

Parma Town Board meeting held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at the Parma Town Hall, 1300 Hilton Parma Corners Road, Hilton, New York.

ATTENDANCE

Supervisor	Peter McCann
Councilman	Carm Carmestro
Councilman	James Smith
Councilman	Gary Comardo
Councilman	James Roose
Highway Superintendent	Brian Speer
Building Inspector	Jack Barton
Recreation Director	Steve Fowler

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Don Wells Assessor, Mary Gavigan Director of Finance, Becky Tantillo Library Director, Dave Tresohlavy, Al Howe, Art Cosgrove, Barb Schwan, Ed Arnold, Cindy Arnold, Mike Clark, Arda Davey, Joe Davey, Mike Weldon, Carol Kluth, and other unidentified members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor McCann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence. Supervisor McCann noted emergency exit procedures.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION OF 2012 BUDGET

The public hearing was opened at 6:32 p.m. Supervisor McCann noted that it was duly advertised in the Suburban News and the Democrat and Chronicle and also posted on the Bulletin Board and on the Website. Supervisor McCann asked if there was anyone present who would like to address the Town Board on this topic.

Ed Arnold expressed concerns with the expenses of the Parks and Recreation Department. He did not feel that it is a function of government to pay for entertainment. He felt that the people who use these services should be paying for them and that consideration should be given to raising recreation fees so that the department can be self sustaining. Mr. Arnold wanted to hear thoughts from each of the Town Board Members. Mr. Arnold wanted to know why there are more employees in the Recreation Department than the Building Department.

Supervisor McCann stated that government is here to take care of those who can't take care of themselves, like army and infrastructure, not necessarily a recreation or parks department but now we have the programs and they multiply and get larger and larger and you can't take them away.

Councilman Comardo stated that there is a practical value to these programs and people use the park constantly and it adds to the quality of life in the community, and that is the real function of the parks and recreation departments. He felt they could end those services, and continued to explain that the budget is really two things, the things that we must have and the things that we choose to spend money on for the sake of the quality of life in the community. Parks is certainly in that second category, how much we spend and if we spend at all is a judgment call. Every town in the county has a parks and recreation department and if we were to shut that down entirely we would not be breaking any laws but would reduce the quality of life and property values would go down which is something to consider. Young people without something constructive to do will find something to do that is not constructive. Communities that do not engage their young people have issues that we do not see in our community. Councilman Comardo felt that the here could be debate about how much to spend, but would not be supportive of discontinuing those services.

Councilman Smith felt that if you are going to partake in the recreation department, you need to pay for it. There are certain activities like meals for the seniors that are paid for by taxpayers. His goal is to try to manage the costs of the recreation employees and try to increase the revenues gradually so the parents and kids do not get sticker shock.

Councilman Carmestro felt it is a vital cog in the community. He would not think about cutting services but would adjust fees. It is a service used by just about everyone of all ages in this community.

There was discussion about an increase of fees and that increase currently does not seem to be in the budget for 2012. Steve Fowler relayed that the fees were being increased for next year and cuts have been made to their budget. There was discussion about the amount of employees in the Recreation Department. Mr. Arnold felt the program is getting too big for an unnecessary function.

Councilman Roose felt that you need to group the parks, recreation and library together. And the reality is if this board voted to eliminate the Recreation Department all members of the board would be replaced with a board that would reinstate the department. Every town has them and wants them.

Cindy Arnold felt that the function of government is to provide safety of people and infrastructure not sports for the kids and that families who want their kids in organized sports should pay for it. She felt it is not a function of government. She wondered if it is possible to charge more for the programs and pavilions to offset the costs of the recreation and parks department.

Arda Davey wondered why the Recreation Director is not an elected position like the Highway Superintendent. She felt that the Highway Superintendent's salary is discussed every two years during the election but that the Recreation Director makes more and no one questions that salary. It was explained that in Monroe County the Recreation Director is appointed not elected and to make that elected, if it is even allowed in New York State, there would have to be a public referendum. It was explained that in half of Monroe County the Highway Superintendent is appointed and not elected.

Mr. Arnold inquired as to what the Recreation Department does when all of the kids are in school. Mr. Fowler explained that they have a very extensive Senior Citizen program, specifically in the nutrition center and there are several preschool programs. He also explained that the fees for the programs cover the cost of operation except for the salaries of the employees.

Mr. Arnold wondered how many participants there are using the programs. Mr. Fowler noted there is an annual report on file at the Town Clerk's Office that shows how many participants and the demographics of participants there are on average in a year. He also explained the various types of programs offered such as physical fitness, programs run in conjunction with the school district and special events throughout the Town which gives families the opportunities to be involved in activities that they may not otherwise be able to participate in. Mr. Fowler stated he understands that if you do not utilize the programs he can see how people may think it is unnecessary but that there are a lot of people who may be using the services indirectly or know people within the community that do enjoy the activities. Councilman Smith stated that in 2010 about 5,500 participants used the service in one year. There was further discussion over numbers of participants and who pays the fees. Mr. Fowler noted that there were 2,100 rides given to seniors, 6,000 meals were served through the senior center in 2010 and there are 150 very active seniors.

Ms. Davey wondered about the VFW and the loss of money. She wanted to know what it is used for. The costs of operating that building are about \$19,000 per year. Councilman Carmestro explained that we are currently in an agreement with the VFW and that they get part of the proceeds. It is planned that this issue will be addressed after the first of the year.

Ms. Arnold said that she is paying more for taxes now than when she built her house 26 years ago. Supervisor McCann explained that the tax rate has been flat for 18 of the last 19 years. Fuel costs and services costs are expensive and have increased. He also explained that the town tax is the lowest amount of all the taxes paid.

Mr. Arnold felt that the Town doesn't need all of this stuff, like the bigger park and the VFW which is losing \$19,000 a year. He felt that the population of the Town has not grown with the size of the park.

There was discussion about the 2% tax rate and that with a vote of the board it could go higher than the 2% amount. Supervisor McCann explained that all departments were cut back this year and that residents are not going to want to cut Recreation and Library services because we live in a community and residents enjoy those services. Supervisor McCann explained that we have to maintain the structures and the park as it is now.

Mr. Arnold inquired about the lights and if they were necessary. Supervisor McCann explained that those were purchased with a grant and the town only paid \$30,000 and that was three years ago. Now we have them and have to maintain them. Ms. Davey and Ms. Arnold stated that they have seen the lights on until 11 p.m. and wondered why if the park closes at dusk why the lights would remain on. Supervisor McCann said that his understanding is that they are on a timer to be turned off at 10 p.m. and one of the reasons they are on that late is for security purposes, leaving the lights on is cheaper than having to repair the vandalism that has occurred in the park in the past. Supervisor McCann stated that we try to maintain a balance so that everyone is happy to a certain degree.

Dennis Sweatman inquired why the publication in the paper before the election had lower amounts than the legal in the paper the day after the election and why there were sizable increases in the second legal for Supervisor and Town Board members. Supervisor McCann explained that the original budget had an increase for the Supervisor position and also for the Board Members and that there had been an incorrect publication run in the Suburban News so the corrected legal ran again in the Suburban News and also in the Democrat and Chronicle. He also explained that the one on the website and the Town Hall board were correct and that the increase did not change due to the election as all of them were running unopposed.

Mr. Sweatman wondered why there was an increase at this time. Supervisor McCann continued to explain that the position of Supervisor had remained at the same pay for years and that it is time for there to be a reasonable rate for the Supervisor position. The Town of Parma is one of the lowest paid towns in the County. Mr. Sweatman disagreed with the timing of the increase for the Board Members and Supervisor. Supervisor McCann responded that there would not ever be a good time.

Rick Lemcke felt that employees should be contributing more for health care. Supervisor McCann felt that with current union negotiations and the large number of people involved that at this time they could not make a change to the non-union employees until after these negotiations are over and it can be fairly done.

Art Cosgrove stated that he has been a citizen of the Town since the early 80's. He has observed the Town employees; felt they are underpaid in wages and health coverage. He felt we are nickeling and diming ourselves; hurting the people we have and not able to get the best people because of this. He felt that if the Town paid more then there would be more competition and compel a more democratic form of government.

Arda Davey wondered how equipped our Highway Department is to handle a situation like Connecticut had with the storms and snow. Supervisor McCann stated he felt we are well equipped to handle storms that come through our area clearing the roads as soon as practicable starting with main roads, then secondary roads. While a storm might cripple us for a period of time, we would work through it hopefully with some outside help if needed and also get some reimbursement from FEMA or other agencies. Councilman Smith commented that we are in good shape and our crews get it done.

Supervisor McCann asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak or had any further questions. There were none.

Supervisor McCann closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. and asked the Board if there were any changes they would like made. Discussion followed between the Town Board members.

Councilman Smith was concerned about having to rely on the money we have saved. He felt that at some point we will not have this savings and then there will have to be some hard decisions. He supports the budget but does not like that we are balancing the way we are.

Councilman Carmestro is not in favor of the budget as it is because of the use of surplus funds to balance it He felt some cuts should be made to get the budget in line and where it needs to be.

Councilman Roose felt that cuts need to be made and they will be difficult decisions to be made in the future. He is not in favor.

Councilman Comardo stated that revenue is flat, expenses have increased, and he understands and supports why the surplus funds were used. He supports the budget. He understands that in the future there may be draconian cuts may have to be made but does not feel that this is the time.

Councilman Smith felt that the unfunded mandates are hard to control and impact the budget more so this year. He noted pension and assessor mandates are required but the state pulled back the money they used to reimburse us to help cover some of those expenses. He noted that some cuts were made including the "Park It in Parma" festival and other programs. He felt that if it was not for the unfunded mandates there would not have been a tax increase; and there might have actually been a tax decrease.

ADOPTION OF 2012 BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 204-2010 Motion by Councilman Comardo, seconded by Councilman Smith, to adopt the 2012 Town of Parma Budget and Special Districts as presented.

Councilman Carmestro	Nay
Councilman Comardo	Aye
Councilman Roose	Nay
Councilman Smith	Aye
Supervisor McCann	Aye

Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Supervisor McCann asked if there was any citizen present who would like to address the Town Board on any concerns. There was no response.

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 1, 2011

RESOLUTION NO. 205-2011 Motion by Councilman Carmestro, seconded by Councilman Roose, to accept the Minutes of the November 1, 2011 meeting.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

TOWN CLERK REPORT

There was no report.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Supt. Speer reported that Hill Road is scheduled to reopen the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Councilman Carmestro wanted to know if all of the scrap from the bus garage had been returned for salvage. Brian said as far as he knew all scrap had been returned. Mary Gavigan said that some payments have been received.

There was discussion about the lawsuit filed by two members of the Highway Department. Mr. Lemcke asked if anything was being done to prevent those lawsuits in the future. Mr. McCann explained that you cannot prevent grievances from being filed, he has been working with the Union representative and he does not foresee any future grievances being filed. Mr. Speer gave

some background into the lawsuit. The insurance company settled with the Plaintiff's instead of going to New York City for an appeal. There was no admission of guilt in that settlement. The insurance company found no merit in the complaint and paid the whole settlement for economic reasons not the merits of the case.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Fowler reported that an intern will be with their department for a total of 15 weeks through the end of April. Her name is Michele Aman and she is a student at SUNY Brockport. He also reported that the town will be receiving a Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grant for the purchase of a Type III transport vehicle to replace the 2003 transport vehicle. Mr. Fowler will be meeting with the company that will be building this vehicle to solidify specific options and overall costs prior to the December 6th meeting. At that meeting the paperwork associated with the contract agreement will be completed. This contract will specify the town's commitment to fund 20% of the overall vehicle cost and that 80% will be paid by Federal Transit Administration. There was further discussion about the application process. Supervisor McCann also wanted to mention that after the new vehicle is acquired we will be able to sell the current vehicle which can lower the final cost to the Town to Two to three thousand dollars.

LIBRARY REPORT

Library Director Becky Tantillo reported that the planter at the front of the library has been finished. They are collecting items to send to the troops overseas. On December 6, anyone who would like to can come to put together the care packages and write letters to send. The second annual Gingerbread House Contest will be taking place soon. Last year the community window was full of these houses for the holiday season.

PARKS REPORT

Councilman Smith reported that the roof repairs over the court have been completed. They are in the process of rebuilding the gutters and a heat tape thermostat is being installed so that water will not freeze and dam up the gutters with ice.

BUSINESS ITEMS

DEDICATION – IN MEMORY OF FRANK LUCISANO

RESOLUTION NO. 206-2011 Motion by Supervisor McCann, seconded by Councilman Comardo, to dedicate a blank page in the Minutes in memory of Frank Lucisano for his services to the Town of Parma and in particular as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion approved: Aye 5 Nay 0

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF OGDEN BUILDING DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Supervisor McCann gave some background into an audit by the Department of Labor and it was determined that a number of people should be paid hourly not salary, one of them being our Building Inspector. The Town has been receiving a flat fee from the Town of Ogden for Mr. Prince's services. In changing his wage to hourly, the fee was not working covering the expenses for us. Involved parties from both municipalities met to discuss and review the agreement. The new Agreement allows for 5 to 6 hours of time working for Ogden. Town of Ogden would pay us \$1,000 per month for services he provides to them together with \$.50 cents per mile. There is an exit clause by either party with 60 day notice to terminate this agreement. Mr. Prince's obligation to the Town of Parma will be 35 hours. There was discussion of him working four days for Parma and one day for Ogden. The difficulty would be in determining what days he would work where. In April or May, the Board will discuss how the agreement is working. There is a concern with the possibility of having to pay overtime.

RESOLUTION NO. 207-2011 Motion by Supervisor McCann, seconded by Councilman Carmestro, to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Ogden for Building Inspector Services for a period of one year starting January 1m 2012; with a review of the terms on or about June 30, 2012 to investigate the viability of continuance.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

KLONDIKE DERBY

Supervisor McCann read portions of a letter submitted by Dan Rockafellow requesting use of the Town Hall Park facilities for the Boy Scouts annual Klondike Derby.

RESOLUTION NO. 208-2011 Motion by Councilman Carmestro and seconded by Councilman Comardo, to approve the use of facilities in the Town Hall Park for the Annual Klondike Derby January 27, 2012 through January 29, 2012.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

HAYLO TOURNAMENT

Supervisor McCann read portions of a letter from the Co-Chair of HAYLO requesting use of the Town Hall Park facilities for their annual Lacrosse Tournament. After discussion about fees this matter was tabled to the December 6, 2012 meeting.

WILDER ROAD STREET LIGHT – BETWEEN OLD WILDER ROAD AND BENNETT ROAD

Jack Barton explained the cost of the street light would be \$12.09 per month. There will be no installation costs as there is an existing pole at the center of the curve. The approximate placement will be in front of the first house east of Salmon Creek at the center of the curve between two exiting lights. There was some discussion on what prompted the request, whether the neighbors would like it, and concern over lights shining in the windows of the surrounding houses. Because it is in a right of way, if it is a safety issue, it is the Town's call. It was determined Mr. Barton contact the owners of the surrounding homes by letter advising them of the request. After the discussion this matter was tabled to the December 6, 2012 meeting.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

There was discussion on the transfer from legal fees to contracted services. Mr. Barton explained there was a \$7,500 bill for membership to the Stormwater Coalition that was not paid last year and early this year we received notice so we are paying both this year and last year's amounts.

TRANSFERS TO BUDGET

Nov-11

ACCT #	FROM DESCRIPTION	AMT.	ACCT #	TO DESCRIPTION	AMT.	REQUESTED
BOO537362047300	LEGAL FEES	2,235.00	BOO537362046000	CONTRACTED SERVICES	2,500.00	BARTON
BOO537898948000	MISC REIMBURSEMENTS	550.00	BOO537362049100	PROPERTY MAINT.	550.00	BARTON
	L UNAPPROPRIATED					
	FUND BALANCE	9,260.00	LOO574741041000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	4,000.00	CRUMB
			LOO574741042600	MECHANICAL REPAIRS	5,260.00	CRUMB
AOO570731049432	VOLLEYBALL CAMP	75.00	AOO570731049342	INTRO TO SPORTS	75.00	FOWLER
AOO570731549403	BASKETBALL	1,150.00	AOO570731549003	BASEBALL TEAM	1,150.00	FOWLER
AOO570731549503	FLOOR HOCKEY	250.00	AOO570731549603	FLAG FOOTBALL	250.00	FOWLER
AOO516144047500	ENGINEERING	2,500.00	AOO516144046000	CONTRACTED SERVICES	2,500.00	GAVIGAN
	A UNAPPROPRIATED					
	FUND BALANCE	1,500.00	AOO576752046900	CLEANING SERVICES	1,500.00	GAVIGAN
AOO576752044100	GAS & ELECTRIC	300.00	AOO576752048000	MISC EXPENSES	300.00	GAVIGAN
AOO575751048000	MISC EXPENSE	40.00	AOO575752011000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	40.00	GAVIGAN
	A UNAPPROPRIATED					
	FUND BALANCE	2,020.00	AOO575751046000	CONTRACTED SERVICES	2,020.00	GAVIGAN
AOO571711017000	PARK ATTENDENT	65.00	AOO571711015000	SEASONAL LABORER	65.00	DOOL
AOO571711049000	PARK IMPROVEMENTS	2,000.00	AOO571711046000	CONTRACTED SERVICES	2,000.00	DOOL
AOO571711049000	PARK IMPROVEMENTS	3,000.00	AOO571711045100	FUEL	3,000.00	DOOL
	DA UNAPPROP FUND	9,488.54	DAO550514245100	GAS	3,013.29	SPEER
			DAO550514245300	DIESEL	6,475.25	SPEER
DBO550513045200	VEHICLE MAINT	21.00	DBO450513046000	CONTRACTED SERVICES	21.00	SPEER

RESOLUTION NO. 209-2011 Motion by Councilman Carmestro, seconded by Councilman Roose, to approve the Budget Transfers as presented.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARY BOARD TRUSTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 210-2011 Motion by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Carmestro, to approve the appointment of Frank Thomas as a Library Board Trustee to fulfill the unexpired term created by the resignation of Karen Sterlace through December of 2013.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

BUILDING REPORT

Jack Barton reported that the Recording Secretary for the Conservation Board has submitted her resignation effective at the end of December. Mr. Barton would like to place an ad for the position. The Board discussed having it added to the ad currently running in the Suburban News for open Board positions.

Mr. Barton updated the Board on the state variance application made by Doug Miller for the Dome. The State Board of Review approved the request to increase the occupancy load to 400 with some modifications to the Dome and add fire protection features. There are currently several exits out of the dome but modifications need to be made to the netting, additional smoke detection devices added and another main exit other than the existing revolving door. The restrooms will need to be expanded to accommodate the number of people and according to the site plan there are some lighting and parking expansion needs to be finished.

Mr. Barton has been inquiring about replacing the 2003 F150 being used by the department. The mileage is in the upper 80's and it is starting to cost more to maintain. The truck is in need of brakes and was recently struck in the parking lot. Mr. Barton had three quotes for the Board. There was some discussion about trading in the current truck and the price difference between a 2011 or 2012 truck with the trade-in. There was also discussion about making payments instead of purchasing out-right; maintaining it for now and then going out for state bid in early 2012. There was further discussion on the bidding process and if we were following our policy.

Mr. Lemcke inquired about using personal vehicles and paying mileage to the building inspector for use of their personal. Mr. Smith noted the wear and tear on a personal vehicle and the extra mileage should be considered in addition to the cost of gas, tires and oil changes. Mr. Barton explained also that sometimes you need to have a four-wheel drive vehicle to have access to the inspection sites. Not all inspection sites are in subdivisions or easily accessible. There was discussion on state bid. Mr. Barton explained that those come out in March. There was further discussion about the prices between the 2011 and 2012 trucks and the trade in amounts and the benefit of getting the 2012 over the 2011.

Councilman Carmestro inquired about Highway Department truck and if it was delivered yet. Mr. Speer reported that the truck was delivered and they are installing the chassis this week. There has not been a bill yet because it is a state bid and they only issue one bill after all work is completed.

LIAISON REPORTS

**Councilman Smith reported that he is waiting for the final engineer inspection for the town septic system which needs to be addressed in the near future. Mr. Barton has not heard anything from Larsen Engineers on this but will follow up with them tomorrow. Replacement chairs for the VFW are more money on state bid. Councilman Carmestro recommended holding off on purchasing until after the first of the year. Councilman Carmestro also inquired whether or not the Parks Department has collected the three bids for cleaning and also the

plumbing and electrical hourly service rates. Councilman Smith stated he would check with the Department about those bids.

**Councilman Carmestro had no report.

**Councilman Comardo reported that the Recreation Commission has not met since the last meeting but is scheduled to meet tomorrow night. Planning Board has also not met since the last meeting and will meet next Monday. Jim Zollweg is gathering information and ideas to use GIS to the town's advantage.

**Councilman Roose reported the Spencerport Fire District will be voting for a Fire Commissioner in December and the Zoning Board will be meeting this Thursday. The Monroe County Sheriff's Department ended up doing the funeral for Mr. Lemcke instead of the Special Police.

WARRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 211-2011 Motion by Councilman Carmestro and seconded by Councilman Comardo, to approve payment of the warrant as submitted below.

FUND TOTALS			
AOO	General Fund	\$	78,757.42
BOO	Part Town	\$	3,610.02
DAO	Highway, Townwide	\$	15,624.03
DBO	Highway, Part Town	\$	6,257.15
HDO	Town Bridges	\$	140,388.10
SDO	Townwide Drainage	\$	7,124.42
TAO	Trust & Agency	\$	3,104.78
GRAND TOTAL:			\$ 254,865.92

Motion carried: Aye 4 Nay 0 Abstain Councilman Smith

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 212-2011 Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Comardo, to enter into Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation and a real estate matter.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

The Board entered into executive session at 8:22 p.m. after a short break so that people could leave.

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 213-2011 Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Comardo, to close the Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. and return to regular session.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

There being no further business brought before the Town Board, Councilman Carmestro made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Councilman Comardo and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Webster
Parma Deputy Town Clerk

IN MEMORY OF FRANK LUCISANO
FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF PARMA