

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, November 12, 2009, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Larry Fresinski, Julie Baker, John O'Neill and Lynn Leopold; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; Laborers, Marty Moseley and Adam LaLonde; Code & Zoning Officer, Benjamin Curtis; Fire Inspector, Mike Arthur.

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 12:22 pm.

Marty stated that he has passed his CDL B test so he can now drive the plow truck.

Ben reported that Kinney Drug is almost complete. Ben asked Lynn and John Courtney, as members of the Lighting Commission, to look at the parking lot lights to see if they were ok. Ben has had many good comments on this project.

Ben stated that Candace Cima would like to dedicate a detention pond on her property to the Village. Lynn stated that she walked to the pond from Leslie Lane and Rosina Dr. and it is completely surrounded by honeysuckle. There is not a large volume of water in this pond. All the water comes from the Town of Lansing. She did not see a pipe. Ben stated that the culvert to the Bush Lane road ditch has been scalloped out. With our new stormwater management practices, the Village now usually requires that title to the property on which the stormwater facilities are located be conveyed to the Village as opposed to the previous policy of getting a maintenance agreement from the owners who retain ownership of the detention ponds. Ben indicated that Candace would like to completely get rid of the pond. John Courtney stated that Candace's retention pond is overgrown and it actually blocks noise from N. Triphammer Rd. He doesn't think we should go in and grub it out because people have become accustomed to the pond in this state. However, if someone new came to the area it could be different. Ben agreed that if it's not broke, don't fix it. Ben's only suggestion was to grout in the culvert. John also stated that he does not want to set precedence in taking over the detention ponds. People may start to ask why they should maintain the ponds when they can turn them over to the Village to do so. Don asked to have this item placed on Monday night's agenda to discuss it further after having some time to consider it.

Ben stated that there is a problem with shopping carts being left by University Heights Apartments. The Planning Board is looking into possible laws to control this. The second house in the Bolton Estate Subdivision is starting.

Lynn stated that there is a problem with the lights from the Maguire dealership shining out onto Route 13 at night. They are in your face and a real issue. Ben will call them to have them focused down.

Mike stated that he attended the Fire Marshals & Inspector Seminar in Montour Falls in October. He received a DVD with information on stand alone fine mist home sprinkler systems that the Marriott Corp. developed. It only takes 2-3 gal of water. The fire departments have organized to get this pushed through for all new one and two family houses. Ben stated that the National Home Builders met and they feel there are some real issues with water pressure. John Courtney stated that this will have an impact on the cost of housing because now they not only will have the additional expense of a sprinkler system, but they will also need a tap and saddle with the system. Don thinks this looks like another unfunded mandate coming through. Ben added that this will also be a strain on water suppliers. This issue deserves more consideration because it could get quite expensive if it requires annual inspections. Lynn asks what about the systems accidentally going off? Adam stated that if you bump a sprinkler head it will go off.

Mike stated that he and Marty went over to inspect CFCU and it worked out well. A different person worked with them.

Jodi stated that during the audit it was found that the Village never transferred \$10,000 to the Water Fund (F9901.9) or Sewer Fund (G9901.9). The accountants state that we have two choices. We can transfer the money now to the General Fund and would have to update the AUD that is filed with the State or we could leave it the way it is. The Board decided to leave it as is.

The Village belongs to the Tompkins County Consortium's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Drug and Alcohol Testing Program. This is testing which is done on all employees with a CDL. The federal testing regulations have changed, and therefore a new Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy is needed. Energetix has updated the policy and the Board needs to approve these changes by having the Mayor sign the Statement of Acceptance. The Board agreed that we should adopt this policy and continue as a member of the Tompkins County Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium through December 31, 2010. Jodi will have John, Marty and Adam sign the Appendix E after they have had a change to review the policy. (A resolution was passed at the next Board meeting.)

Tompkins County Assessment sent the Village a letter informing us that the New York Legislature has increased the maximum income level for eligibility for the "Persons 56 years and older" and the "Persons with disabilities and limited income". In the past the Village has usually followed whatever the Town of Lansing did. Jodi has spoken with the clerk at the Town of Lansing and she stated that the Town was not going to increase their current level. Jodi will find out what the net effect will be on the Village with any changes and report to the Board at Monday's meeting.

Mayor Hartill stated that he attended the Town of Lansing Budget hearing and was the only one who asked questions. Don questioned that in the Town-wide budget there is an item for sewer maintenance in the amount of \$150,000. Their response was that they will be setting up a sewer district and once that is complete the money will go back to the general fund. Don found this interesting because any surplus money goes to pay down

debt so the Village will never see that benefit. Don feels there are many items in the whole Town budget that are questionable.

Don plans to write three letters this weekend, two to the Sheriff's Department regarding the sewer issue and speed enforcement and a third to Mrs. Kim for all her work on the gardens.

John Courtney reported that they are getting ready for winter. He stated that there was an accident on Cayuga Heights Road that took out our mirror at the corner of Twin Glens Road. John will get the police report and submit a claim to the insurance company for the mirror and the damage to the guardrail.

Larry stated that he has been contacted by a company that would like to conduct a franchise fee audit for us. Larry doesn't think they will find anything because we have a straight forward 3% franchise fee with Time Warner Cable. They only get paid if they find something. Larry will email the information to all the Board members so that they can discuss it at Monday night's meeting. Julie asked what a franchise fee was. Larry explained that it authorizes TWC to charge customers and this money goes to the municipality.

Lynn stated that she is working on an IDDE Stormwater Law so that we can get it on the books by the end of the year. She is using the Village of Cayuga Heights Law as a starting point, which is from the State model. She would like it reviewed internally first and then send it to David Dubow.

Julie thanked the Highway Department for the nice roads that she drives on every day. Cayuga Heights Road and Warren Road have both been redone this summer and are very nice to drive on. John stated that they could not take credit for Warren Rd. because it was done by the County.

Adam stated that they are ready for winter and water break season. We've had an unusual number of breaks on Burdick Hill Road. Don added that that is on our list of lines that will be replaced in the near future.

John Courtney informed the Board they have been doing valve repairs. They helped the Bolton Point crew repair the T-main behind the Ramada. A bill for the repairs needed after the accident on Cayuga Heights Rd. has been sent to the Bailey Agency who will in turn submit it to the proper insurance company.

Five patches were done to the sewer line at Chateau Claire. There are many willow trees in the area. There was one root that was about 8" in diameter and 10 feet long. Lynn asked John if The Shops at Ithaca ever fixed their hydrants. John believes so but he also thinks that they have other issues. There is also a Catherwood Road water break that John is currently trying to locate which is under the road. There are some streetlights out on Janivar Drive which can't be fixed until the parts come in.

John is also having a hard time getting the NYSDOT to replace the traffic lights. He has called them several times but they state that green lights are not a high priority. However, they were just here fixing the pedestrian crossing signal so he doesn't understand why they wouldn't have fixed the light at the same time. Don asked if NYSDOT has said anything about when the barrels would be removed from the bridge. John stated that they ordered the wrong diaphragm for the bridge and they are still waiting on a new one to come in. Don spoke with the NYSDOT supervisor and he stated that he would look right into it. John will call the public relations guy.

Lynn asked if the guys could weed whack the weeds by the Pyramid Mall entrance between the sidewalk and the road. She feels we may need to replant grass there in the spring.

Resolution #5576- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 6 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$86,437.44 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 6 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$6,283.99, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 6 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$2,190.36, is hereby approved for payment, and

Trustee Fresinski moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted and Trustee Baker seconded the motion.

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Fresinski moved for adjournment. 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
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:40pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/ Treasurer