

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, February 11, 2016, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees, Gerry Monaghan and John O'Neill; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Marty Moseley; Supt. of Public Works John Courtney; MEO, Nolan Hatfield and Chris Zavaski.

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:17

Moseley reported the following:

- Dake has done a lot of work on updating the Zoning Law. Along with this update, Moseley is working with Tompkins County to get an updated Zoning map.
- Distributed a Draft Building Permit Report to the Trustees.
- Met with Greg Potter about shared services program. Tompkins County and surrounding municipalities are looking into an electronic building code program. The Village of Cayuga Heights, Town of Danby, Town of Groton, Town of Dryden, and Tompkins County all would utilize the Accela code program. The idea is that by all municipalities joining together it would provide a reduced cost and reduced annual fees for the program. Also, it would look to improve communication with the County Assessment Department and eventually the County 911 Emergency Response Department. This possibility of reduced costs for a building code program came to the forefront when looking at various programs during last budget season. The County already has purchased the base part of the program, which is the most costly, with a possibility to build on it with the building code program. The County purchased the Accela program for the Health Department private septic system permits. In the event that a municipality would like to build further on the Accela program (sign permits, variances, special permits, etc.), it would be at their own cost or possibly a grant at a later date. The cost would also depend on the number of licenses or uses for each municipality. The municipalities would control who has access to the information and would need to provide for each County department separately. Currently, the County is looking to write a shared services grant in order to pay for the building Accela code program, which would pay for the transition for the municipalities and two years of the program (transition year plus one additional). Currently we do not know the cost associated with program, but hopefully we will have answers within the next month. A resolution has been provided by the County to move forward with the current process.
- The Planning Board approved a residential addition for 106 Burdick and a dual drive-thru at McDonalds. At the 2/23/16 the Planning Board meeting they will talk about assisted living density. They will also discuss front yard setbacks in CLT and CMT Districts to see if allowing builders to build closer to the road would achieve the same benefits associated with the current CLT District provisions and to beautify the areas.

- The Shops at Ithaca Mall is spending \$875,000 to remodel the old A.C. Moore space for Michaels. They are also putting a new roof on the pedestrian walkway.
- Working on the budget.

Dake reported the following

- Local Law #1 has been filed with New York State, incorporated into the Codification, and everyone's Code books have been updated and the new Chapter 145 is on the website. There were some issues with repetition, numbering and lettering in the approved Local Law, but after consulting with Attorney David Dubow it was determined that the intent hadn't changed so there was no need to revise the Local Law. Insignificant changes have been noted and placed in the file with the Local Law for future reference if needed.
- A frame has been purchased for a large zoning map which will be hung in the conference room. It matches the existing flyover picture frame.
- All budget notices have been sent out and Dake continues to collect information for the budget. The current taxable value for the Village is \$466,442,271 which is up by approximately \$6.5 million. With the current tax rate of \$.99 it would increase revenue by ~\$6.535.00
- All year-end payroll and 1099 reports have been filed. The 2015 Yearly Summary of Events has been posted on our web site.
- January month end has been completed. For the March meeting Dake plans to once again give the Board copies of the month end reports which should be helpful in seeing where we are as we go through the budget process.
- Met with the Cintas representative and we will be getting rugs for the garage and here in the administration building. The garage will also be getting coveralls for \$2.40/month. We are currently paying a minimum charge of \$17 so at least we are getting something for our money now. Cintas took over the Coyne contract which is up the end of May. Cintas does not do contracts that lock you in for a certain timeframe. Since we are a government entity we get great pricing.

Mayor Hartill stated that there has been an exchange with a resident whose well went dry. A possible solution is for the Village to install a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) at the end of the water line on Hampton Hill Road. The house is quite a ways down the hill. The water line would have to cross Village property so an easement would be necessary. Hartill will get back to them with a proposed solution. Work will not be able to start until the ground thaws out.

We haven't heard anything further from Northwood Rd. We will include Northwood Road improvements in this coming budget.

Hartill stated that there was a news conference this morning regarding the National Science Foundation announcing that on September 14th they observed gravity waves for the first time at both the twin Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) detectors, located in Livingston, Louisiana, and Hanford, Washington. Hartill stated that he has worked with overseeing this project since its inception and it is nice to see

it actually works. Hartill gave a brief description of how this all works. This is a major breakthrough for the science world.

Hartill stated that it is budget time and he would like to increase the tax rate by around 2%. On March 7th we will be proposing a resolution to override the Tax Limit which is .12% this year. State income tax originally was supposed to go back to school and municipality, however, the State has been using it to balance their budget instead. If the Village doesn't exceed the Tax Levy Limit, resident get a small refund. Hartill feels it is a matter of principal. He will be going to NYCOM in late spring to address some of these issues.

Monaghan stated that he and O'Neill were nominated by the Community Party to run for Trustees again.

O'Neill stated that the Town of Lansing held a special meeting to set a public hearing to consider increasing their senior citizens exemption. Dake stated that the Village already increased the senior tax level that the Town is now proposing. A copy of the 2015 Annual Report on Local Governments was given to the Village.

Hartill reminded everyone that they have to apply for the STAR every year. Dake stated that the STAR Program is income based. For the basic STAR, you don't have to sign up every year, only for the enhanced STAR exemption. STAR provides an exemption from school taxes for owner-occupied primary residences where the combined income of the owners and spouses who reside on the property doesn't exceed \$500,000. The enhanced STAR exemption provides an increased benefit for seniors (age 65 and older) with qualifying income of \$84,550 or less.

Chris stated that they are waiting for snow. They have fixed streetlights, fill potholes and have been making sure all their equipment is ready to go. Nolan had nothing to add.

Courtney stated that he has been working on budget matters. He is getting numbers to do Northwood Road in-house. Due to the time frame and short construction season, he feels we could do it cheaper than bidding it out. Bush Lane will go out to bid next month. The project includes waterlines, shoulder work to the Town line, some small stormwater work and riprap. We have a high frequency of water breaks in that area. \$456,000 was included for this project in the 2015-16 Budget under F8340.2, \$60,000 for the shoulder work under A5112.2 and also \$102,000 for Suit-Kote to pave. We will use the money this year. Hartill stated that he needs to understand the actual cost to figure cash surplus. Courtney feels that we will get numerous bids because there are hungry contractors. There is not a lot of work by municipalities. Triphammer Road is due to be resurfacing in 2016-17. It has been 10 years since its reconstruction. Last year we pieced N. Triphammer together and stabilized it. Triphammer Road has a good base. Courtney plans to have budget numbers next week.

Dondi for TG Millers just sent the Northwood design. Courtney estimates blacktop will be \$200,000. The old road will need to be completely removed along with new pipes,

curbing and sidewalk to Woodthrush. He would then like to continue the sidewalk down to the Northwoods Trail.

The new mini excavator is in. Courtney requested that the Board surplus our mini excavator. Bobcat has offered to pay us \$33,000 for the Bobcat Mini Excavator. When we purchased the Bobcat in 2010 we paid \$35,396. This works out to paying about \$500 a year for the use of the Bobcat. Courtney would like to list it on Craig's List for a week to see if we can get more for it. Many people are interested in it. We will list at \$36,000 for a week and see what we get for offers. The new excavator is in Elmira so we have two weeks to take delivery.

Resolution#6235-To Surplus the Bobcat E35 Mini Excavator and to List it on Craig's List for One Week

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

Mayor Hartill-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill –Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Courtney is trying to contact Cargill regarding not taking all of our salt order. He is unsure what the penalty will be for not taking delivery of what we ordered. Courtney stated that he ordered based on last year's usage. He stated that he talked to the Town of Lansing about storing some of our salt for us like they had done in the past, but they are also having trouble with storing all of their salt they have to order.

Yesterday morning there was black ice on the road. Courtney called Cayuga Heights in. Nolan slid off of the road at the end of Bomax with the plow truck but was able to get back out. We had to salt the walks yesterday. We may need to think about getting a new salt spreader for sidewalks since ours doesn't work well. Chris does a good job of clearing sidewalks.

O'Neill asked when we would be doing the sidewalk on the north side of Pyramid Drive. The plan is to do it this spring. People are using the new sidewalks that were installed in December. People are crossing from the Ramada and then walking down towards the Mall. It was explained that once you cross the ring road to the parking lot it is private property. Courtney stated that signs are ordered for the crosswalk and they need to take down the "do not use" sidewalk sign.

Hartill also hopes to get all issues straightened out on Graham Road West so a sidewalk can be installed there also. Moseley has been working on easements. We have changed the design a little so we are in a position to go ahead.

Moseley asked the Board to consider the resolution for the electronic building code program shared services he discussed earlier. Monaghan asked if there will be a yearly fee. Moseley stated that at this point we are not approving spending funds, just supporting

the process. Tompkins County already bought the program and we would join. The resolutions have been provided by Tompkins County to move forward with the current process and make a determination if this partnering will make sense by all of the interested parties. By adopting the proposed resolution, it will allow for further investigation to determine if this program will in fact work for the Village.

Resolution #6236-To Support Tompkins County in its Pursuit and
Application for Funding for Shared Services Through a
Local Government Efficiency Grant

WHEREAS, Tompkins County intends to apply for funding through the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) for monies to initiate a new project focused on Building Code and Permitting records management and processes to increase efficiencies in local services and data/records collaboration through local government shared services model and the support of related to records management systems, and

WHEREAS, the Village *Board* has supported Tompkins County in previous funding applications and looks forward to future opportunities for new shared services initiatives and inter-municipal cooperation which result in savings for its constituents, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing anticipates cooperating with and joining in future shared services offered and/or supported by the County whenever feasible, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Lansing does hereby fully support Tompkins County in its pursuit and application for funding for shared services through a Local Government Efficiency Grant.

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

Mayor Hartill-Aye

Trustee John O’Neill –Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6237- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it **RESOLVED**, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$43,260.86, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it **RESOLVED**, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$53.22, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$1,154.26, is hereby approved for payment.

Trustee O'Neill moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted and Trustee Monaghan seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Moseley added that the Tompkins County stormwater coalition received a grant which will pay for the GIS Mapping that Moseley had budgeted for this year. Courtney already overspent that line item with the Sheraton Drive project so that means we won't have that extra money to go to Appropriated Fund Balance.

Everyone thanked Monaghan for the excellent chili he made for lunch.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Hartill-Aye Trustee John O'Neill –Aye
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 12:58pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer