

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
WORKSHOP
9-11 Church Street
Fredonia, NY 14063
August 24, 2026
4:30 P.M.**

Trustees Present: Trustee Brauchler, Wandel, Lazarony, Cruz-Keefe, and Mulholland

Mayor Ferguson-Before we start, I want to congratulate the team of the farm festival for a great job. It was an incredibly busy weekend for police, fire, DPW; not only for the festival, which is the largest attended event in the village every single year. They did a great job. We appreciate it. There's always I's that need to be dotted and tees that need to be crossed, but we will cross that when we come to it. On top of that, a very strange, weird weather weekend. It kept our police, fire, and DPW very, very busy; on their toes. So, while you were home nice and dry, these men and women were out and about making sure that everything stayed in place. I would like to credit some of the remediation work that was done on Canadaway Creek in the last year for part of the reason why we didn't see substantial flooding. We still have issues with Water Street bridge as we were told about two years ago that we would be getting a steel deck bridge put up and get rid of that centerpiece. And to date, that concrete centerpiece is an issue. So, but fortunately, I think because they did all of that remediation work that they did this summer, that did take a lot of pressure off. So, we thank our team of many whom are here tonight. We also want to include water and wastewater because they were watching the levels go up and down during the course of this as well, and it could have made things uncomfortable. I also want to thank our board of trustees, many of whom participated in this weekend in one way or another. So, another good weekend had by all and next week we will be giving a proclamation to Embrace Fredonia for their work in the village. Many of those same people do several different things. So, we look forward to that.

A. RESOLUTIONS

1. Training for David Riddle, Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee

Luis Fred-He needs this training so he can be qualified for his walk-through to be a certified licensed operator. It is in the budget.

2. Public Comment Reinstatement

3. Budget transfer for Water Intake Structure

Fred-So, this wasn't budgeted for, but I mean, I figure we are not doing anything with the power lines. We might as well use the money and get something that we need done.

LeeAnn Lazarony-Did we make a determination that we weren't going to do the power lines.

Erlyssa LeBeau-DPW can't do it. We didn't have the funding.

Lazarony-Just wondering if we formally said we weren't going to do it or tabled it or what. We didn't ever make a decision as a board. So, I was just looking at that.

Fred-This is the actuator. This is so we can at least function the lower intake, open and close the valve. We had to get the other one because it broke. So, when I put everything together and reinstalled everything, we had to get one fabricated and this is their proposal to install it.

Lazarony-I just have a question about that. Maybe Paul knows more information about that, but I was told that the stilt is around that lower one and that you can't even get to it.

Fred-No, we get to it. I mean, there's buildup, but that's natural, but we were able to open it this year.

Lazarony-Is it under the silt line or is it above the silt line?

Fred-It's above the silt line. There may be a foot there, but I mean that'll just go through the plant once it's open and we'll treat it as we're doing now with all the dirt coming through. But it's operable and we do; we would utilize it if we were in a drought condition; we can draw from the lower intake.

Lazarony-I was, I just don't know if I was misinformed or misunderstood. I thought that we couldn't even get to that.

Fred-Well right now, we can't open it.

Lazarony-Well, I knew we couldn't open it, but I was under the impression we couldn't even use it.

Fred-No, we can.

Lazarony-Yes, okay.

Paul Wandel-Luis, prior to this deluge; how have the water levels been?

Fred-Well, we were pretty low last month and then we got a rain event and we gained a foot and a half. Now we are flowing pretty decently.

Wandel-So are the spillways okay too?

Fred-Yes.

Wandel-Because I can imagine a lot of water.

Fred-No, it's been pouring or spilling over for two weeks now.

Wandel-So, do you have any debris that has spilled over?

Fred-A little bit. Just the logs that brushed over.

Wandel-Okay. Nothing clogged up or anything?

Fred-Correct. At this point.

Lazarony-Do we have money to do this?

LeBeau-No, that is what the budget transfer is for. So, we'd be pulling this from the underground lines.

Lazarony-I understand the budget transfer, but it wasn't budgeted for. Okay, so where are we taking it from, so that was from the power lines? How much did we budget for that?

LeBeau-\$32,000

Lazarony-Okay, so just as long as we're not a negative. That's what I'm trying to understand. I want to make sure we're not creating a negative in that budget line.

Wandel-However, it should be known that this has been a known problem. How long now, Luis? For the lower intake.

Fred-Yeah, it's been over a year now.

Wandel-and it was one of the deficiencies that the health department put on us, correct? So, I mean it's just trying to keep us up to standard plus the damage to the platform, I believe it was ice related.

Fred-Right, the ice dam broke it; toppled it over. So, that was replaced and everything. This is just finalizing the whole project.

Ben Brauchler-Yeah. We have already replaced the platform.

Fred-Correct.

Tim Mulholland-I have some questions on the Allen Marine contract. It mentions in there shutting down.

Fred-We wouldn't have to.

Mulholland-It would not be required?

Fred-No.

Mulholland-Okay, then it mentions things for Fredonia applying or providing a new valve stem.

Fred-We already have it.

Mulholland-Yes, okay.

Fred-We got two 13-foot sections fabricated. They're going to have to weld it underwater to complete the 26-feet to reach the lower intake valve.

Mulholland-So then, the \$12,400 is that going to be full project cost or is that just Allen Marine's portion?

Fred-That's just their; well, that will complete everything. We already, I think it was only \$1,100 bucks for the valve stem handle itself. Then that's their quote to do the services. That'll complete that project we started last year.

Mulholland-Okay, so this is something we have already started? Okay.

Fred-This goes back to last year when we fixed part of the damage that was done by the ice. We had to have a new platform fabricated.

