

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, May 19, 2014, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees John O’Neill, Patricia O’Rourke and Gerald Monaghan; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Phil Dankert, Planning Board member .

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:31pm and opened the public comment period. Dan Veaner thinks we need a new sign out front for announcing our meetings because the current road sign design is “hideous.” Veaner indicated that it doesn’t match the style of the new Administrative Building or the nice Village of Lansing sand blaster sign it is hanging from. Mayor Hartill stated that we have conduit in the ground to add a new sign to advertise our meetings. He stated that our plan is to get an LED sign to place below the current sand blasted sign. Dan suggested the Board read his column on LED signs that was published last week before doing that.

Carol Klepack stated that she was present to represent the community observer program. She loves the new building.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee Patricia O’Rourke -Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee John O’Neill –Aye

Hartill explained that at the noon meeting on Thursday it was suggested that “shrubs” be added to the Village tree planting program. At that meeting O’Neill had pointed out that the two Boxwoods that Courtney approved for planting were shrubs and not trees, which prompted the discussion to update the policy. Currently, residents can fill out a tree planting application and then receive reimbursement of 75% of the cost of a tree up to \$75 per tree for two trees each year. There is a set of planting guidelines that a resident must follow. Hartill stated that typically we only use about half of the \$2,000 budgeted for Village Beautification and this is a way for different “green” things to be planted as shields along our roadways. Shrubs would be a good option if a sewer line runs under that area and therefore a tree is not a good choice for this situation. Shrubs are easier to replace than trees. O’Neill and Monaghan were both concerned with the shrub wording and new provisions. It was suggested that shrubs can only be an option in place of trees when there is potential Village utilities interference.

Dake asked if the Board would like to list suggested shrubs as they do for trees. The Board asked her to call Cayuga Landscape to have them suggest five bushes to add to the

list. Dake asked if the Board wanted to make additional changes to the brochure. We no longer have a Conservation Advisory Council, so that also needs to be updated. Hartill suggested that Dake update the brochure with the changes that are necessary to bring it up to date.

Resolution#6067-To Modify the Tree Planting Program

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The next item on the agenda was to consider canceling the June 16th meeting. Hartill explained that the agendas for the summer are pretty light.

Resolution #6068-To Cancel the June 16, 2014 Board of Trustee Meeting

Trustee O'Neill moved to cancel the meeting. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Hartill explained that the change order for the new Administration Building that is being presented regarding the ductwork to reduce noise in the new building. Hartill previously met with QPK and their engineers to address the noise issue created by the air return that was located in the hallway. Hartill had suggested to them that the air return be moved to behind the refrigerator in the kitchen, and that change was made. This relocation cut down significantly on the noise in the conference room.

Resolution #6069 -To Approve Change Order H-001 to Modify the Ductwork to Reduce Noise Per Engineer's Instructions in the Amount of \$609.41

Trustee Monaghan moved to approve the change order. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The next item on the Board of Trustees agenda was to approve the 2014-15 Tax Warrant. Mayor Hartill entertained the following motion:

Resolution #6070- To Approve the 2014-15 Tax Warrant

WARRANT TO TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES

To: Jodi L. Dake
Treasurer of the Village of Lansing

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to receive and collect from the several names in the assessment roll, hereunto annexed, the several sums named in the last column thereof opposite their respective names, altogether a total of \$487,665.49, for the following purposes:

For the General Fund	446,045.87
For the Special Assessment-Sewer Collector Fund	14,807.11
For Delinquent Water Rents	15,082.85
For Delinquent Sewer Rents	11,729.66
For Cayuga Heights Sewer Rents	.00

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to receive as much thereof as may voluntarily be paid to you from June first to and including July first of this year, without additional charge, and after expiration of the time mentioned to proceed forthwith to collect the residue of the sums not so paid in as aforesaid, with five per centum charge for the first month and an additional one per centum charge for each month and fraction thereof thereafter, and you are to file the tax roll and warrant in your office on or before the 15th day of November 2014, at which time the taxes will be returned to the County tax roll.

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke -Aye	Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

The next item was to approve the minutes from April 7th & 17th. The draft minutes were previously circulated to the Trustees to review. Dake stated that everyone was present for both meeting; however, Monaghan would have to abstain since he wasn't a Trustee at that time.

Motion- To Approve the Minutes from April 7th & 17th, 2014

Trustee O'Neill moved to approve the minutes. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee John O'Neill-Aye
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Abstain	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Dake stated that we have only received two written landscape quotes for the Village of Lansing Administrative building landscaping project. The request for proposal was sent out to six area landscapers. The lowest proposal came from Cayuga Landscape. The original proposal was for a two phase planting. Since it is later in the season, the Village will now have both phases completed at once. There may be a price reduction since mobilization will only have to take place once. This will have to be coordinated with Edgars (the building project contractor) final exterior punch list.

Dan Veaner asked what the plan included. The Mayor read off the list of items. Dake offered to email Dan the quote for proposal that was sent to the landscapers. Ronny Hardaway asked if there was any guarantee that went along with this work. Hartill stated that there is a one year guarantee. The Mayor stated that he would also like to talk to the landscaper about the depth of our retention ponds. He would like to see if we can raise the level so our mowers can mow without too much trouble.

