

Village of Lewiston to pay less for mold remediation; slates public hearing on water rate increase

The Village of Lewiston's final bill for mold remediation services has lessened following the results of an air quality study and further assessment of works rendered.

Initially, the total cost was pegged at \$200,000. On Monday, trustees voted to use the general fund balance "for the purposes of paying 716 Clean Up and Restoration for the balance of their contract in the sum of \$100,000." The village had a previous bill of \$20,000, making the total remediation cost \$120,000.

716 Clean Up & Restoration used what project manager

Shane Hill described as "a plant-based antimicrobial, and then we also have a commercial, hospital-grade disinfectant that we use, MediClean and ShockWave" to clean the Red Brick Municipal Building following the discovery of mold in mid-September. Hill said the remediation process including fogging, eight HEPA-700 machines, dehumidifiers, HEPA scrubbers, particle vacuuming and a negative air machine.

A resolution to pay this bill read, in part, "the Village of Lewiston, New York was confronted with an emergency situation involving the discovery of

mold at potentially dangerous levels requiring the immediate and continuous evacuation of all persons present in the building at 145 North Fourth Street. ... The Village of Lewiston, New York called for an emergency public meeting on Friday, September 23, 2022 at 6:00pm for the purposes of awarding an emergency contract to 716 Clean Up and Restoration to remediate the mold situation and to pay out of cycle, a down payment to such company for the aforesaid remediation, and such Motions were approved; and WHEREAS, the aforesaid building has been

deemed safe for re-occupancy; and WHEREAS, the current fiscal budget for the Village of Lewiston, New York does not contain funds budgeted for and/or appropriated for such contract given the emergency nature of the situation."

No residents spoke at an Oct. 17 public hearing regarding this matter.

Water Bill Rate Expected to Increase

The Village Board has scheduled a public hearing for 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, to discuss a proposed 8-cent water rate increase - from \$3.95 to \$4.03

per 100 cubic feet of water consumed - effective Jan. 1, 2023. This rate would amend Village Local Law Section 20-194.

This proposed increase is said to be the result of a rate increase from the Niagara County Water District.

That entity recently informed the Village of Lewiston that the rate to be charged is going from \$0.90 per 1,000 gallons to \$1 per 1,000 gallons. This will result in an increase of 8 cents per 100 cubic feet of usage.

Town of Niagara sets budget for next fiscal year

BY TIMOTHY CHIPP

Town of Niagara board members approved 2023 operating budgets last Wednesday, establishing spending and revenue projections for the next year.

The town also adopted a pair of tax rates to help satisfy paying for those spending plans.

In total, the town adopted a roughly \$10.3 million collection of six different budgets Wednesday, the costliest of which is a \$4.4 million general fund. The operating budget for the town in general was increased by about \$46,600 from the current year's spending plan.

This plan is not supported by a property tax, which allowed the town to keep both its homestead and non-homestead rates below the New York state property tax cap this year.

Beyond the town's general fund, other spending plans include the sewer (\$2.3 million, increasing \$82,600), highway (\$1.6 million, increasing \$73,500), water (\$1.1 million, increasing \$56,500), fire (\$678,000, increasing \$28,000) and lighting (\$125,000, an increase of \$25,000) funds.

Tax rates, both for residential and non-residential property,

will be increased next year to help pay for the rising expenses outside of the general fund, which itself is not funded by any taxpayer dollars.

Homestead (residential) tax bills will increase by \$46 per \$100,000 valuation, while the non-homestead tax rate will jump \$38 for every \$100,000 valuation.

Supervisor Lee Wallace praised the town's department heads after the plans and tax rates were adopted, saying negotiations between his office and the various leaders were easy, and everyone was reasonable in their demands and expectations.

He also said the town's budget expectations featured the first time in several years borrowing wasn't required to support the general fund.

As for those department heads, one in particular was happy with the budgeting process. Town Highway Superintendent Robert Herman said he understands what it's like to be in the Town Board's position during negotiations, and simply aimed to be fair.

"We have to work together to make it all work," Herman said after the budgets were approved. "You try to win the priorities ...

but you understand there are challenges."

Herman said his budget is used primarily for various efforts throughout the year, from road maintenance and repair in the warmer months, to plowing and clearing when the snow falls. Leaf pickup was added in recent years, an effort that's ongoing now, but also comes with a cost.

Niagara officials will next meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, at Niagara Town Hall, 7105 Lockport Road.



ON TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The following Niagara Wheatfield High School students signed their college commitment letter on Wednesday, signifying they will play sports at the collegiate level:


- ✓ Gwennyth Jarosz - Cleveland State University, soccer
- ✓ Sarah Carlson - Michigan State University, rowing
- ✓ Jake Smith - Eastern Florida State College, baseball

- ✓ Tyler Schwartzkopf - Mercyhurst University, baseball
- ✓ Evan Belter - Lake Erie College, lacrosse
- ✓ Cheyenne Gilinger - Daemen University, lacrosse

- ✓ Tristan Davis - Brockport, lacrosse
(Submitted photo)

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Presented by
**Dr. Glenda R.
Rose
Chiropractor**



**Don't let back pain
keep you down**

When a patient goes to a chiropractor for treatment of back pain, the goal is to get them moving without pain as soon as possible. On occasion, I have done house calls when the pain and muscle spasms are so bad that the patient cannot get off the floor or out of bed. Gentle adjustments of the spine and techniques to balance and strengthen the muscles get the patient to the point where they are able come to the office for care.

When you have back pain, you should be active to the extent that your discomfort will allow. This improves disc and cartilage nutrition by promoting the fluid flow into the discs and keeps the discs in the spongy state needed to act as shock absorbers between the bones of the spine. Physical activity also promotes bone and muscle strength.

Pain is the body's warning system that something is wrong. Painkillers simply mask the pain. Applying cold for short periods of time to reduce swelling of the soft tissues is recommended over heat, as heat promotes swelling.

Some back pain is referred pain from internal organs that are under stress. We utilize Nutrition Response TestingSM, a system of analysis, which helps discover if this is a possible cause of chronic back pain, then a Designed Clinical Nutrition program can be tailor-made to support healing.

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at 435 Ridge St., Lewiston. Get your
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