Mayor-So, you have got to keep it operating for at least two years.

4. Water Intake Structure-Allen Marine Services

Mulholland-Um, I do because we're talking about this is something you mentioned we would have to do regardless of whether we, you know, the long-term water option. So, I just wanted to make sure that we're not investing in something that would be taken out of service.

Mayor-We're going to be taking it out of service, right? If things aren't up and running by 2029, we're going to get nicked in the first place. Is that it?

Lazarony-I agree with you, Tim. I mean we had to put the chlorinator in. That cost a lot of money. We had to do that. I mean or we wouldn't be able to provide any water. We put millions and millions into the water treatment plant just a few years ago and then you think about that; we're just going to take it out of service and it's going to be locked up and it just kind of goes; it's lots of money.

Wandel-But, another way to look at it is if you don't do these things and the village either has numerous additional water boils or has not water.

Lazarony-No, I understand.

Wandel-What's going to be the cost now?

Lazarony-No, I understand. I am just saying that, but we did a good job.

Mayor-Paul did a good job with the guys to make sure that a lot of the equipment that we bought could be taken from this location and either sold to other communities or retrofitted to whatever we're doing. Am I correct in that?

Wandel-Yes. Okay, we are talking about the massive liquid storage tank. We're talking about the chloring pumps, maybe some of the piping could be utilized.

Mayor-Did you have anything else?

5. Promotion to Labor Supervisor DPW

Wandel-I have a question to Erlyssa. I know that we had talked about this before, but has that been posted and how did that work?

LeBeau-IT's a promotional position, so it gets posted internally first. And it did get posted for the seven days it was required to be in all of our departments that have CSEA employees.

Wandel-Okay, and you had no input on that at that point?

LeBeau-I mean, we have had three interested, the three that we interviewed.

Wandel-Okay, but other than that, that was it?

LeBeau-Yes.

Wandel-Okay, I just wanted to affirm that.

6. Promotion to MEO DPW

Lazarony-So, we were able to do two?

LeBeau-Yes.

Lazarony-So, I'll just say that we interviewed some really good candidates and love the first guy. The second guy came in and we loved him too and it was like "Oh man". And then we started discussing the fact that we really need more than one MEO; which is a machine equipment operator. And right now, I think we have one position.

LeBeau-Yes.

Lazarony-As an MEO. Now we're going to have more. So, I mean, you think about it and the longevity of people in the DPW. We have a lot of young guys. The older guys are all retiring and leaving and we don't have anybody to run the equipment. Or they are coming back (laughter). You know, just thing is like some, some of these guys know everything about the village and the water and where things are and, you know, we kind of have to mentor the next generation of people who are going to work in the village. So, I think it was a really smart idea that Paul had was maybe we could find two promotional positions instead of just the one because we don't want just one person to be able to have to be called in. We'd like to have at least two or three people that can operate machinery and that you know that solves a lot of problems. S, thank you for looking into that and thank you for referring to that.

Wandel-Just to add to that, you know I have been in different organizations professionally and there's high value to cross training more than one person.

Lazarony-Jen and I have talked about that a lot and you know what, that's what we're trying. I think that's what the goal was right, to start cross training everybody at the DPW.

Merrill-They are intelligent, strong people and get some knowledge and background of where the lines are and the valves are and as we found out last Thursday; which some more valves are bad and we need to replace things like that. So, if we get some more numbers, we can do some more things. It's just advantageous to have more than just one machine equipment operator in there.

7. Promotion to MEO DPW

8. Village Clerk hire

Mayor-I know we interviewed three people, correct?

LeBeau-Yes

Mayor-For the position.

Lazarony-Do you have someone that you picked?

LeBeau-Yes. Her name is Emily Pulver and she's done things like work in schools with special education. So, I am confident with the confidentiality. She has a baby so she's interested in the part-time; which is helpful because not everybody really wants part-time. So, there's that too. Mayor-The nice thing is all three were really good interviews. It was tough to pick, but Emily kind of stood out for that one. Thanks to Ben for joining us on that one, right Ben? And Christing was in it too?

LeBeau-It was Tim.

Mayor-Tim, Tim was working hot dogs the other day right next to me. I didn't see him until I did. Mulholland-No, we were at the gas station.

Wandel-Mayor, I would like to circle back to number two; public comment.

Mayor-Yes.

Wandel-So, I did a little research with Erlyssa today. We passed that suspend public comment resolution almost exactly two and a half months ago. But, that's not the important point. I think the important point was why we did it. And I'm not sure everyone on the board understands that. I'd like to ask if you really understand why or don't you?

Cruz-Keefe-Who are you asking?

Lazarony-Who's that? Who are you asking? Anyone? Well, I believe it was done because people were very frustrated that at the comments that were being made and the attackers of the comments and you know I think some of the board felt that it was just a small number of people that it was affecting and that it was disruptive of the board meetings.

Wandel-Yeah. I would say that is accurate. Would you agree?

Brauchler-I would say that is pretty accurate.

Wandel-So, I mean we originally, our intent was to suspend which means it is not going to be forever. It's been 2 ½ months. We left that rather arbitrary. So, 2 ½ or 3 months, whatever. I just want to make sure we all understand.

Lazarony-Well, that's my understanding. I can't speak for the other two.

Wandel-Well, that's my addressing to the whole board, but yeah, I agree.

Cruz-Keefe-But I said you know if we're going to have some rules and somebody's going to break those rules then I think we can address it on an individual basis rather than say no public comment. So, that's my stance on it.

Wandel-So, in reading the resolution, there is a whole set of guidelines and rules, correct?