Resolution #6071 - To Accept the Lowest Bid for the Proposed Landscape Plan from Cayuga Landscape for an Amount Not to Exceed \$20,000

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Edgar, the general contractor, is responsible for seeding and restoring the yard area. Edgar is waiting for a final punch list so that they only have to mobilize once. The Village still owes Edgar around \$100,000 so they are probably just as anxious as we are to get the project completed.

The next item on the agenda was a progress report on where everyone is with the updating of their Comprehensive Plan sections. The Mayor stated that we have lost Trustee Julie Baker who was an integral part in this project. She has agreed to continue to help. The Mayor stated that he is not too enthusiastic about this update because the Comprehensive Plan has no force of law, it is simply a guide. He feels the current Comprehensive Plan does that. The Commercial Low Traffic area is the biggest issue that may change. The Planning Board is working on this at some level. The rest is updating statistics. The Mayor encouraged the Trustees to continue working on their sections that were previously assigned. The County has compiled a good set of statistics on the population that live in the Village so that will be straight forward. We haven't looked at our Greenway Plan in a while. That will also need to be done.

During the Mayor's comments he stated that he has asked Dubow how we can get in contact with the railroad company to get access to Poison Ivy Point. We need access and the point needs quite a bit of cleaning and clearing. The Mayor wants to get that process started. The Water Commission has been granted access from the railroad. The Village

maintains the road down to that area. An arrangement to cross the railroad may have a fee associated with it, but the Village is willing to pay that.

The Mayor stated that we are making progress on starting the storm sewer facilities on the south side of Dart Drive. We will be publishing a blanket order to have a company provide services. This summer we will have about a mile of road milled and resurfaced. There will be some brush cutting along Twin Glens Road. We are waiting until the end of year to see how much money we have left. The Board will then have budget transfer numbers and possibly encumbrances to approve at the first meeting in June.

The Mayor and Moseley have a meeting with Eric Goetzmann from The Shops of Ithaca on June 9th to see where they are with the proposed senior housing units across the street included in the Lansing Meadows PDA. Progress is being made regarding Army Corps of Engineers matters which may enable greater density on in the senior housing area. Once the senior living project is better established, we will then finally have the tree planting to shield BJ's. It was asked if the sidewalk on Graham Road will be part of this discussion also. They will be discussing the Graham Road sidewalk along with working on the "sidewalk to nowhere" by TOPS. We hope to normalize both of these situations. We currently don't have a right of way or easement at either of these spots and we will try to obtain the necessary authorizations so the sidewalks can be installed.

Mayor Hartill added that Bomax Drive will be striped and 30mph speed limit signs will be installed. We will be looking into what will happen when the new connector road between Lansing Trails I and II is utilized, and then a year later the plan is to do a top coat. Hopefully that will normalize that area.

O'Neill stated that he spoke with his neighbor, Patrick Gillespie, and he wanted John to apologize to the Board for not being at the meeting due to him having the flu. Gillespie sent all Board members an email on Friday afternoon. He is worried about the speed of traffic in Lansing Trails and wants to talk about the situation. There are a lot of walkers in the area. He thinks there will be more traffic when the road is complete and connects Bomax with the Lansing Trails Development so we need to do something. O'Neill feels the Village should be proactive and asked the Board what can be done. Dubow stated that streets are under the Trustees jurisdiction, but they can get input from the Planning Board and staff. Courtney gave his recommendations at a meeting on 10/17/13. Hartill stated that striping will happen this summer which should help with traffic calming. We have replaced the yield signs in the neighborhood with stop signs. The problem is enforcement. Phil Dankert thinks it is a Village-wide issue. People speed down Dart Drive at 50-60 mph. Phil also feels that a big problem is enforcement. Monaghan asked about doing raised intersections because he feels they really work. Hartill stated that our DPW doesn't like them because of maintenance and snow plowing. Hartill has spoken with residents in the Forest Home area of the Town of Ithaca which has speed bumps, and they notice that people do initially slow down, but then accelerate after going over the bump. It is not a simple solution. The Mayor indicated that if the Village increases its current taxes by 3 times, we could have a police force. We get the equivalent of 1 officer in the Village from the County Sheriff and State Police. Dawson asked why we didn't

consider speed humps like they have on Warren Road. Those are the ones that deteriorate rather rapidly. Noise is created from acceleration between speed bumps. Hartill feels that the only remedy that really works is enforcement, which in many cases will catch the resident of the area. Dubow stated that at the end of the day it is often a matter of enforcement.

O'Rourke asked who should be the point of contact when a message comes to all Board members as was the case with the e-mail from Patrick Gillespie. Dawson thinks we should designate a person to respond so that the residents don't feel like they are being ignored. It was explained that complaints and concerns should first come to the Village Office to get distributed. Jodi indicated that in the office we keep a complaint log and record how each incident is dealt with. We need to have a paper trail of complaints. This is also how we can determine what improvements are necessary in the Village.

There are State and Federal regulations that people don't know about. We need to help residents understand that a situation isn't always in our control. Dake suggested that this might be a good article for Courtney to write for the next newsletter.

O'Rourke stated that she sees speeders on Cayuga Heights Road all the time. Hartill stated that for that reason, he currently is seeking the necessary authorization to expand his driveway so as to permit a turnaround area which will eliminate the need to back out onto Cayuga Heights Road.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or concerns. Monaghan stated that he has been doing a lot of research related to his new Trustee position and Jodi has been very helpful.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke -Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer