

**VILLAGE OF PERRY  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

A Special Board Meeting of the Village of Perry was held at the Village Hall, 46 North Main Street, Perry, New York at 7:00 pm on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022.

PRESENT:	Rick Hauser	Mayor
	Dariel Draper	Trustee
	Arlene Lapiana	Trustee
	Ernie Lawrence	Trustee
ALSO PRESENT:	Samantha Pierce	Administrator
	Christina Slusser	Village Clerk
ABSENT:	Jacque Billings	Trustee

Mayor Hauser called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led in the pledge to the flag.

**PRESENTATIONS & BOARD ACTIONS**

The purpose of this special meeting is to look at the updated budget and identify items to take out of ARPA, remove from the budget, or items to remain part of the conversation.

**CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS TO REMOVE**

Crossing signs for Main Street at Olin Ave. were considered and Geneseo was used as an example. Compared to Geneseo, there are more walkers in Perry. Studies show that a lot more accidents these days are caused by distracted driving. Because of safety concerns, this type of sign may be more useful in another area of the village where kids generally do not walk alone.

A resiliency study is being done now which could be used as a plug in for Comp Plan updates rather than an additional set of meetings.

A new dump truck will be removed but DPW can look for something more affordable like a used model. USDA funds could also be explored along with the development of a replacement plan. Paving of \$63,000 can be removed.

The second round of ARPA funding will come in the summer. The Village is talking with the County on Friday about Lake Street and other potential uses for ARPA – large projects will come up in the future.

Seasonal banners as part of community beautification could be cut back. If \$1,500 were budgeted, art could be done for spring banners and fall banners could be a project for next year. With the removal of these items, the draft is still overbudget.

## **CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

The Police Chief is requesting an upgrade to a car computer. It was determined that the computer is not part of upfits so it would be able to be moved from an old car to a new car. A car computer lasts about 5 years.

The second floor assembly room, once the ceiling and lighting is repaired and updated, could be used for meetings.

A large part of the discussion circled around the addition of a full-time officer position. Costs would be between \$12,000 and \$28,000 if the officer would need health insurance. It would be a commitment going forward and is concerning to Mayor Hauser. For budget purposes, you would have to assume it would be \$28,000 even though the current officer might not need the insurance. Other costs associated with this need to be considered as well, such as paid time off and payment for a part-time officer to cover during periods of time off.

Mayor Hauser stated that he understands what the position would do for morale against the possibility of losing a part-time officer, but this becomes a huge commitment with raises, retirement, etc. It was questioned if there is a way to offset this with other budget items. Staff could look at the hours of double coverage and understand the scheduling issues looking to find a comfortable middle ground. Hours for double coverage would need to be negotiated because it is stated in the union contract. Additional things discussed were the level of enforcement, safety aspect, and the level of service provided by the department. Ticket revenue is not considered in the budget, as the board is revenue neutral in its thinking. The board agreed that it would be possible to create the position as long as its sustainable.

When looking at budget figures, the police budget has increased 35% over the last 4 years without the addition of a new full-time position. If money could be saved on the number of vehicles on the force, there may be room for the addition of this new position. If a full-time officer is the priority for the department, expenses will need to be reduced in another area of the police budget. The amount needed to reduce the budget to get it within the necessary range could be solved with adjustments to the police budget. The Police Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday where possibilities will be discussed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hauser at 8:22 pm which was seconded by Trustee Draper and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christina Slusser, Village Clerk