineers Ashlyn Maurer and Sterling DePaul

At **7:00pm meeting was called to order** by Mayor Corwin-Bradley by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **Sales tax** received for October 2024 was \$21,132.95 an increase of \$82.43

The **Approval of Minutes** for the monthly board meeting held October 7, 2024 was motioned for approval by Trustee Detschner and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

The **PUBLIC HEARING for the CDBG #77CP110-23 Stormwater Study Results** was opened at **7:01pm** on a motion from Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Detschner.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

A presentation was given by Ashlyn Maurer and Sterling DePaul of Barton & Loguidice Engineering firm to inform the Board of Trustees, Attorney, DPW Superintendent and Clerk-Treasurer about the infrastructure deficiencies and recommendations gathered for the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Village stormwater infrastructure. Ashlyn began by stating the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) was written to comply with multiple grant application standards to use as a backbone for future funding awards. Significant deficiencies were identified in the old, dilapidated stormwater infrastructure within the Village limits, the findings focused on reducing localized flooding along streets, sidewalks and residential backlots. The recommendations were as follows:

1) No Action

The "No Action" alternative provided a reference for comparison of other alternatives. This alternative would not address the reoccurring and worsening deficiencies in existing stormwater conveyance systems, and therefore would not provide residents in the Village with relief from the localized flooding issues presented throughout

2) Stormwater infrastructure retrofit only

The alternative to design stormwater retrofit systems without improvements to surrounding streetscapes and sidewalks was analyzed and discussed with the Village during meetings in April and July of 2024. The existing sidewalks are in poor condition and located at a lower elevation than drainage inlets along the adjacent road, causing extended periods of flooding surrounding the sidewalks and onto private property after large storm events. It was determined that streetscape and sidewalk improvements are necessary to properly mitigate localized flooding issues, particularly for pedestrian traffic. The Village did not want to implement stormwater infrastructure improvements without addressing streetscape and sidewalk improvements, therefore this was not deemed a viable alternative for detailed evaluation and cost estimating.

3) Stormwater infrastructure retrofit with street scape improvements

The alternative to design stormwater retrofit elements with improvements to surrounding streetscapes was analyzed and discussed with the Village during meetings in April and July of 2024. Green infrastructure practices within the streetscape were considered but ultimately determined to not be viable due to the poor native soils (low infiltrative capacity), shallow infrastructure depths, and high groundwater table. The Village confirmed that inclusion of streetscape improvements was their preferred alternative moving forward, as this alternative would improve stormwater runoff collection/conveyance efficiency, reduce localized flooding experienced in large storm events while increasing pedestrian safety through the Village, community connectivity, as well as the aesthetic appeal of Main Street as the main thoroughfare of the Village. This alternative was expanded into three separate proposed improvement projects to align with budgetary goals for implementation funding. The three chosen projects within this alternative are presented in the following section. The projects selected for further evaluation and development of concept plans/visualizations included the following, listed in order of priority and generally progressing from the lowest to the highest ends of the sub catchment areas:

1. Main Street Stormwater Retrofit and Streetscape Improvements
2. Quaker Road and Church Street Stormwater Retrofit and Sidewalk Improvements
3. Pallister Ave and East Ave Backlot Stormwater Retrofit.

After listening to the presentation and reviewing the topography maps, Deputy Mayor Davis questioned shuffling the projects identified to include more remediation along Quaker Road in the first phase of the retrofit and street scape to offer immediate results of excessive stormwater flooding for the residents of Pallister Ave, Quaker Road and East Avenue. After lengthy discussion the Board of Trustees agreed with Deputy Mayor Davis's opinion of focusing on Quaker Road and Church Street portion first before street scape improvements of Main Street. The Board suggested the following phases and order:

- Quaker Road to Golden Hill Creek and east portion of Main Street
- Residential backlots on East Avenue and Pallister Avenue
- Main Street beautification

Ashlyn and Sterling will go back and rework the proposed remediation projects to incorporate the Board of Trustees' wishes. Maps boards were left for the Village residents to review when they stop by the Village Hall.

A **motion to Close the PUBLIC HEARING for CDBG #77CP110-23 at 8:10pm** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Resolution #25-2024 Designation of Offices to be filled in the next General Election**

WHEREAS, the next general election will be held on March 18, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees must designate by resolution and to the public the offices which are to be filled in such election and the term thereof;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1: That the Board of Trustees designated the following offices as vacant on March 31, 2025, to filled at the Village Election to be held March 18, 2025 for the following terms:

Mayor-Two (2)-year term

Trustee- Two (2)-year term

Trustee-Two (2)-year term

Section 2: The Village is hereby directed to publish this resolution in the Lockport Union Sun & Journal as official public notice.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #25-2024** was made by Trustee Detschner and seconded by Trustee DiTommaso.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Resolution #26-2024 Use of DPW Equipment Reserve Funds for Purchase of 2025 Chevy Silverado 2500 Pickup Truck**

WHEREAS, the Village of Barker has established a reserve fund known as the "Department of Public Works Equipment Reserve Fund", and

WHEREAS, the Village is purchasing a pick-up truck, and needs funds from said fund to assist in said purchase, new therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village expend the amount of \$20,000.00 from said fund toward the purchase of a pick-up truck on order from Joe Basil Chevrolet, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk Treasurer take necessary steps to transfer said funds for that purpose.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #26-2024** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and seconded by Trustee Hirschman.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Resolution #27-2024 Appropriation of ARPA (SLFRF) Funds Received by the Village of Barker**

WHEREAS, the Village of Barker received \$52,999.00 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in response to COVID-19 from the US Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the funds need to be appropriated by December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Village has discussed many options over the past two years on the appropriate way to expend the ARPA funds;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Barker Board of Trustees has appropriated the ARPA funds in the following ways:

Build a 16x20 pavilion in David Barker Park at a cost of \$17,950.00

To purchase a 2025 Chevy Silverado 2500 Pickup Truck \$35,049.00

RESOLVED, the Village of Barker has appropriated the entire amount of the ARPA funds received, \$52,999.00.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #27-2024** was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and seconded by Trustee Hirschman.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Unpaid Village Tax to the Niagara County Treasurer- 2024-2025**

A motion to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to re-levy 12 parcels that remain unpaid in the amount of \$9,657.78 plus \$289.73 in penalty for a total amount of \$9,947.51 was made by Trustee Detschner and was seconded by Trustee DiTommaso. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Health Insurance Renewal**

A motion to approve the FlexFit Platinum plan through Independent Health at the cost of \$1,653.32 for employee+spouse coverage for December 1, 2024-November 30, 2025 was made by Trustee DiTommaso and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-4-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSTAIN-1-Detschner Motion Carried.

The **Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports** were reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

- ✓ Village Hall will be closed Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday

The **Public Works Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

A motion to approve the **proposal for services from Barton & Loguidice to complete the Copper/Lead Service Line Inventory Report not to exceed the cost of \$5,000.00** was made by Trustee Hirshman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

The **Code Enforcement Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.  
1 permit issued-A shed

**Correspondence:** Town of Somerset Public Hearing Notice- October 30, 2024 6:00pm-rezoning premises 7725 Lake Road, Barker  
NYCOM- Comp Alliance letter  
CDBG 77CP110-23 Letter of deadline  
Atlantic-Inland Inc- Electrical Inspection personnel change  
Charter Communications- Upcoming programming changes-October 8, 2024  
Charter Communications-Upcoming programming changes-October 30, 2024

**Approval of Claims and Bill Payment:** Abstract 006 Voucher #'s 184-229 H3 Vouchers #79-81  
General Fund-\$103,476.59 Water Fund-\$3,679.37 T&A Fund-\$1500.00 H3 Fund-\$24,224.59 TOTAL  
\$132,880.55

A **motion to approve the above audited claims and bill payment audited by the entire Board of Trustees** was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Trustee Detschner.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-4-Corwin-Bradley,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-1-Davis Motion Carried.

**Budget Transfer:** A1910.4 Insurance \$8000.00.00 to A1620.44 VH-Contractual  
A5410.4 Sidewalks \$7000.00 to A1620.44 VH-Contractual  
F9060.8 Medical Insurance \$416.00 to F8310.4 Water Admin Contractual

A **motion to approve the above budget transfers** was made by Trustee DiTommaso and seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

No **Public Comment** was offered.

**Board Comment** was offered by:

Deputy Mayor Davis: Thanked the Village residents for the 360 non-perishable food items donated during Saturdays scouting for food drive for pack 18 out of Gasport.

Mayor Corwin-Bradley: Would like to meet with other Village Mayor's in Niagara County regarding their business development plans. The initial meeting would be with just Mayors and then begin a business development plan for the Village. Light Up Barker is pretty much set, but more details will be given at the December meeting.

A **motion for adjournment was made at 8:31pm by Trustee DiTommaso and seconded by Trustee Hirschman.**

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Detschner,DiTommaso,Hirschman NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

**Next work session will be Monday, December 2, 2024 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room**

**Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 9, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room**

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC/RMC/CMFO  
Clerk-Treasurer