Mulholland-Yeah, I drafted some rules and guidelines in there and with the direction that anybody that, you know, is not following those guidelines and they're big things like, you know, disrupting the meeting or violence or anything like that. We can subject to, you know, have them removed, but with the caveat that we must cite the rule that they are violating.

Wandel-I took some time this morning to look at some of our council's input on that and the open meetings law and some of the rules and regs required with this and it all makes sense. I think it's important though that if we allow it that we do acknowledge the rules and regulations and enforce them.

Mulholland-Sure

Lazarony-So, you know and I've been guilty of it also is responding, right? It's hard not to respond when somebody asks a question or seems angry, right?

Wandel-Which we shouldn't do.

Lazarony-Which we shouldn't do, right? It's very hard to be able to stay here and hold your composure when you want to say, "No, you're wrong because this is why you're wrong. This is right". And you can't do that. And it's very difficult at times to not do that.

Wandel-Of course.

Lazarony-So, I understand that some of the, you know, some of the people that have been on the board much longer than I have had to go through that, right? And it's been a lot. And you know I never want anyone here to feel attacked. So, everybody has a right to an opinion. My only suggestion would be is that, you know, I feel like people have a right to come to the board and ask for things that they need from the village. That's how I feel about it. Right, if you need something done at the apron of your driveway that the village needs or is responsible for, then you know, please come and talk to us. That's what we are here for. We're here to represent the village. I guess I just feel like once we take that public comment away, it's kind of like taking away the voice.

Mayor-Public comment isn't made to discredit and degrade and shout down the board.

Lazarony-I just said that.

Mayor-And that's why it was taken into place. And when someone comes in and says, "Hey, we've got a tree or we've got something that needs to be taken care of." And you know you can talk about it like adults and that's absolutely fine. When it gets to the point that you know, we're you're blaming people that are trying to do good things for the community and basically donating your time in many conditions. There's not a person on this board. There's not a person in this room that isn't here to make this community better. And that's all that's in it for us. It is surely not the glory of being on the front page of the paper.

Lazarony-So, I just wanted to say that I understand that the previous board has gone through a lot, right? And it's been very turmoil.

Wandel-Ben and I are carryovers.

Lazarony-And I don't want to make light of that at all.

Wandel-And Jon Espersen is not here because of it, right.

Mayor-It's not just Jon Espersen. It was also because of me, Ben, Paul. It became finger pointing and that's not what we are here to do. And it came to the point that children were frightened in the room and that trustees were getting upset, that police had to be called three times. That's not a public hearing and that's why it was done. So, it is over. We move one.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement Office-Absent

DPW-

Mayor-DPW, you guys have had a busy week.

Merrill-The previously semi-approved pickup truck purchase that we were really hoping to get got denied through CHIPS because it doesn't make any sense to me, but the life expectancy of a pickup truck is only 7 years. And yet I can use that same cabin chassis and put a utility body on it or a dump truck and it goes up to 10 years. So, I am in the process of looking at a utility body for basically the same size truck. It will change the price, but you know, if we get CHIPS to cover it, we get CHIPS to cover it.

Lazarony-We were trying to be really resourceful and not spend a lot of money.

Merrill-Exactly, yeah.

Wandel-Jeness, what is the difference? I mean, is the utility, is that a larger frame or what?

Merrill-Um, no. It's got, you know, doors on the side and cabinets and things that have those. It still has a bed in the middle.

Wandel-Okay.

Merrill-But they think that's going to last longer as a truck is beyond me, but that's them. Along the same line, the loader that we have been patiently waiting for a grant for, if we don't order by September 1st, the price goes up for all three quotes by \$20,000.

LeBeau-What was the date?

Merrill-The 1st of September

Lazarony-So, in a few days.

Merrill-Yeah, it gives us like one week. The backhoe I mentioned previously, the trade-in, I am still waiting to hear what we could get for a trade-in. He did give us a price for a new backhoe. But, no sense of pursuing it until I get more information. I reached out to the county, some of the towns about purchasing our one snow plow. It's a 10-coal plow. It has no trip edge on the cutting edge.

Lazarony-It's just a solid piece, right?

Merrill- And the last two-three years, we've had trouble with hitting manhole covers or whatnot. So, if we get, it we can sell that then possibly could offset the cost of a trip edge version plow.

Mayor-You're putting it out to bid or you just putting it out?

Merrill-So, I was just putting it out to municipalities because then we can just sell it and get something back. And then along with all that, we've had a water break on Temple Street last week. It ended up being a service leak to an old property that was destroyed when the college was expanded. We've had two on Lowell Place, one on the 12th and one this past Saturday. I met with Agri America again and that was the day I send out the emails to all of you guys. Somebody responded and so far, I've been, they've been pretty nice to talk to. Rural water is coming out this Wednesday to try to leak detect in their field and then along the main and prior, I guess southern leak from their business to see if that's where any of our water is coming from. I met with Kingsview Paving and Olson Paving about preliminary bids for the east lot reconstruction next year. I also met with Gullo seal and stripe and contacted Tabone's for sealing about getting the good portion of the southern portion of the east lot crack sealed and then black top sealed and striped to extend that life. They all thought that it would be worth it because black top's pretty much in good condition up in that area. So, I've got two of the bids back. I haven't got the third one yet. St. George finished the stone culvert replacement on Forest Place and I have had two contractors in about replacing the driveway that we had to tear out and the sidewalk right now depending on the boards feel if we could have the one bid was about what I was guessing and the other one's a little higher and in talking to my couple guys, they said well we probably could do the road cuts; dig them out and patch them ourselves instead of including it with a paver there to do it which was our first thought, just timewise.

Mayor-Jen, what kind of effects is that going to have on their driveway, the resident's driveway?

Merrill-Us doing the road cuts won't affect it at all. But we're going to contract out the driveway.

Mayor-How deep did it go on the drive, into the driveway?

Merrill-Well, they went up 15 or 20 feet.

Mayor-The only reason I am concerned is, you know, if it starts if we can't get it done before it starts snowing, it could, they could have issues with their driveway.

Merrill-Yeah, both these guys want to get it done.

Mayor-Okay, good. Thanks. The other one I had was the boardwalk, the actual boardwalk itself and that back parking lot where the wall is crumbling, coming apart. Is that something we can do ourselves?

Merrill-The elevated sidewalk?

Mayor-Yeah.

Lazarony-No, I have asked for an architect to come look at that. We talked about it and I didn't want anybody to touch it until we had an architect come in and look at it and tell us exactly what needs to be done structurally. And then the other thing is that you know we still need to follow through to make sure why do we have to have it there?

Mayor-Yeah. It doesn't sound good. Because it is elevated because the stores, the entrances of the stores are higher than the driveway. If you look, if you go over there to this side of it, is that west or east, the sidewalk actually the sidewalk of the boardwalk meets with the sidewalk on the side street here. It's considerably higher here. So, you can't, it's there's no easement from the parking lot up. You would either have some type of stairs or something along there.

LeBeau-I am going to reach back out to them because I did.

Merrill-I do believe and I don't know if it's still in existence, but the ramp was in one of the business owner deeds that the village would maintain the ramp because they had a garage back there.

Mayor-We did a background check on that. The deed expired 20 years ago.

Merrill-So, if we could eliminate the ramp, then we could change the cement sidewalks and make them ramps instead of sidewalks, which would give us a couple more parking spaces or more room in the park.

Lazarony-So, that was one of the reasons I wanted to, that we should probably put it out and let somebody professional look at it. Not that you're not a professional, but you know and then it goes back to if the village. I mean I understand why it's there, but why is that the village's responsibility?

Merrill-It originally was the water lines and things underneath gave us access to the back of it.

Lazarony-I understand that. I'm just saying it's going to cost a lot of money to fix that. I am just trying to look at both sides of it.

Merrill- In the meantime, since you brought it up, I looked at this size of the gaping hole in it.

Lazarony-Yeah.

Merrill-And before it becomes a temporary shelter for somebody, I was going to secure it with a sheet of plywood.

Lazarony-Please do.

Mayor-Good. That's what I was more concerned about, the safety of the stairwell because it's going to take some time to get that done. Again, there is a different elevation on this side. You have to go up the stairs to get to where on that side of the east side, you just walk right from the sidewalk right onto the boardwalk. So, it's a big, the road goes down towards the side of the water. The side of Main Street. Anything else, sir?

Merrill-Yep, we've been working on the tow behind generator. We did determine it is a three-phase and a single-phase capability with the outlets already on it. So, Danny's been working on those in between other jobs.

Wandel-Did he actually get it working?

Merrill-Well he got it to turn over and jerry-rigged a soda bottle with a little fuel in it and a temporary fuel line to see if all of that would work. He said the fuel tank evidently when it was parked, it was parked with fuel in it and it's like gum in there now. So, he's got to get that

cleaned out and everything before he tires to hook it back up properly. And then of course, I need the oil changed and things like that. But he says it turns over with no problem and it should fire right up.

Wandel-So, could you please have him contact me when it's complete so then I can help you verify the proper output voltages for the generator?

Merrill-And along with that, if this does get to be a viable solution, then we still need to get back in to do the pigtails connections for the pump that Doug decided.

Wandel-So, you want a quick disconnect for when you go there on emergency basis on the lift stations. You want to be able to connect up quick, right? So, that's kept that in the back of our minds.

Merrill-Okay, I already talked about that. We were also busy prepping for the events in the park between the last of the great Wednesdays or whatever they called them and the farm festival. We did have or we've known about and had taken care of the water yard hydrants, they call them in both parks. They leak, so we have been shutting them off. Had the curb key and they needed them this weekend, so we turned them on. And then somebody posted a picture of the water rubbing center. It's because they were turned back off again. So, I reached out to Gugino's and he said "I don't know if there's any fix to them." So, we don't know, I don't know who the manufacturer was or anything on when and where they got them.

Mayor-So everything's underground?

Merrill-Everything's underground. So, yeah. For now, anyways, we're just going to have to keep them shut off and just turn them on when they're going to be used. With that being said, we did turn them on to hook up the power washer for the brick in the yard, behind the gazebo. I thought it was going to be a one-day thing and it took three, but after we got started, there was no stopping because there was a night and day difference between the moss and mold that was on the bricks and the cleaned-up ones. So, they look really nice and we did hear a bunch of compliments.

Brauchler-I'm going to say thanks for that because they were getting slick.

Merrill-Yeah, we noticed that when we stepped on it after rain.

Mayor-Also, want to thank when you're talking about the gazebo, Rich Ketchum and his son with his mic and also the Johnson's for the work they did on the gazebo this summer. I thought that it was the DPW doing that, but they were donating their time and they went out and got the paint and got the wood and did everything they needed to do. We also want to thank Fredonia State University for their piano program that they bring into the park and not only here in Fredonia, but also in the City of Dunkirk as we're kind of coming to the end of that season as well. So, two great projects we didn't want to go left unnoticed.

Merrill-Yeah, and I did mention the having to do the jet, use the sewer and suck the sewer out in the west parking lot.

Cruz-Keefe-Was it the grease?

Merrill-We were notified from one of the plumbing contractors, I think it was Casale because he got called there and he said they had a grease problem. I think it was that particular restaurant. And afterwards he said, "Yeah, it's your line. It's got to be your line." Well, it was all the way from Downtown Brew all the way over to that restaurant in both directions. And then we got it all sucked out and jetted.

Mayor-So, do you think that it was one restaurant or multiple restaurants pouring the grease back there?

Merrill-It's really hard to say.

Mayor-Okay.

Merrill-And then, like I said Saturday we had the water break on Lowell for the second time in two weeks. It's probably 15ft and we've got three new repair sleeves. But at the same time, we had problems with our trash pump. So today we bout a new trash pump after we borrowed Dunkirk's. We had it sucked down and repaired in two hours.

Mayor-Also want to thank you for helping out on the Berry Road break the other day.

Merrill-Yeah.

Mayor-So, it's right on the border of Pomfret and Fredonia and Drew over at Pomfret is a good guy to work with there. So, thank you.

Fire Department-Dismissed

Police Department-Dismissed

Recreation Department

Wastewater Treatment Plant-

David Felt-We fixed the airline and irrigation tank number four and have most of the solids removed from that tank. So, we are coming to the end of that project.

Lazarony-We saw it.

Felt-Yes, it's a bigger project than. Filter bed number one is out of service. We have the coupling and the square nut on order; those parts were broken on it. So, once we get those parts in, we'll be able to make the repairs on that. That's all I have to report.

Lazarony-Thank you for your tour the other day because it was very informative to understand what you're talking about when you say that. I knew exactly what you were talking about.

Felt-Yeah.

Lazarony-So, thank you. That was very informative.

Felt-You're welcome.

Mayor-And also, thanks for staying in contact yesterday. It's for those of you that don't know, if you're just watching, you know the water levels of both departments; the water going out and the water coming in, all that water that comes through the system and if you're not keeping an eye on it, it messes things up pretty easily. So, a busy day for all departments. We appreciate everybody's hard work.

Mulholland-Yeah, we are still having a pretty significant rain today. Is it okay out there?

Felt-Yeah. Our flows were over 7 million gallons that came into the plant today, which is on the high side.

Lazarony-I was sitting in Walmart parking lot waiting for a prescription today and I am watching the water go in the drain and all I can think about is the water treatment plant. Like, oh my god. Although it's like just should be in a storm sewer.

Felt-Should be in a storm sewer.

Lazarony-Yeah, I know. That's all I can think of. That's a lot of water.

Felt-Yeah, we got our fair share.

Brauchler-Clearly, some water from outside gets into our system.

Mayor-We checked the creek just before the meeting. It's down considerably from where it was, even with the hard rain. It's kind of odd weather. I've never seen it like this where it goes from nothing to extreme downpour to nothing to extreme downpour. It hailed twice last night. I also want to thank Steve St George; he put one of his machines in the water street parking lot just in case something was to happen. But really, really want to thank the LEMC group and the county. I think that remediation work that they have done really helped out a lot on this. If you remember last time, we had that flood which I believe was what, eight years ago? It went into people's

homes, overflowed and went into the printing company. It went into Conti's gym and Sunny's nightclub as well took out a good part of this community. It took months and months to clean up. So, we're glad that remediation work helped and we're glad that we've got a good DPW and Police and Fire and Water team to make sure that's all done.

Wandel-David, two quick questions. The PE submitted for the EFC grant; any update on that? Felt-I haven't heard anything. Wendel said that it was submitted, but I haven't heard anything back other than it was submitted.

Wandel-Okay, yeah. Second question, is the AI motion proposal for doing automation upgrades on your filter beds. Anything happening there?

Felt-I don't like the price of it. So, I am looking at alternatives. I am trying to figure out what the key component of the cost of it. So maybe I can change my plan some or come up with another solution that would get us maybe 90% there instead of 100% and that would be a lot easier to program thus being cheaper.

Wandel-How about if you and I got together and we can just look at that and reevaluation?

Felt-Okay, that sounds good.

Wandel-Give me a ring.

Felt-Okay.

Mulholland-Yeah. One of the things that I want to say to you that I learned when I met with you and I really appreciate is just how conscientious you are of cost.

Felt-Yes.

Mulholland-And you're thinking creatively different ways to accomplish things and it's just, it's greatly appreciated.

Lazarony-I just can't, I couldn't imagine like, I've been the water tree completely and I mean Luis has a lot there, right? There's a lot going on over there. But you have a lot going on over there. Like that's crazy, until you have seen it and understand how it works. It's a little crazy. So, I think you're doing an amazing job and I appreciate that you are here with the village.

Felt-Thank you.

Water Treatment Plant

Fred-Oh, I think we discussed it already.

Mayor-We did. Anybody have anything for Luis before we go on?

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. 29 Center Street Water Bill Relief

Brauchler-Well we have two of these water bill relief, so we don't really have a policy.

LeBeau-No, we were going to take them one at a time on a case-by-case basis.

2. 6 George's Place Water Bill Relief

Mayor-So both came up the last couple of weeks. We historically have given people relief on the sewer portion.

LeBeau-Yes.

Brauchler-And I would be inclined to do such for these folks where the water did not go through our sewage treatment plant. I guess we really have no precedent for giving relief on the water bill itself.

LeBeau-Correct.

Cruz-Keefe-I feel like these are coming up more frequently and we're certainly seeing a lot. I think the homeowner has to take some responsibility. I don't know.

Mayor-Part of it is there's; we've had more than a couple where people have gone to their second homes or whatever out of town or gone for extended periods of time and these are older

homes right in our community for the most part. So, all of the sudden something goes wrong or something, you know, happens and if you don't have somebody checking on your home on a regular basis, you could run into those things. And the slightest little thing, you know, when we say, "do you hear water running?" It doesn't necessarily have to sound like Canadaway Creek. It could just be a simple low-level hum that you hear that could be costing you hundreds of dollars in expended water. So, absolutely, we have the kits available here for you to test your water, test your toilets. You know, the blue color, isn't that it? The blue color test to see if you have a leak in your toilet. There are instructions on how to do it and people that can show you how to take these things and but it's sometimes as simple as that. A running toilet or faucet that's leaking and all of the sudden it adds up to hundreds of dollars. In the long run. So, I would agree with the board's consensus on this. Any further discussion on that?

Mulholland-Yeah, I mean if we had a policy for it then it would almost be when we go, if we go in with North County Water District, we can't give these relief in the future anyway. So, making a policy or making ad hoc decisions would just be nullified anyway.

Lazarony-So, we would relief, offer some relief on the sewer part of the bill, not on the water part of the bill.

LeBeau-That is what we have done in the past.

Lazarony-What would that remediation be?

LeBeau-Typically what we do is take their average bill. We would charge them that instead of the sewer, instead of like this one has 67,000 gallons. So, I don't have that in front of me, but we do the average of what his normal bill was and discount that. I can send you guys numbers tomorrow so that you can look at what it would be discounted so before we make a decision of any sort.

Lazarony-Sure, yep.

Mayor-And if you have to then you can go to executive session on this Monday, if need be.

LeBeau-I don't think that's executive session.

Mayor-Okay.

D. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor-I do want to remind everybody that two things are coming up this week. Coming up on Friday at the Opera House, Lucas West is returning to Fredonia as a Fredonia State graduate and performing at the Opera House. And Tony Fassio who has been a part of Fredonia fire and for many, many years will be retiring on Saturday. So, congratulations and once again we also want to thank the Farm Festival and we want to thank Festivals Fredonia for Eight Great Wednesdays in the park and it's been a great summer thanks to the recreation department for all they did. I guess it's kind of sad to say it's been a great summer right, it's only August, but being that it's about 50 degrees outside already, pumpkin spice is out and about, you know, I think fall is upon us. So, if there's nothing else, can I have a motion to adjourn?

Brauchler-One more thing, I just want to bring back to our attention the Temple-Central waterline replacement. We haven't done anything about it for a while. I think we were going to look into getting another firm to quote it out. I think we need to move ahead with getting that done. Get that quote and get some planning done for that because it's still there. It's not going to go away.

Lazarony-I do have one question for Luis. Do we still have the generator at the water treatment plant? Is that still a rented generator?

Fred-Yeah,

Lazarony-What is the cost on that?

Fred-\$1,100 per month.

Wandel-So, I was following up on that, with supposedly it is a county program and I actually plan to speak to Natalie Whitman tomorrow because she is the one who told me about it.

Cummins who in Chautauqua County manufacturer has a program that if you're a municipality in the county, they could work with you on either the purchase or acquisition of a generator.

Lazarony-Great.

Wandel-So, it kind of fell through the cracks a few months ago. But what also happened in addition is the expansion of the power requirements at the plant because of the new chlorination project. The loading requirements have changed. So, there's two things and I'll follow up on both of those.

Lazarony-Thank you.

Wandel-Ben, you point about the water mains, I can take the lead on that. The square engineering who I know you know right, has actually had discussions with the village in the past. I have his contact information. So, I'll follow up.

Brauchler-Excellent, thank you.

Wandel-You're right, we got to, we can't just let that drop down. If we let it go, we're going to be digging it up again.

Lazarony-And now that Rural Water is coming to do the leak detection thing, we need to talk to them about their program. Because I know we had them come like three or four years ago and I think we had to pay something for that. Now that our population is under 10,000, my understanding from talking to them previously was that it's at no cost to the village for them to come in and do the whole entire village.

Mayor-Where does the almost 4,000 we serve. So, while the village's population is less than 10,000 together, we serve 13,000 plus in water.

Lazarony-Right? But we're not asking them to look at those lines. We're asking them to look at just the village lines.

Fred-They go off the annual quality water report. I worked with Natalie and she even looked at the most recent census and she said that we are under 10,000.

Mayor-Okay.

Lazarony-So, that's one thing. Do you know what time they're coming on Wednesday?

Merrill-They were supposed to be here today and they had to call last week to postpone, push it back to Wednesday. They said in the morning.

Lazarony-Okay, I'd love to talk to them if they, when they show up if you could just give me a shout. If I can, if I'm available, I can come and if I can't, maybe Paul can. But I'd like to talk to them because I'd like to really pick their brain.

Merrill-Well, while they're here. I don't know, my office assistant set this all up and talked to them. If they have time, I would like to take them down to the intersection of Central and Temple where with our equipment, we hear noise, right? But we can't determine what's what. So, there's a possibility that something is happening there. There is a lot of water running into the one receiver on the west side of Temple by whatever street that is. I don't even know now.

Lazarony-Maple?

Merrill-No.

Mayor-It's the first street. We also have to determine what we're doing on Terrace.

Merrill-Terrace, that's it.

Mayor-We also have to determine what we're doing with Chestnut and Risley because that's started to back up again and it's only going to get worse. So, yeah, let us know what time they're going to be in town and where they are going to be. Obviously, you need to do business with them, but we need to know what is going on as well. Yeah. Long-term planning.

Wandel-Jenness, I have the updated maps for you. I will deliver them to your office tomorrow.

Merrill-Okay.

Wandel-Will you be there or should I call first?

Merrill-I should be there tomorrow.

Wandel-Okay.

Mayor, I have two new items. The first came I think it was included in the package for the building. So, this was, we got input from LaBella, either Oliver or Matthew. And really all this is asking the property owner if we can come on site and they would agree to it so that we can at least do a preliminary evaluation of hey is this a potential opportunity to spot a location for one of the utility facilities for the interconnect project.

Mayor-Right.

Wandel-it's just simply asking the homeowner that they would agree to it.

Mayor-And we did have some encouraging news on the first two people that we've spoken to. So those are good things. And I believe we only need two locations, correct?

Wandel-I think its just two right now. Right.

Brauchler-That's my understanding.

Mayor-And that's down from four that were in the original plan.

Wandel-Yeah.

Mayor-So we've already saved some cost off the project by doing that.

Wandel-Yeah. Exactly. Then the second thing I had is. So, I'm working with the college. I have been working with the college for the past two years and the Mayor and I have discussed the opportunities for interns to work with the village. So, I have had communication with her. Her name is Jennifer Wilkins. She is the internship coordinator in the career development office at Gregory Hall on Sunni Campus. I had extensive phone conversation with her. I explained what some potential opportunities we could use for marketing and for potential website design for the village. We had a very excellent conversation and she has invited me to attend two networking sessions for two positions. The first one is called community engagement and digital communications intern and the second is called municipal research and website development intern. They both cover quite a bit of responsibilities. If this flies I would be site supervisor. So, they would be along with village collaboration. Whoever is involved in the village.

Lazarony-I nominate Tim.

Mulholland-Yeah, I'd like to help you with that.

Wandel-Oh, good.

Lazarony-That's Tims specialty

Wendal-Excellent.

Lazarony-That's what he does.

Wandel-Oh, Okay.

Mulholland-Digital engagement is my profession, and I'd love to help you with that.

Wandel-Okay. So, there are two events one is happening this weekend and I committed to go from 10:00am-2:00pm and that is I'm a representative of the village. I mean if you would like to come as well just to explain what we are looking for, and then September 9th in the evening

around 6:00 I'll be having another more major networking event and it ranges all the way from freshman to more advanced students as well, but it's a great opportunity

Mayor-I encourage whoever can get down there. We've been down there the last couple of years on the 9th, but it's not this weekend coming up. I'll be there for that as well. We've been invited to be there. We help hand out welcome bags at the chamber and that type of thing. It's a great way to meet the parents. I will say for the first time that we're aware of I was asked by the college and I want to thank them. I want to thank Dr. Collison; we have two letters in the packets. One is going to the students coming in, welcoming them either he or her or they, to the community, and the second ones to the parents letting their parents know a little bit about the community. A little bit about what's going on that will be given out when they arrive. It's a good thing, so I want to thank them for including us. It's about a lot of inclusion. The Wednesdays in the park at the college has been there for every Wednesday in the park.

Wandel-I want to comment on that. That's been great. That I think has helped both the college campus and the village.

Mayor-Yeah. And last week we were there for the mural dedication that Aaron had in Fenton Hall, and also thank you to the new business. I want to remind everybody that you are going to be seeing a young lady on Water St trying to paint. She was supposed to start the other day but unfortunately with the rain and a very bad week of choosing the festival weekend, she was not able to do the bump-outs, but she's already started measuring it out and doing some things. And now that we have some freed-up blockades there we can help her get that done.

Wandel-Yeah, so these are exciting opportunities for both village and collage.

Mayor-Yeah, and Aaron was a graduate of Fredonia state and you know she continues to do work here, so we're very excited.

Wandel-Excellent.

Mayor-If there's nothing else there is no reason to go into executive session.

Mulholland-Can I say one more thing about my public comment resolution.

Mayor-Sure.

Mulholland-I wasn't able to answer your question, Paul. I wasn't here when the question was really related to the decision before, so I wasn't able to answer your question, but I do want to say one thing about that. I think public comment serves another purpose beyond just allowing our residents to speak. It is information gathering. Right? So, I think we have blinders on at times when we don't hear from our residents, and the parking resolution was a great example. When we put out this idea for parking, there was a lot of comment in the community and in the paper and all this. It may have been better served if we allowed them to speak and listen to their concerns as we formulated our parking proposal.

Mayor-With due respect Tim we did have public portion during the five months we talked about Hawk beforehand. But It's difficult for people to be engaged as much as we would like them to be engaged. Especially if they don't know I think for the most part a lot of people don't know what's coming up on the agenda until they start to see these things. But when we were talking about Hawk and many of that was before prior to this board coming on board, we had public sessions throughout the entire thing. We had presentations being made so there was more than enough time for people to have discussed it. It doesn't become an issue until suddenly it becomes an issue and then when it starts hitting papers.

Mulholland-I mean I think having been as someone in the village right before I sat on the board sure to say there was more than enough time for discussion but I'm not really sure that's how people fully felt because when this parking proposal came out a lot of people acted like it was

new to them and it may have been different if they were engaged and speaking here throughout the discussions

Mayor-Well there's where we need to talk to the public about the fact is, let's face it, how many people in this room follow local government while you've lived and grown up here. Right? I doubt very highly. I mean we get a few hundred people that watch the meetings and you don't really know what's going on until it hits the media even though it may have been talked about for a year or two years or six months or three weeks or whatever it may be, it becomes an issue when all of the sudden it finally reaches the media, so I think we all reacted well to it. We were able to express our change to it. But you're right. I mean people need to feel safe. But there lies the biggest argument for me. People need to feel safe walking in this door and talking to the board and we need to make it safe for them to be able to do that. So, I think taking a deep breath, taking a step back and kind of letting things fall where they may be a big help and I applaud you for the effort and bringing it back.

Lazarony-The only thing I'd like to add is that we did have a public information session since we stopped the public comment. I think that opened a lot of people's eyes and that I think a lot of people told me it was very informative to them. I didn't ask how they felt either way about the project but what they did say is that they thought it was very informative and people felt more engaged in what was going on and I think you got a lot of positive feedback on that, Paul.

