

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, in the Village Office.

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

Deputy Mayor Larry Fresinski called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. Ben stated that he had invited Shawn Lindabury as a guest speaker to talk to the Board about Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance (MEGA). MEGA's mission is to achieve the most competitive prices for electricity and natural gas for its members in order to minimize the cost of energy in the near term. MEGA also supports energy cost savings in the long-term through promotion of energy conservation and development of alternative energy resources. Shawn explained that MEGA is nonprofit county-based organization designed to help local governments control their energy costs and meet public bidding requirements. MEGA does not buy or sell electricity or natural gas. It is an aggregator that combines the power load of customers and goes to the open market to seek prices that are lower than individual customers could achieve by purchasing these commodities on their own. There is no charge to do this and Shawn will help the Village fill out the application.

Shawn explained that there is stimulus money available right now for renewable energy. Shawn and Ben had talked about the possibility of installing solar panels on the roof of the office. He explained that this is a way to get off fossil fuel. The deadline for this is February 17th. The Board designated Jodi to work with Shawn to get him all the necessary information that he will need to get a solar proposal completed. Shawn stated that this program meets municipal bidding requirements. Larry asked Shawn how he got involved with this. Shawn graduated from Cornell in May. He had done his internship with Energy Independent in Caroline and it turned into a permanent job.

John Courtney stated that he has ordered our second batch of salt, 245 tons. There has been one verbal complaint on snowplowing by Jeanette Miller. She does not think we do as good of a job as Cayuga Heights does. We have different standards than Cayuga Heights because we believe in protecting the environment with the amount of salt we put down. It has been extremely cold. We haven't had any accidents in the Village due to the snow. Fuel has been our biggest expense with snowplowing. Due to the timing and amount of snow, each of the guys has about 45 hours in overtime in this last pay period. Although, it is not as much as the Village of Cayuga Height which has 65-70 hours.

Christmas tree pick up is complete. This past month there was a water break again in front of 974 Cayuga Heights Rd. We had issues with this resident in the past but the Mayor contacted her directly and everything went smoothly.

Mayor Hartill and David Dubow are still working with the Town of Ithaca, as agent for the SCLIWC, to try to get a snowplowing agreement in place so that we can plow Blackchin Blvd in the Seasons on Cayuga Subdivision. What was originally contemplated as a very simple intermunicipal agreement has escalated into much more as a result of the number of individuals involved and the legal issues that have been raised to which David was compelled to address. It's unfortunate that the Village's original willingness to respond favorably to the Commission's request for snowplowing ended up becoming so complicated and difficult, thereby resulting in time, effort and legal expenses in excess of what was originally anticipated.

John O'Neill stated that there has been a lot of theft up in his neighborhood. He wondered if security cameras could be installed on a light pole coming into the development. John Courtney wondered if they could be live so that he could go to the computer and check the roads with a camera. John stated that there is a weather bug camera in Marathon. John Courtney asked the Trustees to call him any time they thought the roads needed to be plowed.

Larry stated that he attended the Kinney Drugs grand opening. The company seems to be very team oriented. They spoke highly of Larry Rowley, D Squared Construction and the Village of Lansing.

Ben stated that the Planning Board has been working on green and sustainability goals. The Planned Development Area Law should be coming to the Trustees soon. Jodi added that Dubow had prepared a local law and that she has already forwarded it to each of the trustees so that they can review it before their February 1st meeting.

Ben stated that there is not a lot going on in the Village. He was approached by NRP out of Cleveland which is partnering with Tompkins County Better Housing. Originally they wanted to put 80 units on a 10 acre parcel on Graham/Dart Roads. This would not meet the Village's Zoning Law density requirements so they came back with a possibility of townhouses which was a much better fit and could be accommodated using the Village's cluster subdivision provisions. They proposed 10 buildings with 8 units in each. They would meet affordable housing criteria by being 60% or less than the Tompkins County income median. If their funding comes into line, they will return in June and it will then come to the Board of Trustees. Ben also reported that Marty has sat in on a few recent Planning Board and related meetings so he can become familiar with what is going on.

Ben has filed the Codes Division Annual Report. Mike helped him with some of the information. Ben thanked Julie for getting the Administration Law into affect. In the past he has refused to file the report because the State placed a surcharge on all commercial insurance for the 54G Fund but they never passed on the money to the local municipalities as was intended.

Larry entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #5586- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 8 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$25,467.45 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 8 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$3,833.70, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 8 for the Special Assessment Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$23,712.50, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 8 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$112,929.71, is hereby approved for payment, and

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

Deputy Mayor Larry Fresinski -Aye Trustee Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee O'Neill moved for adjournment. Trustee Baker seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Larry Fresinski -Aye Trustee Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/ Treasurer