

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, February 2, 2009, in the Village Office.

Present: Deputy Mayor Larry Fresinski; Trustees Lynn Leopold, Julie Baker and John O'Neill; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Ned Hickey, Planning Board Chairman.

Deputy Mayor Fresinski called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M. and opened the public comment period. There were no comments.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Larry Fresinski-Aye

Trustee Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

The first item on the agenda was to consider Proposed Local Law B regarding the Village of Lansing Vehicles and Traffic Regulations. David Dubow explained that Proposed Local Law B (2009) provides for the amendment of Section 135-22 of the Village Code to include additional Village streets and portions thereof within the Village of Lansing where parking is prohibited at all times. This matter was preliminarily discussed by the Planning Board several months ago, further reviewed at the joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and Planning Board on November 3rd of last year. David believes the minutes of that joint meeting reflect a general sense that this is something that should in fact be addressed. The Planning Board reviewed the Village map to come up with a list of 16 Village streets or portions which they feel should be subject to "no parking" restrictions. The Planning Board reviewed this proposed local law at its meeting last week and a resolution of recommendation to the Board of Trustees was adopted.

Dubow stated that a determination will need to be made as to whether the Board wishes to proceed with a public hearing. Since the adoption of the additional "no parking" restrictions will involve an expenditure of funds for the required signage, this may also need to be considered in the context of the upcoming budget preparation.

As part of its consideration of this matter, the Planning Board requested that John Courtney provide an estimate of the cost of signage that would be required to implement the additional "no parking" provisions. The Board received a copy of the email that John sent to Ben stating that the total cost of materials for signage would be around \$2,300. This cost would include a minimum of 2 signs for each no parking section plus multiple signs for the areas of Sheraton, Cinema and Uptown Roads.

David explained that currently there are only two areas in the Village that have no parking areas. The first is a portion of Bush Lane from its intersection with Brook Way

south 450 feet, and the other is Wedgewood Drive south of Beckett Way. The only other no parking restriction in the Village is the parking prohibition on all Village streets between 2am and 6am.

Julie feels that “No Parking” signs in a residential area are very unfriendly. She personally would not want “No Parking” signs in her neighborhood. She asked what problem we were trying to solve. Ned stated that it is more in anticipation of problems. He stated that the Planning Board looked at the size of the roads, narrowness, curves and the potential dangers in the areas of intersections. Most of the sections are in Low Traffic Commercial areas and intersection areas off of N. Triphammer Road and Warren Road. Julie questioned why signs were needed on Wedgewood. It was explained that previously Wedgewood Drive was a dead end street and a lot of unauthorized activity was taking place there. Also people were parking there to go up to the back entrance of the mall. Lynn also recalls issues with keeping the area open for snow removal before the Hamlet townhouses were built. Wedgewood is now more of a through road with the additional townhouses that have been built and it may not be necessary to have no parking restrictions and signage there. Dubow suggested that it might be helpful for the Board in considering this proposed local law to visit the areas of the Village involved and to speak with Village residents in those areas, after which this matter can be further discussed at the scheduled joint Planning Board/Board of Trustees meeting next week. Lynn agrees with having the signs in the commercial areas but doesn’t like the idea of having them in the residential areas.

Dan Veanor questioned how this would be enforced. Larry stated that it is done by the Sheriff. Any fine collected would go to the Town of Lansing since we do not have a Village court. We are not doing this as a revenue source but as a safety provision.

The next item on the agenda was to approve minutes from the January 5th & 15th meetings.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes from January 5th & 15th, 2009

Trustee Baker 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 Julie Baker-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye

John O’Neill stated that he attended the last Town of Lansing Board Meeting. John distributed an article from the Lansing Star explaining a proposed a law that would shorten the Town Planning Board members’ terms from seven to three years. He also handed out a sheet summarizing the meeting that he and Julie had with the Village staff regarding the upcoming fiscal year and budget considerations. Larry stated that this year Cornell has announced a no salary increase for its employees, only bargaining units. The Town of Lansing had a 2.5% increase.

Ned stated that at the joint Planning Board/Board of Trustees meeting next week we will discuss the proposed Stewardship Program. The Planning Board is concerned with the lack of supervision over Village land that has been designated as park land, open space or similarly protected property. They have proposed a Stewardship Program run by volunteers in each neighborhood to identify the properties in question, mark them accordingly, and maintain them as necessary. It was acknowledged that there will be initial start up costs to survey and locate boundaries and for signage, and then subsequent annual costs to maintain and/or replace the signage. The plan is in draft form and Ned hopes to get Board of Trustee endorsement and funding in the upcoming budget year and years thereafter.

Jodi asked the Board to consider removing Rose Markov's penalties to her water/sewer bill due to a bank error. She usually pays her bills on time but in this one situation the bank made an error and did not pay the bill at the specified time. She no longer banks with HSBC due to this problem. Since it was the bank's error and she has a history of timely payments the Board agreed to waive the penalty.

Resolution #5505 - To Authorize the Removal of Penalties Totaling \$5.58
From Rose Markov's Water/Sewer Account #N1963
Due to a Bank Error

Trustee Baker moved this resolution and Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Trustee Julie Baker -Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski-Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Larry stated that he attended the meeting of TCCOG where Congressman Hinchey spoke on the proposed Federal Stimulus Package. Larry gave the following link so that the Board could see some details of the meeting with Representative Hinchey on the County web page: <http://www.tompkins-co.org/detail.aspx?ContentID=1106>

Larry stated that there was a lot of confusion at the meeting. There is no specific plan as to how the moneys will be distributed. The County has calculated that they expect to have \$26M dollars available between Representatives Hinchey's and Arcuri's areas. The process for obtaining the funds was not been determined, but it appears that the funds will "use it or lose it". It was agreed that the key is to keep Representative Arcuri informed of our needs so that any appropriate Village projects can be submitted for consideration.

It was explained that as noted in the link above, projects ready to go are high priorities if they meet the criteria. The idea is to get the funds working to generate jobs ASAP with money being distributed in the upcoming months with an expectation of it being put to use this summer. There are 180 day and 2 year projects accepted too. Each municipality will break down their projects by these 3 timelines.

Larry went on to explain that most of the rest of the meeting focused on determining how towns and villages which don't have channels to receive federal funding were going to

obtain their fair share. Hinchey had no answers for the process, but he and Arcuri need to be kept informed of local needs.

The group agreed to send Paula Younger, Deputy County Administrator, our projects this week. Jodi stated that she has been doing some research on this Stimulus Package and had suggested to Mayor Hartill that our water tower initiative might be better to submit than the water line on Burdick Hill road as that's too specific. She also indicated that she understood that the Mayor was intending to discuss this with the SCLIWC at their upcoming meeting on February 5.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Baker moved for adjournment. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Trustee Julie Baker -Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski-Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer