

## **Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Present:** John Skiptuans, Mayor; Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor; Trustees Ben Dodzweit, Joshua Petraitis, and Daniel Marcellus.

**Others Present:** Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Dick Garey, Fire Chief; David Sansone, Ambulance Assistant Chief; David Kirkwood, WWTP Operator; Charlie Floeser, Code Enforcement Officer (CEO); Several residents.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order Mayor Skiptunas at 7:00pm Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at Lima Town Hall, 7329 E. Main St. and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Marcellus to approve the meeting minutes from March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Motion carried.

### **Public Hearing for the 2026-2027 Village of Lima Budget was opened at 7:01pm.**

Mayor Skiptunas asked for comments from the public. Christopher Doe stated that if the budget were to pass as stands, that would equate to a total 25% tax increase over the last 2 years. Mayor Skiptunas explained that the tax increase was necessary to provide the support to our Fire and EMS services to make sure they are sustainable, as well as to cover the increases in insurances that have arose over the past few years.

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Marcellus to close Public Hearing for the 2026-2027 Village of Lima Budget at 7:41pm. Motion carried.

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Marcellus to adopt the 2026-2027 Village of Lima Budget. Motion carried.

### **Public Presentation – George Gotcsik**

George Gotcsik gave a presentation on the proposed upgrades to the Village green space. Upgrades include a gazebo/bandstand, fountain, garden, etc. After the presentation Mr. Gotcsik asked for approval to move forward with an architect to draft a design of the bandstand. The board asked questions about the design and costs for the project. Trustee Marcellus suggested a presentation on the project be held during Crossroads Festival. Trustee Marcellus and Trustee Smith also offered help with volunteering in any areas of need (marketing, support, fundraising).

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to authorize Mr. Gotcsik to move forward and discuss the proposal with an architect. Motion carried.

### **Department Reports**

#### **Fire Department – Dick Garey, Fire Chief**

Chief Garey discussed the fire report. Four members have resigned from the fire department as they are moving out of the area. With the weather and recent flooding several call outs have been to pump out residents' basements. The fire department continues to apply for any/all grants available to them. There have been minor changes to personnel and minor changes made to the mutual aid call run.

#### ***Motion***

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Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to approve Denise Werner as an active member of the Lima Fire Department. Motion carried.

### **Ambulance – David Sansone, Ambulance Asst. Chief**

Assistant Chief Sansone discussed the ambulance report. He said that paid staff continue to work out well and those staff members have taken on extra responsibilities at the base. Trustee Smith asked about the law regarding ambulances to have dash cams and if the cams were already installed in the rigs. Asst. Chief Sanson explained that the law only applies to vehicles after 2026, and it only applies to ambulance vehicles that are not ambulances (fly car). When the ambulance is ready to replace the fly car, this will be something that needs to be addressed.

Lastly, two new applications for membership were presented to the board for review. There is a third applicant that had been vetted by the ambulance; however, the application was not received. Clerk Sackett will reach out for the last application from Chief Rose.

### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Marcellus and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to approve Alex Gephart and Shyera Scott as new members of the Lima Ambulance, and to approve Branden Gums as a new member once application has been received from Chief Rose. Motion carried.

### **WWTP – David Kirkwood, Plant Operator**

Mr. Kirkwood discussed the wastewater plant report. The drastic increase in ground water this past month has caused the plant to go over permit capacity. Right now, the pumps are pushing 900 gallons per minute which is capacity. Mr. Kirkwood suggested sending flyers to residents about not pumping their sump pumps into the storm sewers. Trustee Dodzweit inquired about individuals walking through the back yards of lawns. Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Luft explained that the crews have needed to access some residents back yards to mark their water and/or sewer lines for the county GIS program. Mr. Kirkwood explained that he tries to knock on the doors, but most times residents do not answer.

### **Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser (Absent)**

CEO Floeser discussed his report. He also discussed issues at residences on College St., Hogan Ave., and the trailer park on Rochester St.

### **DPW – Ben Luft**

The crew have been busy with brush pick up and flushing hydrants. Hoping to have all remaining brush picked up by the end of the week from residents who set out late.

Park bathrooms are opened and the water is on. The water to the dog park has not been turned on yet as repairs need to be made to the hydrant as it is not shutting off all the way. Hopefully, that will be replaced within the next couple of weeks.

April has been very wet thus far. Most areas have drained out pretty quickly once it stopped raining and pipes had a chance to catch up. Will be reaching out to Pat Nicoletta to discuss the drainage issues in areas and look for possible grants/solutions to help with the stormwater.

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Spring Clean Up will be happening over the next few weeks. The crew will start to power wash downtown, remove banners and replace with Memorial/Lima banners, help with Clean Up Days scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett**

Reminded that all past due water and sewer balances must be paid by April 30<sup>th</sup> to avoid re-levy onto village taxes. All levied balances will be charged a 15% penalty. Year to Date financials were also passed around for all to review.

Clerk Sackett requested help with researching card readers so credit card payments can be processed in office. Currently residents can only pay water/sewer bills with credit cards via the online portal, but there has been an increase in individuals requesting to pay water/sewer bills as well as other payments via credit card. Trustee Marcellus suggested reaching out to the bank to see if they have any requirements for card readers.

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$19632.39
- General Fund: \$93662.18
- Sewer Fund: \$6624.81
- Water Fund: \$17766.75
- Capital Fiber: \$575.21
- Grand Total: \$138261.34

### *Motion*

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to authorize payment of invoices. Motion carried.

### **Board Reports**

#### **Mayor Skiptunas**

- Working with Historian Karen Hanson-Fritz to talk with downtown business requesting each to hang buntings on their buildings from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> of July event is moving along well with Be Well. A grant from the county has been received in the amount of \$800 for signs and transportation.
- The Muraco's are still looking to negotiate to bring in a retail business in the former Family Dollar/Dollar Tree location.

#### **Trustee Smith**

- The gazebo roofs have been completed at the park. Clerk Sackett requested the invoice so the contractors can be paid.
- The Park Master Plan updates are moving along.
- Date of interest coming up: 4/16 – Sleep Better Stress Less Presentation at 7pm. 4/25 – Volunteer Fair from 12pm – 4pm. Both events will be held at Lima Town Hall.
- Crossroads Festival met on Monday. Looking to institute Landlord Agreements this year with entities who may use sidewalks/village lots. This was used last year for The Normal and worked out well. Attorney Lenahan will work on these with Trustee Smith.

### *Motion*

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Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Smith to approve instituting Landlord Agreements with vendors who may need them for utilizing sidewalks and/or village lots. Motion carried.

- Discussed the Golden Agers meeting.
- Matt Grant has decided not to seek reappointment to the Planning Board at the end of his term. Mayor Skiptunas will look for someone to fill the position when the time comes.
- Discussed traffic calming and looking to have a public campaign and/or petition to get feedback from residents.

### **Trustee Petraitis**

- Two prospective Eagle Scouts are going to be starting their respective projects soon at the park. Trustee Petraitis will work to obtain receipts for the projects to receive the donated funds from the Pumpkin Festival.

### **Trustee Dodzweit**

- President Antonelli will be leaving Elim Bible College. The college will be starting the search for a new president.
- Teach2Learn has purchased the old GCC building on Rochester St. They are also in the works to purchase an adjacent lot for a fitness area.

### **Trustee Marcellus**

- Had a good meeting with the Ambulance and drafted agreements to be reviewed at a later date.
- Crossroads Festival Committee is moving along well. One request this year is to put together some things for the older kids so that is in the works. The kid's car wash was a hit and will be back this year.
- Attended the Town Board meeting and it was decided that there will be NO change in project design for the water project.

### **Old Business**

**Arbor Day Update** – Arbor Day will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Trees will be distributed between 9 am – 11 am at Lima Town Hall. The DPW crew will pick up the seedlings from Mt. Morris and Trustee Smith will help distribute. Any leftover trees will be distributed during the Volunteer Fair. Notice will be sent on the MyLima app.

**Language Interpreter Policy** – Mayor Skiptunas read aloud a draft policy to the board (policy also distributed). He asked that all members review and make any adjustments as needed. One suggestion was to adjust the lead time by 5 business days to ensure someone could be made available. Tabled to future meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Policy and Procedure**

- Requirements and Expectations of Liaisons – Mayor Skiptunas discussed the expectations of the board including but not limited to attending board meetings, following chain of command by bringing concerns to liaisons for each department and drafting reports.
- Code of Ethics Updates – Trustee Smith requested the board review the Ethics Policy for possible changes. He asked if the Ambulance Chief needed to be added or if it was inferred. Attorney Lenahan stated that it was inferred that the Chief as part of the policy under the Fire area.

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- Shade Tree Policy Addendum – Trustee Smith stated he was informed that there had been a list of “banned” trees within the Village. Numerous attempts have been made to find said list, however, it is not anywhere to be found, and it is not stated anywhere in the code, therefore no addendum is necessary.

Fran Gotcsik discussed that there was an extensive amount of work completed by the Shade Tree Commission and that John Wadach may have more information. She discussed that a tree inventory had been completed and also discussed the tree canopy within the village. When 5 & 20 was redone back in the 80’s, part of the project included the planting of trees but there have not been many planted since. Mr. Luft said that some of the trees are hard to replace because of the damage the roots can do to the sidewalks. He also explained that when a tree needs to come down for one reason or another, he always asks the homeowner if they would like the tree to be replaced. If the homeowner requests, he always plants a new tree, however, if the homeowner does not want it replaced, he does not do so.

### **Honeoye Falls Lima Mendon Youth Baseball (HFLMYBA)**

- 2026 Field Use Agreement – Attorney Lenahan requested approval for Mayor Skiptunas to sign the 2026 Field Use Agreement. This is a renewal of the previous agreement with the same caveats as in previous years.

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to sign the 2026 Field Use Agreement between the Village of Lima and HFLMYBA. Motion carried.

- Dugout Roofs – HFLMYBA has received a donation to re-do the roofs on the dugouts at the Willison Baseball field. They are requesting approval from the board to have the dugouts replaced. Trustee Smith suggested the replacement roofs be green to match the pavilion and the gazebos at the park.

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Dodzweit to authorize HFLMYBA to replace the roofs on the dugouts at the Willison Baseball field. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Stever Werner requested 3 yards of topsoil for the park to fix where the electrical upgrades were made this past fall. Mr. Luft will have topsoil delivered as soon as Rush has it. Mr. Werner also said the blocks in the beds have been moved and requested whoever moved them to please return them to their proper location.

Mr. Werner said the hill next to the cemetery needs to be cleaned up. He asked Trustee Petraitis if the Boy Scouts would be interested in helping with the project. Trustee Petraitis will discuss and get back to him.

Lastly Mr. Werner discussed the Pumpkin Festival. Seed distribution will be on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm at Lima Town Hall. He passed around coloring sheets for kids to color and return the day of the

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seed pick up for a chance to win a prize. He also said this year the recipient of the chartable donation from the festival will be the Lima Historical Society.

**Executive Session**

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to enter executive session at 9:17pm to discuss personnel issues. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to enter regular session at 10:25pm and adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



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.**