Wandel-I would agree, my intention was to have one-on-one conversation with the subject matter experts with the visuals everything that the county and both Lubella provided as well as speaking to village representatives and that was the intention. There were a few criticisms here and there, but overall, I think it was a great success

Lazarony-Well no matter what we do someone's going to criticize anything that we do. Right?

Wandel-No doubt.

Lazarony-It doesn't matter. We're not going to make everybody happy but what we can do is so what we think is best for the village right. That's the job that we took. To do what we think is best for the village.

Wandel-It was proactive

Lazarony-Right, so I'm saying maybe some of that has calmed down a little bit since there's been more information out to the public about the project. I'm just wondering if that tampered some of the. And some people are always going to be excited about it and some people are always going to be excited about it, and some people are always going to have their opinions about it, and some people are always going to want to have their voices heard about it, and you know just to silence that until the projects over doesn't seem fair to me.

Wandel-And as you know Leanne education is key.

Lazarony-It is.

Wandel-We're educating every resident as best as we can and however way we do that.

Lazarony-I'm just saying that I'm trying to look at both sides of this, the village trustee side and the mayor about what happens in this room but the residents and who does it hurt. I'm just explaining myself and it doesn't mean anybody has to listen or agree with me or not. I think that you know it's a big consideration.

Mayor-Right and what I'm trying to say is to respect the public. Be engaged. Right. Six months of talking about parking and it became an issue once it reached the paper was because we are. Years ago, I wasn't engaged in what's going on with local government. I opened the paper I get my bills I get my tax bills that's what I do right. I didn't know what happened at last week's meeting, I didn't know what was discussed I read the paper and that's where I got my

information and that's pretty much it. The negativity associated with a lot of social media nowadays. There is a big difference between end of social media and the news end of social media, and it gets nasty.

Lazarony-You just can't control that. There's no controlling anything.

Mayor-What you can control is knowing more about what's going on in your local government so things don't become a surprise. So, things don't crawl up on you and say what is this about talking about parking. There was almost a year in that discussion.

Mulholland-And that's why I think leading by example and allowing people to come and comment is part of like hey let's get everybody engaged

Mayor-100% you're absolutely right. And I think that to when we talked about doing this little television interview that will help as well. Anything that you can utilize to get the word out is important. Right? You know that, those of us in marketing know that. So, I think that it would add another tool just having a good interactive website.

Lazarony-Yeah, that will help a lot.

Wandel-You know I was just going to comment on that because you know one of the interns I'm hoping to, you know I appreciate everything melissa does, but I really think that I'd like to see it further developed in a very readable and navigable format.

Lazarony-We have an expert sitting here now, so isn't that wonderful.

Cruz-Keefe-It's not related to this. I continue to get residents reaching out to me about the flock cameras. So, I'm just saying it here at this meeting that it's not a decision made by this board. I encourage people to reach out to their county representatives. I believe the county has a meeting this Wednesday. So, if you're available and this is a concern to you, go to the meeting, use that public comment section, and that's all I wanted to say.

Mayor-I was on my monthly viewpoint that we had and that was the very first topic that came up. I don't agree with the way that things went with that. I mean I didn't even know they were there until I walked in and saw them. But I will tell you this. I think that there can be some overreaction. We carry around these little computers in our pocket which are pretty much on 24 hours a day. You give away more information about your life in your cell phone then then will ever collect on a telephone pole. When you walk into the store there's cameras in the store. When you go us into the parking lot there's cameras in the parking lot. When you go into the bank there's cameras. We are on camera. As the police chief told me we are on camera 24 hours a day as it is. These were made for big crime. You know we've had hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage done to both fountains in the park over the years. It would help with that. There have been success stories of children who were abducted being found. Major accidents at intersections where you may have a hit and rumor something along those lines. So, there is some good to them.

Lazarony-I have to leave. I'm really sorry guys but I have to go.

Mayor-So there have been a lot of success with it. Again, clarity. Clarity of information, clarity about what it is. They're assuming that every camera in the village is one that is collecting facial data and we don't have that kind of technology. Could it have been clearer about what was going on? 100%. I didn't even know it was happening until I walked in and saw the two cameras sitting there. People have a right to say that they don't agree with those cameras, and they have a right to ask their local officials. I do know in Tonawanda they reversed it now and they'll be taking those down. A good friend Austin, there made that happen. But just keep in mind the things you do online, that phone you carry around in your pocket, will give away far more information about you as a person, your social security number, your addresses, all these things.

Because not all of us are good at protecting your information, right? But Christine thank you that is Wednesday I believe right? At the county meeting.

Cruz-Keefe-Yeah.

Mayor-In this area Bob Skitter is our local legislator right now, and exercise your rights as Americans.

Wandel-Christine, will that be on the agenda

Cruz-Keefe-I don't know but they have two comment portions. One where it has to relate to the agenda and another where it can be anything.

Wandel-Yeah, I realize that too.

Cruz-Keefe-I didn't look at the agenda so I'm not sure, just because people have been pretty steadily reaching out and you know

Wandel-I've been getting emails too.

Mayor-Anything else? If not, can I have a motion to adjourn?

Cruz-Keefe-I'll make a motion.

Brauchler-I will second it.

Mayor-All right. Trustee Brauchler

Brauchler-Aye.

Mayor-Trustee Wandel.

Wandel-Aye.

Mayor-Trustee Cruz-Keefe.

Cruz-Keefe-Aye.

Mayor-Trustee Mulholland.

Mulholland-Aye.

Mayor-All right thank you ladies and gentlemen. Next week the 31st we'll be back here for the full board of trustee meeting where we'll discuss everything that we discussed tonight.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION