

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, June 6, 2016, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan; Trustees, Ronny Hardaway and John O'Neill; Attorney David Dubow; Planning Board Member, Deborah Dawson.

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:30pm and opened the public comment period. There were over a dozen residents in attendance but there were no comments.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

Trustee O'Neill made a motion to close the public comment period.
Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan – Aye Trustee John O'Neill – Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway – Aye

The next item on the agenda was a presentation on the Recreation Partnership by Janice Johnson, Tompkins County Youth Services Department (TCYSD). The Recreation Partnership is an alliance of municipalities in Tompkins County. The Ithaca Youth Bureau (IYB) is the main program provider. TCYSD provides planning and financial coordination. Phil Dankert represents the Village of Lansing and is a founding father of the Recreation Partnership. In 2016 the Village contributed \$15,182. New York State contributes less than 1%. In both 2014 and 2015 there were 224 participants from the Village. Scholarships were awarded to Village participants in the amount of \$3,952. IYB uses over 200 volunteers for their programs.

Monaghan asked if the Learning Web is included in this. It is not. It is part of the Joint Youth Commission which the Village also belongs to.

Johnson stated that in 2012 there was a needs assessment done. They found that people moved here for the availability of parks and recreation. This increases property value.

In 2014 a Student Survey was done. It was found that Ithaca City School District students were above the national average for alcohol use in the last 30 days and marijuana use. The good news was they are well below the national average for cigarette use. Bullying is also low. Recreation activities have shown to keep students away from these activities.

In an effort to get information about the Recreation Partnership out to residents it was suggested that we post a link directly to Recreation Partnership on our web page and continue to add articles in our newsletter. We should also make them aware that there are

scholarships. They have placed Playbook in the apartment complexes.

The current Recreation Partnership agreement is coming up for renewal. On or before December 31st, 2017 a new agreement for the Recreation Partnership needs to be finalized and executed. TCYS is asking participating municipalities to give input into the next agreement. The current agreement is for a five year term and has a clause that allows for this agreement to be extended for another 5 years. Janice had previously sent up an agreement for 2018 and asked that we put this on a future agenda. They would like to receive input.

The following are some details of how the Recreation Partnership operates and what it provides:

- Sharing Program Costs
 - Costs not paid for by fees, grants, fundraising, and use of volunteers are shared by the member municipalities.
 - The subsidized cost is divided by 4 with the City, Town of Ithaca, & County paying $\frac{1}{4}$ each.
 - The remaining smaller municipalities share the last $\frac{1}{4}$ via a formula. We use the assessed value in the ICSD weighted by 2 times the average of participation over the past three years.
- Governance
 - The Recreation Partnership Board, there are 14 voting seats. The City, County, and Town of Ithaca have two representatives. The remaining municipalities have one seat each.
 - It is recommended these seats are filled with an elected official.
 - Members serve a two year term.
- Roles of the Recreation Partnership Board
 - Operates under their own by-laws
 - The Board works towards goals, addresses policy questions, review performance data and finances.
 - Periodically evaluates the performance of its provider(s).
- Roles of Officers
 - Chair helps to create agenda, chairs meetings, acts as a representative of the Rec. Partnership Board
 - Vice Chair acts in absence of the Chair.
 - Treasurer works with TCYS Dept. to make financial reports.
- Roles of Fiscal Agents and Staff Support
 - TCYS Dept. bills and receives payments from participating municipalities and makes payments to authorized providers.
 - Rec. Partnership Board will explore the need to create a coordinator position.
- Roles of Tompkins County Youth Services Dept.

- Staff from the TCYS Dept. will work with the IYB and other providers to provide support to the Recreation Partnership Board.
- Roles of Recreation Program Provider(s)
 - Provide programs, liability coverage, tracking, reporting highlight trends, recommend program changes, and develop the budget.
- Fiscal and Administrative Accountability
 - The City like the other members will make payments to the TCYS Dept. for its share.
 - The City as a provider will use its own facilities and may enter into agreements with other partners.
- How Municipalities Join or Leave the Partnership
 - If any municipality chooses to join a cost and joining date will be calculated
 - A municipality may withdraw; they must submit a letter in writing and give one full year notice.
- Participation by Residents of Non-Member Municipalities
 - Residents of non –member municipalities will be charged the full unsubsidized cost of the program.

The Board thanked Janice for her presentation.

Next, Hardaway presented a map showing the proposed new park between Northwood Road. and Dart Drive. Hardaway stated that we are just in the planning stages and we want to get input from the residents. We have done some hydro-axing so that we could see what the property has to offer. The current plan is to have a multipurpose field similar to Dankert Park, a pavilion, playground and basketball court. There will be 15-20 parking spaces off Northwood Road. A trail will come in from the south on Dart Drive in to a U shape. We envision islands of trees and islands of space, leaving a lot of the park in its natural state.

Muriel Everhart of 37 Janivar asked if the trails will connect to the current trail system. The trail will connect to the other Village trail. We may have to use some road shoulder areas to accomplish this.

Lee Bailey stated that he lives in Northwood Apartments that is just across the street. He asked for clarification of the park’s location. He also asked if we had heard of “Last Child in the Woods”. Too many children are inside with electronics and they don’t understand their connection to nature. This helps the children to play and learn in nature. He also suggested that we speak with Rusty Keiler of Earth Play Design. He is the one that designed the turtle at Cass Park.

John Barwick of 3 Coventry Walk stated that he has three children and is excited about the new park. One of his concerns is getting across Warren Road. He wondered if a trail could go through the woods and out to Warren Road where the crosswalk is to B&T

Park. He would also like a safe walkway along Northwood. Dubow suggested using Dart Drive. People walk from the bus stop on Warren Road to Dart Drive. Dart Drive has been widened to allow more room for pedestrians. There is a crossing at the Post Office, and then you can walk on Warren Road. down to the B&T Park.

Norman Adelewitz is a resident of Northwood Apartments. He and neighbors are dog owners and would like a dog park in the plan. He would like an area where the dogs can run loose. One concern was the mess associated with dog parks. Norman explained that he goes to the dog parks at Treman Park and they are pretty much self-policing. Compost bags can be provided for dog waste. Hardaway stated that he will take a tour of the Treman dog park. It was also suggested that there be water for the dogs.

Lisa Hall, also of Northwood Apartments, stated that it takes a lot of volunteer effort to improve a dog park. She would like to see the Village leave as many trees as possible.

Hardaway stated that we will identify the trees that need to come down for safety. The plan is for a 15-20 car parking lot. We are hoping that people will walk or bike to the park. We are not sure if we will do gravel trails or asphalt. This has to do with maintenance.

It was asked what the timeline is for the park. Hardaway stated that this year we hope to get the infrastructure in for these facilities. We are looking into the possibility of having a “community build” playground. Monaghan feels we should keep the park as natural as possible.

A resident asked who owned the property between Kensington and Northwood. He always thought that piece of property would make a good dog park. Another concern is that there are never any bags at the dog bag station at Dankert Park. The Board will check with the DPW on this.

Hardaway thanked everyone for coming and providing input. Hardaway stated that if anyone is interested in receiving future information on the park they should leave their name, email and address on the circulating contact sheet.

The next item on the agenda was to set a public hearing for the proposed Pyramid Drive Municipal Subdivision. The Trustees were previously provided with a proposed subdivision map. Dubow explained that the Trustees need to set a public hearing to allow the Village to subdivide a piece of Pyramid Drive. This will allow for the eventual coordination of the previous minor subdivision by the owners of the Shops at Ithaca Mall (and approved by the Village Planning Board) as well and the intended Municipal Subdivision. If the Board of Trustees approves the Municipal Subdivision, the intent is to complete the necessary actions and transactions that will enable the Mall owners to convey their subdivided parcel to the Village for the purpose of the Village taking ownership of Graham Road West from the Mall owners, and to enable the Village to convey it's subdivided parcel of a portion of Pyramid that is no longer needed by the

Village. The property off Pyramid is an area that the Village really doesn't need but it can be beneficial to the Mall. This proposed project is at least 15 years old. If approved after the public hearing, the two subdivisions can be filed with the County Assessment Department and County Clerk's office to make it official. Then, the Village can continue with the intended land swap transactions providing for the conveyances of the intended parcels.

Dubow previously emailed the Trustees explaining that Section 125-2 identifies what a Municipal Subdivision is. This type of a subdivision is built into the Village Code to allow for the Board of Trustees to subdivide a piece of property into not more than 2 lots (initial lot plus one new lot), which would be what the Village Board of Trustees would be considering with the Pyramid Drive parcel. It indicates that the Board of Trustees shall be the Board in charge of approving the Municipal subdivision. There is a requirement for a public hearing in accordance with the applicable Village Code provisions. The Board of Trustees would be in charge of the review process for the Municipal Subdivision procedure. The Board approves the subdivision map and the Mayor signs the final map. In accordance with the Municipal Subdivision provisions under the Village Code, this process is deemed to be a Type II action in accordance with SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act), and therefore the environmental review is exempt.

Hardaway sees no negative impact. It was asked if the Mall had any plans for that area. Nothing has come to the Village. Dubow explained that anything the Mall would want to do in that area would have to come to the Village for approval.

The Board was unsure if there would be a quorum for the June 20th meeting so it was suggested that the public hearing be held at the regular Thursday noon meeting.

Resolution #6286- To Set a Public Hearing to Consider the Pyramid Drive Subdivision for June 16, 2016 at 12:05pm

Trustee O'Neill moved to set a public hearing. Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan– Aye Trustee John O'Neill – Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway – Aye

The next item on the agenda was to approve the minutes from May 2nd & 12th.

Motion- To Approve the Minutes of May 2 & 12, 2016

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

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan– Aye Trustee John O'Neill – Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway – Aye

Next item was to consider a resolution in support of Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. Monaghan stated that he has been working on this resolution that would become a template for other municipalities to follow. Monaghan sees this as a way to launch support and stress the importance of public transportation. Dubow stated that if they all agree, they can pass a resolution of support as a Board. The hope is that we will get more State money and support. Monaghan stated that he received changes from O'Neill and changed the proposed resolution where he agreed. One thing that he did not remove was the one regarding trails. Tompkins County sees trails and paths as a vital support to meet the needs of people. They feel trails are essential for getting people to the different Park & Ride locations. After some discussion and agreed upon revisions, the following resolution was proposed:

Resolution #6287- In Support of Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc.

WHEREAS, Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT) provides outstanding public transportation service to the residents of the Village of Lansing. We the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees want to thank TCAT for their many years of outstanding transit service.

WHEREAS, every day, people depend on TCAT to get to and from the Village of Lansing. And, every work day, hundreds of Village residents depend on TCAT to get to and from work and school.

WHEREAS, TCAT is currently making significant cuts in service that will disproportionately affect working poor families, immigrants, and students. The possibility is real that these cuts in service will become permanent.

WHEREAS, a significant portion of our village residents are young families, retired people on fixed incomes, immigrants, students, and people who work for less than a living wage, who regularly depend on the services of TCAT.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT, We want to ask member municipalities in the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) to consider ways we can promote and advocate on behalf of TCAT.

We ask that TCCOG member municipalities consider ways we can help to share the burden of meeting the transportation needs of our citizens by - creating more Park & Ride hubs, creating more trails and greenways for walking & biking, supporting more rideshare opportunities in our towns & villages, and at our local malls and shopping centers, parks and business centers. We support promoting creative solutions like Gadabout and FISH (Friends In Service Helping), and keeping the public transit needs of their residents high on their municipal agendas.

Lastly, we ask that TCCOG, as an organization, actively promote TCAT with our Assembly Woman, Barbara Lifton and with our 3 State Senators, and Governor Cuomo. We ask TCCOG to encourage New York State to recognize and financially support Public Transit and its vital role in our battle against poverty and in meeting our economic development goals.

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

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan– Aye Trustee John O'Neill – Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway – Aye

Anil Netravali of 9 St. Joseph Lane came to the meeting to voice his concern with the water issue on his road. He said that pipe was run down part of that road and he was told by John Courtney, Supt. of Public Works, that eventually the Village would do the rest. He also said that Courtney told him last year that it couldn't be done because it wasn't in our budget and that it would be done in 1-2 years. After discussing the problem with Anil, the Board suggested that he come to the Thursday meeting to discuss the issue when Courtney will be present. The Trustees are interested in finding a resolution to this problem.

During general discussion it was announced that the Town of Lansing fireworks at Meyers Park will take place Friday, July 2nd. Hardaway stated that he would be out of town for the last two meetings of June. Monaghan announced that the global park sign is up.

Motion to Adjourn

Trustee O'Neill moved to adjourn. Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan– Aye Trustee John O'Neill – Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway – Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer