

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, November 17, 2003, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Larry Fresinski; Trustees Lynn Leopold, Janet Beebe and Frank Moore; David Dubow, Village Attorney; Ned Hickey, Planning Board Chairman; Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

Deputy Mayor Fresinski called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M. He opened the public comment period. Jennie Daley, a reporter from the Ithaca Journal, introduced herself. Jodi will add her to the email list for receiving the agenda.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

Trustee Beebe moved to close the public comment period. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye	Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee
Janet Beebe-Aye	Trustee Frank Moore- Aye	

The next item on the agenda was the Engineer's report. Dave Putnam indicated that he had nothing new to report and would be willing to answer questions that any Board member might have. He also indicated that he was present to listen to Sharon Anderson's presentation on stormwater issues. Larry asked Dave why the pavement on Sheraton Drive in front of the bus shelter was rippled. Dave knew nothing about it and indicated that he will go look at it. There was some question as to whether this area was or was not resurfaced this past season. It was acknowledged that under any circumstances, corrective measures could not be done until next year due to the weather.

Sharon Anderson introduced herself as part of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network Program that is providing training and information to municipal officials as it relates to water quality. She explained that LEAPE (Locally Led Education & Action for Protecting the Environment) is software designed for local governments interested in protecting water resources in their communities. LEAPE offers basic education about the pollution of surface and groundwater, the relationship of water resources protection to traditional local government responsibilities, actions local government can take to protect and improve water quality, and technical and financial resources. Sharon offered to hold a 3-4 hour training session for municipal officials and residents who we think might be interested in LEAPE. There is no charge for the training and at the end they leave us with a copy of the software and a topographic map. The Board was interested in having the training and Ned Hickey, the Planning Board Chairperson, agreed to be the coordinator between the Village and the LEAPE Team. Sharon indicated that the training can handle up to 20 people. LEAPE will bring in laptop computers and Ned will provide them with a case study to use as an example. The software is not available on Macintosh. It was generally agreed that the training would be set up for sometime in January after the holidays.

In conjunction with certain matters presently pending before the Planning Board, Ned asked Sharon who would be responsible for spraying for mosquitoes in stormwater retention areas that are required as part of subdivision and similar projects reviewed and approved at the local level. Sharon stated that there are new designs for retention areas that hold water for a short time, 1-2 days. Ned feels that with the Village taking over these retention areas and the threat of West Nile Disease, this issue may need to be addressed and something may need to be done.

Next on the agenda was the proposed Settlement and Release Agreement from Computel Consultants. David Dubow gave some history on the original arrangement pursuant to which the Village engaged the services of Computel in 1996 to seek possible refunds from NYSEG, the compensation to be payable on a success basis with 50% of the recovered refunds going to Computel. Dennis Reinhart, the Village Superintendent of Public Works, has been dealing with Dave Rose of Computel Consultants. Dennis has gotten some clarification from Computel and has given the Board the following report:

Date: November 17, 2003

Re: Street Light Settlement from NYSEG

I recently received a call from Dave Rose from Computel and was informed that NYSEG had reached a settlement on part of the Village's complaint before the Public Service Commission. NYSEG agreed to pay the Village and the 64 other participating municipalities a certain amount based on the size of each municipalities lighting system. For us that amount is \$3,000, \$1500 of which is Computel's fee. This blanket payment to all participants is to cover past billing inaccuracies and just plain poor bookkeeping. The Village of Lansing, apart from the other participants, has a separate complaint (#907303) before the PSC involving depreciation schedules and pole heights. Mr. Rose sent the documents to us; David Dubow reviewed them and called me with concerns about the wording.

I called Mike Caton of Computel to make sure. He said that articles 1-5 do indicate a signing away of the rights to further claims before July 31, 2003, and indeed for the other 64 municipalities it's true. The document we received is different from the others in it's reference in the 6th "Whereas" and in article 6 to complaint #907303. (Incidentally the number in article 6 is wrong and needs to be changed and initialized) Computel had its own lawyers review the agreement to assure that the complaint can still be pursued. After all, they do have a 50% vested interest in a successful conclusion.

The Board, after making inquiry concerning the nature of the claims against NYSEG and the amounts that may be owing, was uncomfortable with releasing their rights to claim prior to July 31, 2000 as provided for in the proposed Agreement. After some discussion, the Board decided to wait until the Mayor had returned since it is a financial issue. David Dubow also recommended that the Board wait to act on this until talking further with Dennis to ease some of their concerns. It was suggested that we ask Computel for a spreadsheet as to how they came up with the proposed settlement dollar amount of \$3,000. If the Board decides to accept this proposed Settlement & Release agreement, David indicated that he had prepared a few minor changes and revisions to the recommended resolution submitted by Computel and to the proposed Agreement. It was agreed that this matter will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

Motion-Approval of Minutes for November 3, 2003

Trustee Moore moved that the draft meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Clerk/Treasurer and the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee Janet Beebe-Aye	Trustee Frank
Moore- Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye	

Next on the agenda was Ned Hickey speaking on certain parking related issues in the Village. He explained that during the discussion of the Cardamone/Hamlet/ Shannon Park subdivision at the last Planning Board meeting, there were many comments on the parking issues at the end of Wedgewood Drive. Apparently, according to the nearby residents, cars are parking there and the occupants of the cars are then walking up the path to Pyramid Mall. It was reported that the residents in this area have called the Sheriff's Department, but have been advised that nothing can be done because there are no "No Parking" signs there. In response to a request regarding signs, Dennis Reinhart, the Village Superintendent of Public Works, told Ned that the creation of a new "No Parking" area would need to be done as an amendment to the Village's Traffic Rules & Regulations. David Dubow also outlined what procedures would need to be followed in order to amend the Traffic Rules & Regulations and what existing rights the Village has as to parking restrictions and removal of offending vehicles. The Board indicated that it is willing to work with the residents and consider amending the Traffic Rules & Regulations and putting up signs. Ned will inform the residents of this and ask them how they would like the Board to proceed.

Larry reported that Fisher Associates is holding a 2nd public information meeting at the Village Office on Thursday, November 20 at 2pm on the N. Triphammer Road Project. The hope is that this meeting will provide feedback from the public as to the updated project and certain of the "amenities" proposed.

Frank advised the Board that he has walked the new Janivar/Wakefield Trails. He feels the work recently done is clearly an improvement and the surface is fine. He commented on the variable widths of the trail. He indicated that it appears that Kirksway, the contractor engaged by the Village, cleared a lot of the weeds by the pond but there still needs to be some work done there. Ned added that there are some trees down in that area that should be removed. There is a brush dam just above the new bridge, which should also be cleaned out. Frank predicts that we will have continuing maintenance issues.

Larry asked if we should deal with the Tompkins County Municipal Equipment and Shared Services Agreement tonight. Jodi informed the Board that the Mayor requested we wait until the next meeting so that he may have a chance to talk with other public officials and see how they feel about the Agreement.

Motion-To Adjourn

Trustee Leopold moved adjournment. Trustee Beebe seconded the motion.

Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee Janet Beebe-Aye	Trustee
Frank Moore- Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye	

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Jodi Dake

Clerk/treasurer