

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, October 16, 2014, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Patricia O'Rourke, Lynn Leopold, John O'Neill, Gerry Monaghan; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Marty Moseley; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney.

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Courtney reported that the Town of Lansing is ditching for us today and Adam and Nolan are working with them. They will not be attending the meeting.

Hartill asked Courtney if we can get the signal at Craft Rd completed before winter if we get the easements straightened out by tomorrow. Courtney stated that we could put it out to bid to try and speed up the process but Dubow hasn't had time to do the easements. It was reported that Courtney told Dubow to put it on a back burner because he wasn't going to do it until spring. Hartill has a meeting later with Dubow on several issues. Many are anxious to get the traffic signal in. Mr. Parks wants to help financially to expedite the project. Roy Hogben emailed Courtney today about the traffic signal.

Hartill reported that there are now four lawyers involved in the Route 13 Water Project. Hartill doesn't understand because both the Village and Bolton Point win by approximately \$100,000 apiece. Separate lawyers from the Towns of Ithaca, Dryden and Lansing Bolton have all gotten involved. If we expedite the project, we can get it done this year. We will have Dondi Harner, TG Miller Engineers, give it a quick look over.

The Sirois easement for the Route 13 Water Project just got signed last Wednesday. The Sirois have seven easements on their property because of all the utilities through their property. Courtney stated that his priorities are Northwood Road dedication and Route 13 Water Project. The water project should start soon. The award deadline is tomorrow.

Courtney stated that he rode around with Liz from Cayuga Landscape to look at the Village's 9 flower beds on North Triphammer and the one on Beckett Way. They estimate that it will take approximately 48 hours to clean up the beds for year end. Leopold stated that Jim Orcutt is willing to help with gardens. Lynn stated that she and Jim can do the gardens. It was expensive to have Bellisario weed and mulch in the spring. Courtney stated that if the guys aren't doing anything then we would do the weeding and garden care, but in the spring they were busy with the Dart Storm Project. There was discussion of hiring a summer laborer to do mowing and tend gardens in the summer. Courtney feels it is tough to find someone. Leopold stated that there is a beautification program through the City of Ithaca. Paying Bellisario \$75/hr. for landscaping was excessive. Leopold feels we could bring costs down with volunteer work. Jim Orcutt may be an option for summer help.

Dart Drive project is complete. It was a huge project for the Village. Next, the Highway Department plans to do storm sewer work on Uptown and install a sidewalk on the curve. Courtney stated that he planned for the sidewalk in the 2014-15 budget, but not for storm sewer. Dake will let Courtney know the amount of money left in the storm sewer budget line item.

Brush pick up is complete except for Twin Glens. Courtney stated that Limb Walker Tree Service would be doing some tree trimming in that area. After that, they will pick up all the brush. Dake added that Jim Orcutt had stopped in and wanted the Board to know that he felt the highway crew did an excellent job of picking up brush.

Courtney asked what the Board had decided about getting a generator for our Highway Department garage to use in case of an emergency. The Board is unclear on what the Village should actually be prepared to do so Dake volunteered to call Beth Harrington at Tompkins County Emergency Response. Dake stated that the Village already has an Emergency Preparedness Plan that was modeled after Tompkins County. O'Rourke doesn't think that the Village is responsible for providing a place for people to stay. The main concern is keeping the Highway Department running. It was suggested that we get a 10,000 kilowatt generator to run the garage in case of a power outage. Courtney stated that one problem is you have to have it wired in. Hartill stated that to have a two way disconnect would cost about \$500 to install. Dake stated that there is \$70,000 allocated under budget item A5110.4 for miscellaneous supplies and repairs, so Courtney could look at that for the purchase of a generator.

Courtney stated that he has been taking a lot of time off in the last five weeks. The guys have also taken some time off.

The Village has received a report from Julie Melancon who did our Stormwater Audit. Leopold, O'Rourke, Moseley and Courtney will get together on how to beef up stormwater requirements. We need better training. Moseley added that we marginally passed the DEC Audit. We are aware of items that still need to be completed. Moseley has quite a bit of information already done.

Courtney stated that they will be doing culverts In Lansing Trails next week. Courtney will get information on this to O'Neill to distribute to his neighborhood and to Dake to place on our website. The culvert at 24 Janivar Drive is deep and wide. It will probably take 1 or 2 days to do. There is also another culvert on Leifs Way.

O'Neill reported that he attended the Planning Board meeting on Monday. There was a house on 109 Brook Way that put a 10x14 addition on their garage to grow fig trees, but did not get a building permit. When Marty informed them that it was necessary, they came for a permit. O'Neill feels we should charge an additional fee for not doing in the right order. Moseley stated that if we hit them with fee it would be \$1000. Moseley explained that he did a stop work order which our attorney suggested. The homeowner may have been ignorant to the process, and they complied with everything that was asked of them by our Code/Zoning Officer after they and their contractor were informed.

O'Neil attended the Town of Lansing Board meeting. At this meeting Jack from Bolton Point explained the water rate increase. He confirmed that they plan to go back to 20 employees after he retires. Courtney questioned why they hired a separate valve and hydrant maintenance guy. It used to be that the operators for each zone did their own valves in the area they were assigned to, but now they don't and one person does it for the whole district.

Monaghan stated that he had a nice meeting with Steve Colt, Town of Lansing Recreation Director, and he is very open to anything he can do to bring awareness to Village of Lansing residents and get as much cooperation as possible. Monaghan and Colt talked about the possibility for the Town to have programming at Dankert Park. Monaghan suggested a Cultural Festival in the Park cooperatively with the Town. Monaghan knows there is limitation to parking and traffic in the Dankert Park area. Next week Monaghan will be speaking at the Lansing Historical meeting. As part of the Town of Lansing Historical Society, Monaghan has started a separate section of Village archives. This includes the book of Rita Smidt, Lansing at the Crossroads, and photos of the Village. Monaghan will be meeting with former Mayors to get their thoughts on the Village.

Monaghan stated that he is concerned with traffic where you go in the back entrance to Cayuga Mall by the bank. There is a camo fenced in area that he feels causes a blind spot. Moseley stated that cars should be obeying the traffic signage. It was suggest they put in a yield sign. Moseley stated that with the last special permit for the Cayuga Mall we already reviewed and approved the vehicle patterns. This was reviewed by the Planning Board, Moseley and Brent Cross, the Village Engineer. We have no legal right to put a yield sign in. Moseley agreed that it is dangerous due to the fact that cars just aren't paying attention. Moseley can call with a recommendation to individual owners.

Monaghan contacted Scott Doyle, Tompkins County Planner, regarding the possible expansion of Sundown's Unique Natural Area. Doyle is going to see if there is an interest to expand the Sundown's UNA. Leopold stated that there would have to be a reason to expand the UNA area. There are 5 criteria that a UNA needs to have to be designated. There is already a portion of the property around the stream that is an UNA. The rest of the property is maintained as hayfields. It was pointed out that even if an area is designated as an UNA you can still develop it. All a UNA does is signal a special permit. Tompkins County also feels this is a balanced approach for building. I

Leopold asked the Board if they received the goals that she sent from her chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. At a previous meeting the Boards had decided to move the goal chapter to each chapter that dealt with that specific topic. Leopold will forward them again.

Leopold reported that Bernd had told her that 13 deer had been taken so far as part of the Village's deer management program. Bernd will be in attendance at the Monday Board of Trustee Meeting. Leopold reported that she received an email from Tompkins County

Solid Waste regarding starting the drop off location here at the Village Office on Saturday for food composting. Kat McCarthy will be the attendant. Jeff Dunn will do posting in the Village. Leopold stated that we have some work to do on our Stormwater Program. Val Gyrisco has passed away and Leopold suggested that we name something after her. Val was passionate about outdoor recreation, a member of the Planning Board for a long time, and a Village founder on Twin Glens Road. Leopold suggested that we name a park or a trail after her considering her service to the Village.

Courtney asked Leopold if she had reviewed the lighting plan he sent her. The Plan is going to LED from high pressure and she thinks it is fine. Courtney will send a memo to Marty of the approval. Courtney was concerned with keeping minutes of the Lighting Commission Meeting. It was explained that the minutes do not have to be elaborate; they just need to state who attended the meeting, what a decisions was, and how you came to the decision. Courtney doesn't want to do minutes, but the Board recommended that they be done. It provides a history of how decisions were made.

Hartill stated that he has a meeting with Dubow to discuss easements for the joint Village/Bolton Point water main project and agreement, and also award the bid. Hartill stated that the brush pick up went very well. The Highway Department used the Cayuga Heights trash compactor to pick up limbs which was very efficient.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6103- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$25,175.89 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$23,229.14 , is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Capital Projects Fund, in the amount of \$74,735.62 , is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$7,809.86, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$187,769.90, is hereby approved for payment.

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

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

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

Dake stated that the accounting audit started on Tuesday and they will be here through next week. The NYCOM Conference in Lake Placid was very educational as usual. There are five mandatory policies that all governments must have and which need to be looked at and followed. These are Code of Ethics, Procurement, Workplace Violence, Sexual Harassment, and Capital Asset Policies. We will also be updating our Employee Manual. Hartill stated that unfortunately we have to have these policies because there are too many lawyers. Dake stated that she is still waiting to receive everyone's Comprehensive Plan updates.

O'Rourke reported that at the youth meeting they are having budget problems. The Youth Board is trying to get money from other municipalities. They are looking for additional Board members. The next meeting is the end of October.

Moseley reported that the following projects are going on in the Village:

- Several roof replacements
- Auto sale will take place at Cayuga Mall in a couple of weeks for 8 days
- Alteration at 20 Thornwood Drive
- Addition on Binoptics
- Dairy One on Warren Road is progressing
- The Village landscaping is almost done.

Moseley reported that he and Courtney investigated the water complaints on Beckett Way. Those individuals have been satisfied.

Ivar Jonson's road is paved and he would like to dedicate it to the Village as soon as possible. Hartill added that the agreement was for Ivar to install the road base, let it set through a winter and then the Village would put the topcoat on the road in the spring. The road is 26 feet wide. The Village cannot plow the road until it is dedicated to the Village. Courtney and Brent Cross have both inspected the base throughout the process.

It was suggested that the park in the Lansing Trails development be dedicated to Ned Hickey, a long time Planning Board Chairman.

O'Neill stated that people have been driving from Ayla Way to the newly paved road that goes into the Lansing Trails II Development. O'Neill asked what we can do so that traffic doesn't cut across that area. Moseley stated that we could barricade Ayla Way off but it is up to the Highway Superintendent to assess the situation. The area they are driving across will eventually be parkland. Courtney will call O'Neill to go look at the area.

Lansing Trails II amendments were on the Planning Board agenda and were approved. Now it goes to Jonson's engineer, Larry Fabbroni, to sign off on. There was also a

change in the front yard setback to Lot #9 which is on the corner of Nor Way and Village Parkway.

Eric Goetzmann will be coming to the Planning Board meeting at the end of the month to try and get approval for a 400 sq. ft. salt storage structure at the Shops at Ithaca Mall. It is a coverall type building like the Town has. It must go through the special permit process because the property includes land in the Steep Slope Conservation Combining District.

Brian Quadrozzi, Fire Inspector, was unable to attend today's meeting. He wanted to report that he has issued 100 operating permits. The Village only had 30 when he started. Mosely feels he does a good job.

Monaghan asked about the proposed Mosque on Graham Road. Moseley stated that it was approved, but they still need to finalize their drawings. With Planning Board approval, there is also a list of conditions to comply with. It is estimated that 75-80 people ride the bus to the Vineyard Church in the Bishops Plaza. This may also happen with the Mosque because its members will largely be from the Cornell University population.

Mayor Hartill left the meeting at 1:57pm.

Leopold reported that she received an email from a resident on St. Joseph Lane that would like to see the Village install solar and he thought the DPW garage would be a great place for solar installation. Halco is now installing solar. Courtney stated that he already has Halco doing up an estimate for installing solar on the DPW Garage. There are new suppliers and the costs may be coming down. With standing seams we won't have to drill through the roof if we install solar. It will clip right on. An inverter now has a 20 year life expectancy. Courtney will copy everyone on it. Courtney thinks it is a new law that all municipalities have to have 20% renewable energy. Monaghan and Leopold want to be kept informed on this. Moseley stated that we must make sure they meet code.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Not Present	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill -Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye	

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer