

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes

August 12th, 2025

Present: John Skiptunas, Mayor; Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor; Trustees Ben Dodzweit, Jonathan Stills and Joshua Petraitis.

Others Present: Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Dick Garey, Fire Chief; Andy Luft, Fire Department; David Kirkwood, WWTP Operator; Alaina Little, Jessica Ditucci and Chris Doe.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order Mayor Skiptunas at 7:00pm Tuesday, August 12th, 2025, at Lima Town Hall, 7329 E. Main St. and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Trustee Dodzweit and seconded by Trustee Stills to approve the meeting minutes from July 8th, 2025. Motion carried.

Guests

Alaina Little discussed concerns with traffic and speeding on College St. particularly in the area of the Lima Primary school. She asked if a traffic study could be done to possibly have the street become a one-way. Mr. Luft discussed issues with the road being a one-way, specifically in the winter time with snow. Previously there were speed bumps in the area, but the bumps also caused issues and destroyed the road. Mr. Luft will order 4 new signs to drop the speed to 20 mph at all times and will request use of the electronic speed limit sign from the Town. Mayor Skiptunas will again reach out to the Sheriff's office regarding enforcement of the speed in that area.

Department Reports

Fire Department – Dick Garey, Fire Chief

Chief Garey discussed the July fire report. Lima fire department will be celebrating their bicentennial celebration in 2030. To commensurate, the Western New York Volunteer Firefighter Association would like Lima to potentially host the Convention that year. The last time Lima has hosted the convention was in 1917. Chief Garey will keep the board updated as more information is available.

Andy Luft discussed real estate transactions between the village and the Lima fire incorporation. Several parcels are owned by the incorporation, not the village. To help “clean up” ownership of these parcels, Mr. Luft proposed selling the village the property. The incorporation has been given the opportunity to purchase an existing storefront on Main St. that is connecting to the firehouse. Attorney Lenahan said that there should be a public hearing held to let residents' comment since it is a large purchase (approximately \$40k).

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to advertise to withdrawal \$40k from the fire building reserves to for property purchase, and to advertise for a public hearing regarding said purchase. Motion carried.

Ambulance – Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief

See report provided by Chief Rose.

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes

August 12th, 2025

WWTP – David Kirkwood, Plant Operator

Mr. Kirkwood discussed his July report. He informed the board that due to overdue maintenance some pieces of equipment are not working properly and causing some minor issues. Large pieces of equipment may need to be replaced in the near future.

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser

See report provided by CEO Floeser.

DPW – Ben Luft

Requested to advertise to take out a total of \$45k out of reserves for a new sidewalk tractor. The first \$12,500 will be from the budget, and remainder will be from the reserves.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to authorize the expenditure of up to \$45k to purchase a new sidewalk tractor and accessories. Motion carried.

The DPW crew are working on the following projects:

- Finishing addition 100 feet of sidewalk on Meadow View. Once completed this will bring the sidewalk almost to Bellinger's property. Next year drainage will need to be addressed prior to the final addition of the sidewalk being installed.
- Paving on Hill Terrace and Harrison Ave will take place August 19th and 20th.
- September will be hydrant flushing, brush pick-up, and getting ready for leaf collection.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Several invoices were available to the board for review/approval. Payments were the following:

- Ambulance Fund: \$10758.42
- General Fund: \$29147.46
- Sewer Fund: \$4989.16
- Water Fund: \$17325.56
- Capital Fiber: \$64679.50
- Grand Total: \$126900.10

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to approve payment to invoices as listed above. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Park Updates

- **Electrical BID** – Two bids were received for the electrical upgrades at the park. The winning bid was approximately \$19k. The project will be funded by the \$10k donation from the Pumpkin Festival, and the remaining cost to be split between the town and village. Mr. Luft asked about the chow hut electricity. The hut has not been used in years, so the thought is that only one outlet will be needed on the building. Baseball will need to be contacted about turning off the meter as they have ownership.

Motion

Motion made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to authorize the expenditure of up to \$5k to complete the electrical upgrades at the park. Motion carried.

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes

August 12th, 2025

- **Civil War Reenactment** – Reenactment was a success for the most part. Parking on the street will need to be reevaluated for the reenactors as it caused issues with residents pulling out of their driveways on Ziegler. Deputy Mayor Smith also said that they are looking to create a non-profit for the program.
- **Veterans Way 250** – This is to bring attention to the park loop. Looking at adding signs along the path for people to view. Trustee Petraitis asked about inspirational messages being posted along the path as a boy scout project.
- **Pumpkin Festival** – Requested Ziegler be closed to local traffic only for the festival.
- **Property Acquisition (O'Brien Property)** – The seller's attorney is finishing the documents. Attorney Lenahan will follow up requesting an update.

Crossroads Recap – Deputy Mayor Smith said the festival was a success. He suggested the village apply for a municipal liquor license for next year.

Water District 5 Update – Discussed how the project will affect the village. An agreement is being created by LCWSA and will be sent to the village for review. The agreement will address the ownership/maintenance of the pumphouses and the water tower, as well as rates for the village to purchase water from the county instead of the city of Rochester. Mr. Luft asked if public hearings should start sooner than later. The board agreed to advertise a possibly public meeting at the end of September, pending availability of Jason Molino to answer questions.

Inclusion Statement – Trustee Stills asked about the inclusion statement. The board discussed the impact of releasing one and how to proceed. The board agreed that having input from the residents is important, but before doing so, they must all agree on the statement. Tabled to next meeting.

New Business

Be Well in Lima

- Requested the town and village each add \$500 to their upcoming budget to support the initiative. Attorney Lenahan stated a line item would need to be created and the funds for the program must serve the public.
- Be Well is the lead agency for the Semiquincentennial Celebration in conjunction with the 4th of July celebration. Requested additional funds be allocated to help support this celebration.

Fire and EMS District – Deputy Mayor Smith discussed if there would be any benefits to the fire department and ambulance forming their own district instead of being under the umbrella of the village. Pros and cons were discussed, as well as if each entity would want to move forward with a district. All the equipment, buildings, fire trucks and ambulances are property of the village, as well as the funds in the reserve accounts.

Joule Termination Agreement – Joule Assets is requesting termination of the community solar agreement with Bluebird/Generate, Joule and the village. The board asked if the sustainability grant had been paid in full to the village? Clerk Sackett believed so, but she needed to look into it further (update, \$30k out of the \$35,520 has been paid to the village).

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes

August 12th, 2025

Motion

Motion made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smtih to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to sign the termination agreement form with Joule and Bluebird/Generate contingent on the sustainability grant being paid in full. Motion carried.

Round Table

No comments

Executive Session

Motion was made by Trustee Stills to enter Executive Session at 9:09pm to discuss employment history of a specific employee. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Stills to end Executive Session and adjourn at 9:15pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elissa Sackett".

Elissa Sackett
Village Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Lima

***All documents listed in the minutes are available to review at the Village office during regular business hours.**