

Trustees look to renegotiate contract

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executive session, closed to the community.

New Docking System Proposal

In the fall of 2020, Kinney was awarded an Empire State Development matching grant of up to \$44,056 as part of the Lake Ontario Business Resiliency Program. He proposed using the funds to install a docking system that would better serve his patrons while also creating a “contiguousness” with the northside public pier. Pilings were recently installed into the south riverbed.

Architect David Giusiana, also an HPC board member, presented trustees and audience members with a dock system rendering. He said, “What you’re seeing – the big, backwards ‘F’ shape – is the current Whirlpool Jet docks,” which Kinney uses now, but has offered to the village for transient docking. “And then the newly built seawall” in between the existing gangway and the Neptune Ski Club slips. “What’s proposed are three floating docks that would be, essentially, 10 (feet) by 40 (feet). The jet boats would actually dock parallel to those.”

He said, “The docks would freely float up and down, based on water levels.”

Kinney said his docking system improvements would make the most of an area that’s rarely used, due to the distance between boats and the top of the seawall.

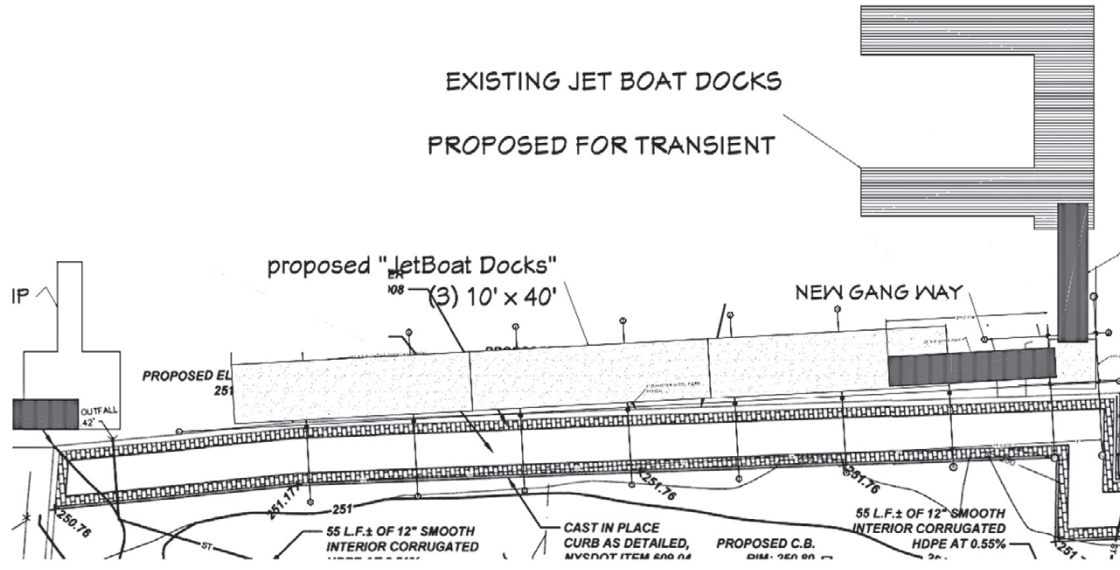
“I have the wherewithal to upgrade docks that are going to look and function better than what I have presently; and it’s going to match what’s down there in the waterfront,” he said.

Kinney noted, “There’s 120 feet of docking that would be taken by our new docks, and there would be over 200 liner feet of docking that is gained by utilizing the docks that would stay for transients and in a far, far easier way to dock.”

Welch said, “This was our plan, to put more dock on that side, but we ran out of money from the grants.”

Following the 2017 and 2019 floods, the village received \$1.2 million from the Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative Commission for a \$2 million-plus waterfront restoration that saw floating docks installed to better withstand changing water levels.

Engineer Mike Marino said,



An artist’s rendering of Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours’ proposed new docking system. (Image by Giusiana Architects // courtesy of the Village of Lewiston)

“When we did the restoration, there was only so much money. There wasn’t the transient fingers down on that end. We were actually above and beyond the money from what we (projected), but we figured in the future we could potentially extend floating docks along that bulkhead.

“The river (level) came way down from where it was, so, certainly, parking for transient boats now is a challenge.”

“It’s not accessible,” Welch said.

Thinking of the Future, Reassessing WJBT Contract

Trustee Coppins asked, “What happens if, down the road, we want to put the docks in like we have?”

“Can we get that back?” she asked.

Welch said, “Even if we were to submit to the state, it would take, probably, two years, at least, before we would be able to do anything down there.”

Coppins said, “Down the road, there’ll be a different mayor, different board – they may decide they want it back.”

Per the contract, WJBT is due to pay the municipality a base rent of \$15,000, plus 1.5% of gross sales, for a maximum rent of \$45,000 in 2023. Kinney said that would bring the total paid to date to \$488,000.

Resident and former Deputy Mayor Claudia Marasco said that’s a drop in the bucket for a company that can make almost \$3,000 on a single whitewater rapids trip.

The WJBT contract runs to 2042.

Following the meeting, Conde said, “There’s a configuration problem, there’s a dollar problem. The village will not be getting its fair share if it’s reconfigured. There’s nothing we can do about the old contract. It’s sitting there and we have to live with it. But if it’s altered, it should be changed.”

Gibson said, “I think the contract (length) is too long. I don’t think future boards should be corralled (to) a contract for 30 to 40 years. ... That could be, potentially, four different boards.”

Deputy Mayor Vic Eydt said, “You could keep it the same, but splice it up every five years.”

He asked, “If we do take those (transient) docks, who’s going to put them in and out? What kind of shape (are they in)? We have no specifics, as far as any drawings, or anything like that. What’s the potential here?”

Coppins said, “There are some things missing on that lease that I think we need to have. Default notice, late fees when he pays us late; renegotiate the amount of money he’s going to pay us – because he is taking more area. I don’t think that’s unfair.”

Welch said, “He has been a very good tenant, and he has done well to the village. We’ve collected revenue over the years that’s helped the village. He has invested a lot in that property. As you can see, he redid that whole Griffon (restaurant) building (where WJBT has its Lewiston headquarters). He runs a good operation. He employs a lot of people. He pays the taxes. I think he’s an asset to the village.

“I hope we can sit down and

renegotiate, and everybody walk away happy.

“The state owns that property. ... We lease from the state. They give us a permit to use that property. That’s all I can say.

“Hopefully, we can come to terms, and everybody will be pleased with it.”

Kinney Response

On Tuesday, Kinney said, “We’re very comfortable with where we’re at in this. We think that what we’re proposing is an enhancement to the waterfront, and it benefits the visitor to the Lewiston waterfront, the boater that visits the Lewiston waterfront. We’ll continue discussions.”

With regard to renegotiations, Kinney said, “I am going to have my attorneys organize the format of the meeting, whether that is in executive session or a public meeting. I will leave that between my attorney and the village attorney.”

In Other News

•No comments were received during a public hearing to adopt Local Law No. 16-2023 – to amend Section 2-69 (1) to read, “The position of deputy clerk in the vil-

lage is hereby created, and the term of office of the deputy clerk shall be four years.”

Trustees unanimously approved the new term for Deputy Clerk Donna Vazquez.

The Village Board also approved these motions:

√ A request from the Niagara Falls Country Club and Skylighters of WNY to use Richard F. Soluri Park on the Lewiston Plateau for a fireworks display this Saturday, Aug. 26.

√ The Lewiston Kiwanis Club’s request to hold the 2023 Peach Festival parade from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9. The 2024 parade was OK’d, too.

The board also granted the Kiwanians a facilities use request to use Academy Park from Aug. 31 through Sept. 14, 2024, to host what would be the 66th annual Peach Festival (Sept. 5-8).

√ The Lewiston Artisan Farmers Market request to use Academy Park from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturdays, June 1 to Oct. 12, 2024. The request includes the use of four no parking signs to be utilized from 7-9 a.m. during the market season, as well as a petition to have a porta potty placed in the park, behind the bandshell, for the duration of the market dates.

√ A request from Niagara River Greenway to host a bike ride event set for noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, beginning at Academy Park, continuing toward Joseph Davis Park, and ending at the Red Brick Municipal Building.

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Chiropractor



Growing Pains

Many parents experience the heartbreak of having a child cry at bedtime with what seems to be indescribable pains in their legs. Growing pains are defined as pains in the limbs and joints of children often attributed to rapid growth. It is a mistake, however to attribute any pain to growing. *Growth is a natural process in the body that increases size with the gradual addition or infusion of materials.*

The majority of children complaining of growing pains are in their very active formative years, between six and fifteen years old. **The sudden jars, the bumps of play often produce stress on the spine causing misalignment.** These misalignments called subluxations, affect the way certain nerves control the function of a child’s legs, knees, feet, etc., resulting in pain and lack of coordination. Even internal organs can be affected, creating difficulties ranging from abdominal cramps to diarrhea and/or constipation or bedwetting.

The pelvic bones can also move out of proper alignment resulting in improper function and imbalance which change the way a child walks, etc. This can put considerable strain on some of the muscles and ligaments of a child’s legs so they become slightly inflamed and produce discomfort. **Chiropractors are specifically trained to find and correct these imbalances.**

Nutritionally, a key contributor to health problems in children is sugar. **Sugar can upset the body’s mineral balance, interferes with the absorption of calcium and magnesium and decreases growth hormone. The truth is it does not have to be “painful to grow”.**

Rose Chiropractic, P.C. is located at 435 Ridge St., Lewiston. Call (716)754-9039.

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