

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, July 6, 2009, in the Village Office.

Present: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Larry Fresinski, Lynn Leopold, John O'Neill and. Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; Planning Board Member, Phil Dankert

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M. and opened the public comment period. Roy Hogden of 35 Janivar Drive voiced his concern over surface water on his property. He believes the problem is due to a failing drainage system. The neighbor's culvert is backed up. Roy's neighbor is an absentee landlord and he has tried to reach him unsuccessfully. Roy reported that the Village ditch also has standing water in it. He feels that the Votapka Road ditch needs to be drenched and the culverts need to be cleared. Roy stated that John Courtney has been quick to help in the past but can't go on private property. John Courtney stated that he thinks the sod has increased in thickness and therefore is not allowing the water to percolate down. John can try ditching but he doesn't know if the sod will dry out. John added that the slope in that area also determines how much ditching can be done. John O'Neill stated that the ponds in Lansing Trails are also silting up. Don told Roy that the Village would do what ever they could to help alleviate the problem. Lynn asked if there was any recourse with the other property owner. Don stated that we would need to look at the wording on the subdivision. John Courtney believes that this area is not dedicated to the Village; we only have a maintenance easement. Roy will get Don the neighbors email address so that Don can get in contact with him on this issue.

Dan Veanor reported that Ed LaVigne has raised \$10-11,000 for the log cabin project undertaken by the Town. They may use labor to cover shortfalls. Don recommended contacting the Steam Festival in Canandaigua, indicating that in August they make shingles as part of the festival and may be willing to make a contribution of roofing materials.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

Trustee Fresinski moved to close the public comment period. Trustee O'Neill seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

John Bailey was present to give the Board his annual insurance review. He reported that the overall insurance costs for this year have increased about \$800. Don was surprised that the amount was so low given the stock market. John informed the Board that they did have the option to opt out of the terrorism coverage which would save them \$450. David Dubow suggested that that John Bailey and the Board discuss whether the \$3 million

umbrella coverage is still sufficient for the Village. John Bailey feels it is reasonable and prudent. John Bailey stated that next year he feels the Village should look at New York State Reciprocal Insurance which is the main competitor of Selective. It has become less risky because a much larger insured pool of municipalities is now involved.

Ben Curtis, Code & Zoning Officer, had prepared packets of information and pictures for each board member on a proposed amendment to the Triphammer Mall Planned Sign Area. The memo explained that the Planning Board at its regular meeting on June 30, 2009 considered the proposed amendment to the Triphammer Mall Planned Sign Area described in the attached letter from Triphammer Development Company and determined that it is a minor amendment per Article VI, Section 6 of the Sign Law. Further, the Planning Board recommends that the Board of Trustees approve this proposed amendment. The proposed amendments are included as part of the proposed reconfiguration of the Mall entrance to accommodate the location of Kinney Drugs at the south end of the mall. Also included are four curbed islands better defining the ring road between the entrance and the existing time and temperature pylon sign. The proposed additional pylon sign at the mall entrance is consistent with similar signs at Tops Plaza and the Small Mall.

Architect Tom Schickel showed pictures of the proposed signage to the Board. David Dubow explained that the mall owner was asking for an amendment and a new sign by the road. Fisher Associates has recommended a way finding sign that is the same size as those found at Shops at Ithaca Mall. There were two color choices. The first was the same color as the building signs and the other was black on white similar to the signs on Cornell University campus. The Board preferred the black & white design.

Resolution #5551-To Approve Amendments of Three Signs , Size, Design and Location as Part of the Triphammer Mall Planned Sign Area with Black & White Colors.

Trustee Leopold moved this resolution and O'Neill seconded the motion.
A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Next on the agenda was to consider the approval of the minutes for June 11th & 15th, 2009.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes from June 11, 2009.

Trustee Fresinski 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:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Motion - To Approve the Minutes from June 15, 2009.

Trustee Leopold 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 O'Neill seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Abstain
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The next item to consider was the proposed resolution that would authorize the Village to enter into an agreement with the Greater Tompkins County Health Care Consortium for NYS Shared Municipal Services Program. TCOG has not yet provided Don with numbers so Don indicated that he would like to hold off on making a decision until we have this information and he has a chance to talk to David Sanders.

The next item was to consider was the Tompkins County County-wide Evaluation & Planning Study of Water & Sewer. Don feels this is a waste of money but the money is already committed. John O'Neill thinks it would be a shame to spend money on this just because there is a grant. Don stated that this money is just going to a consultant. Larry stated that we should do the right thing and not approve it. Lynn stated that we already know this information. Don stated that the information is already there and the consultant is very likely only going to put it into a fancy report. Lynn asked where the money was from. Don stated that it was the Empire State Division. The County claims that it's a key element to affordable housing, but the Board was uncertain as to whether that is in fact so. Dubow stated that there was a recent article in the Ithaca Journal on this proposed project that also discussed affordable housing. Mayor Hartill stated that it is very clear where there is public water and sewer service. If one is not able to get a sewer connection then the other option is to have a septic system. Don sees no benefit of a study to tell us that. There was no motion to act on this issue.

During Mayor's Comments, Don stated that the Board needs to decide on the snow plowing issue. He explained that John Courtney has done an analysis of what it would cost the Village to do the job. Our salt barn will hold 6-700 tons of salt. It is anticipated that the Village will use around 1,000 tons during a winter season. OGS allows you to place an initial order and then get additional 100 ton deliveries. John indicated that we need to place our order by Wednesday. Currently we have equipment stored in our salt barn. We can put a temporary shelter to house that equipment through the winter. Down the road we will need a bigger truck which will involve a significant expenditure. Lynn thinks we will be better off in the long run doing the snow plowing ourselves. Our estimated cost to perform snow removal is around \$57,000 compared to the \$74,000 that the Town of Lansing would like us to pay. John Courtney has the experience, and our Highway Department is willing to do the plowing.

Don would like to offer the Town the option of plowing North Triphammer Road, at least for an interim period of time. Don is hopeful that they might consider this as a good will opportunity while the Village transitions to taking over the snow plowing operations. It is clear that the Town of Lansing has a budget problem. Don indicated that he will try to meet with Supervisor Scott Pinney tomorrow and discuss the North Triphammer Road plowing option. Don is very disappointed that the negotiations with the Town have not been easy and have not been successful. The Village pays 1/3 of the budgeted amount for Town roads outside of the Village. Don indicated that The Town has the option of taking it out of the other budget but they chose not to.

The estimated cost of the additional equipment that the Village will need -- the new wing for the large truck and a new wing for the smaller truck -- comes to \$18,100 which could be paid for by the savings in the first year of our taking over the snow plowing. In the future we will need to expand the garage. David Dubow suggested that for informational purposes the Village inquire as to the potential insurance increase that may result from the Village assuming the snow plowing duties, and Don asked Jodi to contact Bailey Insurance to find out what the increase might be. Lynn stated that she is not comfortable with the Town "putting us over a barrel".

David Dubow stated that there will be a bond resolution that will be coming to the Trustees for the SCLIWC Bolton Road Project. Don stated that the cost of the overrun for the road is a factor of 2. Don feels that the original estimates were not accurate.

It was stated that Brent Cross, as the engineer for the Village, has reviewed the estimate prepared by the developer's engineer for the work completed to date for the purpose of reducing the Letter of Credit on the Bolton Estate Subdivision project. Brent's report indicates that the estimated quantities of completed work accurately represent the actual work done in the field. The gross amount of work completed is \$455,470. After holding various amounts for contingency, clean-up, and retainage, the net amount is \$313,591. The remaining balance to finish is \$666,409, which is a significant enough amount to safely complete the rest of the work. Therefore, Brent recommends that the Village allow the developer to reduce his current Letter of Credit from \$1,000,000 to \$666,409.

**Resolution #5552 -To Allow the Developer of the Bolton Estate
Subdivision to Reduce His Letter of Credit from \$1,000,000 to \$666,409**

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

It was reported that the Planning Board would like to recognize Bill and Audrey Edelman for their donation of land by designating the land as the "William & Audrey Edelman Nature Area." The Planning Board feels this would reflect the Village's appreciation of this gift as well as preserve the land as a part of the Village's Greenway Plan. David

Dubow inquired as to which parcel they were talking about, since there were two different land gifts given to the Village. He also advised the Board that once an area is designated as park land it is very difficult to alter that designation. To do so involves an alienation process that includes the need for special legislation to be adopted at the State level. Don suggested we just put a sign up recognizing the Edelman's gift. John O'Neill suggested naming an Edelman Trail. The Board will think about what it would like to do to recognize the Edelman's generosity.

John O'Neill presented the Board with a hand out regarding Retiree Health Benefits. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Fresinski moved for adjournment. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion to adjourn. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Larry Fresinski -Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasure