

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, May 20, 2013, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Lynn Leopold, John O'Neill and Patricia O'Rourke; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Planning Board Chairman, Mario Tomei

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:34pm and opened the public comment period. Robert Schleelein was present as the citizen observer for the community party. There were no other comments.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The next item on the agenda was an update on the new Village Administration Building. The lowest bidder was also the lowest bidder the last time around. That company has not satisfied our criteria for references, experience and background. On other jobs it was reported that they had significant cost and time overruns so we felt justified in rejecting that bid. The next lowest was MCK Building Associates, which, originally was about \$80,000 higher. After requesting that they change a subcontractor that was apparently charged with criminal offenses, the price increased by \$79,000 which puts their price over the 3rd lowest bidder. Edgar Enterprises, Inc. came in at \$916,000. We have investigated that bidder and they came out with very good recommendations so we offered the contract to Edgar. We have not received confirmation. All the heating, plumbing & mechanical contracts went to the lowest bidder. Letters have been sent to each of these contractors. The cost for the project is around \$1million. This is significantly more than we anticipated to spend. But with the WICK's Law additional requirements, the overall costs are higher.

We were lucky when we built the garage because the cost came in under \$500,000. The cost of the office project with all the site work out front increased the cost significantly. We have not heard when the project will start. We hoped to start by June. We anticipate occupancy before the snow flies. We have sufficient funds to pay for the project without having to borrow money to build. We've done careful management and paid attention to not doing things that we can't afford. The person that will be managing the project is onboard.

Dart Dr. has come out very nice. People are generally pleased. It will be striped and there will be a 4-foot walkway on the north side. We have repaved part of N. Triphammer Rd.

The Board discussed possible survey questions regarding the Comprehensive Plan update. Lynn Leopold will be meeting with Yasamin Miller at SRI to discuss costs of the survey next week. The plan is to do a matrix of rankings that everyone has suggested. A concern is how to include businesses in this discussion. Mayor Hartill will try and contact business owners on a personal basis. Lynn will send the survey list again. She explained that the list is more topics than questions. The timeline is tight. The Village needs to get onboard in the next two weeks. The plan is for the survey to be done in June and July. Hartill stated that you do miss the students in that time period. Mario asked if we have got prices yet. Hartill stated that we will talk about sample size next week and then decide cost.

The next item on the agenda was to approve vouchers. Lynn stated that she loves to look at the water usage. The range for single family homes is usage from 2,000 to 30,000 gallons. She noticed that there is a house on Oakcrest that uses 142,500 gallons in three months. Jodi has spoken to that resident to have her get someone to come in to look for leakage. The Board discussed the minimum charge and changing the minimum consumption. Hartill stated that the City of Ithaca lowballed their water proposal at \$39 million and the Mayor feels they will be lucky to keep the cost below \$60 million. If Ithaca would have jointed the Bolton Point commission we would have cut our rate in half. Bolton Point got started because the City wouldn't extend its lines out of the City. The fixed costs are 75% and the incremental costs are 25%. The total yearly budget is around \$3 million. Electric costs are about \$500,000.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #5976 - Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$820,019.54, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$138,713.18, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$174,150.43, is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill –Aye

Now that our fees are coupled to sewer fees, if you have a break you are then charged. Account N1917 is requesting that the Board of Trustees waive their sewer fees in the amount of \$64.57. They had a bathroom pipe burst when no one was living in the house and they have submitted to the Village the bill they paid to have it fixed as proof. The \$64.57 is the amount they were charged above the minimum sewer charge. This matter has already been sent to the Village of Cayuga Heights and they have agreed to waive their share of \$49.26 per resolution #7308.

Resolution#5977-To Waive the Sewer Fee of \$64.57 for Account N1917

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Mayor Hartill stated that a short executive session is necessary at the end of the meeting to discuss financial and property matters of the Village. Hartill stated that he will continue to explore with the Town a budget solution.

During the general discussion Lynn Leopold presented the Annual Stormwater Report. The report was for the period ending March 9, 2013 and was completed by the Stormwater Coalition of Tompkins County. There were 10 MS4's that contributed. The following is the Executive summary.

Executive Summary

2012-2013 Annual Report for Phase II SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) Village of Lansing, May 20, 2013 Public Presentation

This Annual Report has been prepared in compliance with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation permitting requirements for small (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), which includes the Village of Lansing. The Village has been required to meet the new EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations since 2003 and has been working toward full permit compliance. This Annual Report documents the progress that the Village made toward compliance, covering the period from March 10, 2012 through March 9, 2013. Below is a summary of the six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs), which include:

- Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts
- Public Involvement/Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

MCM 1: Public Education/Outreach on Stormwater Impacts

The Village is represented on the Stormwater Coalition of Tompkins County, which has coordinated many public education and outreach opportunities for stormwater education. Efforts include: providing trainings for local officials, contractors and others on controlling stormwater. Other entities, such as the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, of which the Village is a member, Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, provide stormwater educational programs, such as the Floating Classroom, Lake Fest, training for local officials, contractors and builders. A list of these activities is in the Annual Report.

MCM 2: Public Involvement/Participation

As with MCM 1, the Village has benefited from the efforts of many organizations and agencies to include public in stormwater activities, such as litter clean-ups, stream bank stabilizations, trash and hazardous waste management, pharmaceutical collections and volunteer monitoring of local streams and the Lake, Floating Classroom tours for school children and adults. See the Annual Report for more detail.

MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The Village adopted legislation to control illicit discharges to Village waterways and storm sewers. Illicit discharges, such as dumping wastewater directly into the Village's storm sewers, are already prohibited under the Tompkins County Sanitary Code. Other discharges, such as dumping waste oil or other pollutants into the storm sewer system, ditches or streams, are now prohibited by Village law. Department of Public Works staff routinely inspect and repair, if needed, stormwater conveyance and treatment systems within the Village. In the past reporting period, 3 sewer breaks were detected and corrected.

MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

Developers in the Village must abide by the Stormwater law of 2007 when designing and implementing developments that disturb one acre of land or more. New developments must submit Stormwater Pollution Prevent Plans, which the Village Planning Board/Engineer reviews. Licensed engineers who are trained in stormwater management must monitor construction sites. Village staff made dozens of site visits this past year to active construction sites for both commercial and residential development. Staff conducted visits to projects in Bolton Estates, Millcroft and Lansing Trails II, among others.

MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management

This requirement is much like the previous one, except that once the development is finished, the area must be monitored to ensure that stormwater does not cause erosion that will carry sediment off the site. These activities are covered under our local law.

MCM 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

The Village complies with stormwater regulations in its own municipal operations, such as highway, bridge, park, rights-of-way and building maintenance. We already have many measures in place to ensure that pollutants are properly managed and not allowed to enter our waterways. Examples: road salt is stored in its own closed building, retention basins

and storm sewers checked and cleaned annually, streets swept in spring to remove sand and grit. DPW staff are responsible for inspecting and maintaining all Village stormwater conveyances and structures, as well as all outfalls, culverts and ditches. The new Village garage allows our highway staff to store vehicles and perform maintenance on them in an enclosed space, which also provides containment for vehicle fluids, keeping them out of surface and groundwater systems.

In April, 2008, the DEC issued the new General SPDES Permits for stormwater [Construction Activities, GP-0-10-002 and the SPDES General Permit for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), GP-0-10-002], which covers construction activities, from May 1, 2008—April 30, 2010. The following activities relevant to our area are covered under the new permit:

1. *Construction activities* involving soil disturbances of one (1) or more acres; including disturbances of less than one acre that are part of a *larger common plan of development or sale* that will ultimately disturb one or more acres of land; excluding *routine maintenance activity* that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity or original purpose of a facility;
2. *Construction activities* involving soil disturbances of less than one (1) acre where the Department has determined that a *SPDES* permit is required for stormwater discharges based on the potential for contribution to a violation of a *water quality standard* or for significant contribution of *pollutants* to *surface waters of the State*.

The point of this effort is that the south end of Cayuga Lake is a 303 (d) listed water body of concern, according to the US EPA. Stormwater control efforts are meant to improve water quality by reducing sediment and pollution currently entering the lake.

The latest wisdom on managing stormwater is to keep it in place as long as possible to allow for natural infiltration into the ground, rather than trying to hasten it off to the nearest receiving stream or other water body. The slower stormwater is allowed to move over land, the more land will absorb it and prevent it from running off land with sediment and pollutants. Further, allowing stormwater to rest in place longer helps with recharge of local aquifers.

Hartill asked if a garden is 1.1 acres is that considered a farming or construction. Dubow looked up our regulations on this issue and stated that exemptions include activities in gardening for family use. Lynn stated that it is all about the lake. Has there been any movement with phosphorous? Lynn was unsure. There are many things that aren't controlled but best management practices are used.

Nick Vaczek of 22 St. Joseph Lane stated that he has looked at the vegetation swale that was put in last year and that area is wetter than has been in the last 9 years. Nick stated that both John Courtney & Bolton Point have looked at it. The question is, there are two areas not covered. What type of vegetation is being handled in what way. What type of

vegetation should be used. Leopold stated that in past the practice was to hurry and get the run off away from the property but now they want water to soak into the ground and let it settle in. Question of whether the Village can be proactive in working out ideas for water. For instance, is the standing water behind Bishops? Lynn stated that she still has to create a Stormwater Management Plan. We have a law but we still need a plan.

Lynn informed the Board that the Stormwater Coalition will be paying for some ads in the paper. They will talk about how to manage your own property. They will also do more municipal trainings. Angel Hinickle has volunteered to come to the Village DPW to train the Village highway staff rather than them having to go out.

Mario stated that the Planning Board has one more meeting to go regarding their efforts with respect to modifying the current CLT District uses and they expect to turn their work over to the Trustees to consider. The primary purpose is to improve the buffering between commercial and residential districts.

O'Neill attended the last Town meeting but had nothing really to report. They will be meeting in June with the public and there will be a referendum for sewer.

The Board discussed the summer's meetings schedule.

Motion- To Go Into Executive Session to Discuss Financial and Property Matters

Trustee Leopold moved to go into executive session. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke -Aye	Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

The Board went into executive session at 8:30pm.

Motion- To Come out of Executive Session

Trustee O'Neill moved to come out of executive session. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke -Aye	Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

The Board came out of executive session at 8:50pm.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee O'Rourke moved for adjournment. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke -Aye

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer