

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, May 11, 2017, in the Village Office.

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

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:24 pm.

Courtney reported that there are now signalized traffic pedestrian signs at Graham Road West. This will enable us to put in a sidewalk when we take over Graham Road West. RFQ's have gone out for sewer I&I proposals on the south side of Route 13. We are currently waiting on the repair of the tub grinder so they can grind up the stumps at the new park on Northwood Road. We were informed that we had too much dirt on stumps so we fixed that issue. TG Miller will be surveying the site.

We found a good location at the Community Park for the new playground structure. We used 100 ton of crusher run to bring it up to grade which is more gravel than anticipated. The site is now ready for them to install the playground equipment. Fence repair will also have to be done as well as digging up the dirt and taking care everything around the trees. Larry Bieri stopped and had some good points.

In addition to this we have been mowing. Some clean up in Shannon Park is needed. Monaghan stated that there is a bunch of old fencing in there that needs to be removed. Courtney stated that they were currently setting catch basins on Uptown and would be pouring concrete next week. So it will be awhile until they can get to that.

Hardaway asked when the survey of the new park will happen. Courtney will call Darren at TG Miller to get it going. There was so much water in the retention pond that they couldn't pump it out. Sediment controls are in. The SWIPP acceptance form was filed. TG Miller will be surveying the location of existing trees and topo. There was water sheet flowing on east side of property so we rerouted it to the stream. Mulch and soil will be spread over the field. We borrowed the Town of Lansing's roller to roll out the fields. Courtney stated that he has talked to the Town about doing some work for us, but it is too early to report on this. He feels there is a good relationship between the Town and Village. Courtney stated that he keeps documents of what the Town does for the Village. Town works saves us time and money.

Courtney stated that there was a letter sent to Mayor Hartill on how he handled a snow plowing issue with McDonald's. He feels he treated them well. He also feels the pictures are not accurate. We had salt on the roads and the salt was melting everything except their area. His concern was this was a problem all day. Courtney stated that he sent them an invoice and if he could take it back, he would. He doesn't feel they are being truthful.

Moseley was with him in the truck when he was on Bluetooth, and he could hear the conversation.

Monaghan asked if the Village would ever offer leaf pick-up. Courtney stated that we want nothing to do with that. It is very labor intensive. The Village of Cayuga Heights sucks up the ditch on Cedar every year with their leaf pick-up. Residents can take them to the Town of Lansing or compost. If we were to do leaf pick-up, we would need extra equipment and two more guys. Hardaway asked if we could have residents place their leaves in bags and then pick up. Courtney feels that if we did that, then we would get contractors leave all their stuff out. Also, if the bags get wet they fall apart. Courtney stated that we don't want to be in the leaf business. If you want us to we will do it but he is strongly against it. O'Neill thinks we should let residents know their options for getting rid of leaves. This would be a good article for the next newsletter.

Monaghan also stated that ditching is needed in the Highgate neighborhood. They get a lot of water over there and they look hideous. Courtney stated that there is a controversy over enclosing ditches or leaving them open. If you close them in, they look nice.

Hartill told Courtney that we need a voucher for his son's labor from the emergency call in with the major "Stella snow storm", and that he would sign it. Courtney agreed to get it submitted.

Monaghan asked if we can put in some gravel on the trail where water runs over it and the pipe is rotted in Shannon Park. It makes it hard to get in there to mow.

There was a water break at the end of Sheraton Drive. It was in a piece of pipe that was not being used. The valve was closed, and he wanted to close the other valve. We should have looked it when we did the 2005 North Triphammer Road project. It had two huge holes and destroyed a section of the road. Courtney informed the Board of the problems that were encountered during the repair. The Village of Cayuga Heights mismarked the water line by 12 feet. There was a 6' PVC line and they missed that by 4 feet. There also was a duct bank in there. Hartill stated that he mentioned this at the last Bolton Point meeting and Steve apologized.

Courtney, Hatfield and Zavaski left the meeting at 12:47 to attend to an open ditch on Uptown Road.

Monaghan stated the he is enjoying not being the Deputy Mayor. He thanked Hardaway for all his work. In August, Monaghan has a chance to go to Hawaii for Kite making. In Shannon Park, they want to clean up the area and do dwarf chestnuts. There is money budgeted for four trees in the Shannon Park Boulevard but residents in the area would like to collect money for extra trees. Monaghan wondered how the money could be collected. Monaghan stated that they will go ahead and clean up the park area at Shannon Park and will talk about the bushes at a later time. The best time to plant trees in the boulevard would be in the fall. Hartill stated that we need to make sure that the trees are compatible. Monaghan will talk to Courtney about this.

Monaghan questioned why Northwood Apartments still had a sign in the Northwood Road Boulevard that says 900 Warren Road. Hartill informed him that part of the agreement to take over Northwood Road was that we leave the address sign there. There will also be a road sign that designates the road as Northwood Road.

O'Rourke stated that a resident told her that the Belwood Lane road sign was spelled incorrectly. The resident said it should be spelled "Bellwood Lane". Dake stated that all the tax records show it to be Belwood Lane just like the current sign says. O'Rourke also reported that they are fixing potholes in the Shops at Ithaca Mall area. There are so many spots that she feels it would have been easier to pave it all.

O'Neill stated that he, Hardaway and Dake all attended the Smart meter presentation that took place here at the Village office. At the presentation they showed a map of the area that will be improved. Hartill stated that he met with them a month ago. There was also a recent mailing to residents about the installation of the new meters. They don't know how the rates will work out.

O'Neill stated that he did some research and found park benches that would cost \$400 - 500 compared to \$2,500 which Courtney previously quoted. O'Neill will talk to Courtney about it.

Hartill stated that he received the message from Hardaway regarding the sewer discussion at the Planning Board meeting. Hartill was aware of the sewer situation. The Village of Cayuga Heights (VCH) is installing a number of real-time flow meters to get knowledge of system. What has happened is the systems are aging and I&I is an important problem that needs attention. The NYSDEC has communicated to the VCH about exceeding flow more than they should be. It has triggered concern because the Town of Lansing is requesting an agreement for sewer units. There used to be a sewer moratorium many years ago, but it is no longer in force. The Village needs 140 units for the proposed Bomax project and enough to build out and expand our sewer area. There was a proposal to have money from the Feds and State to sewer the Town and Village of Lansing. However, when the dust settled the annual cost per unit was \$6-700 per year. The result was that the Town had a referendum that failed. The Village of Lansing paid for the Kline Rd Bypass many years ago as part of a multiple party sewer agreement whereby flow is diverted to the Ithaca Area WWTP if and when needed. At that point the moratorium was lifted. Now, the flow into the plant is 1.2 million gallons a day. The capacity is 2 million. The flow was over 3 million in the last few rains. Our sewer system is in need of repair. We are televising south of Route 13. All of our systems have a fair amount of I&I. We will be getting Brent Cross at the Village of Cayuga Heights to obtain a company to analyze and fix the current situation. One problem is that we know that people have installed their sump pumps into the sanitary sewer and their roof drains. We can't prove these violations unless smoke tests are done. We need to isolate where it is coming from and do a televised analysis to fix it. If we find that they are doing this, they are violating our Code. It is not easy to discover the problems unless doing building inspections. Chateau Claire was one problem we had, but he thinks we solved that. It will

be a continuous program. We never got paid for the Kline Road Bypass which needs to be part of the current discussion.

Dake stated that she was also briefed on the situation by Brent Cross yesterday. Of course, the Village of Cayuga Heights will take care of the Village of Lansing first. Brent stated that the VCH plant is doing the best they've ever done on monthly flows. They just want to be sure that they can handle an additional 2500 units in the next 10 years. He doesn't think all of those will get built, but they need to plan ahead since the Town of Lansing has to form a sewer district and they need to guarantee a certain number of units. Years ago when there was a sewer moratorium they used to watch the flows very carefully. To get more sewer units we would fix lines to decrease additional flow during rain events. Brent stated that in reason years they haven't been monitoring flow since they didn't have any problems. Now they are doing studies and looking at the flow to get a better handle on updated flows and see what they can do in the future. I know that Marty Moseley gave Brent a total of 1,000 units for the Village if we build out. I've asked Adam to see if he has that report on his computer to see how Marty came up with that number. However, Adam Robbs is out at code training until Friday. Brent didn't want to alarm anyone, he just wants to keep us informed on what they were doing.

Dake stated that Adam, Code & Zoning Officer, was unable to attend the meeting so he submitted the following report:

Dear Mayor and Trustees,

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this month's noon meeting. Since I am not able to attend I thought you would like to still have a report from my department.

1. The Planning Board, at their last meeting on 4/10

a. **Informal Presentation of Telecommunication Facility at 10 Substation Alley**

Joshua Silver, of the Murray Law Firm, representing NYSEG made the presentation. NYSEG has submitted a special permit application to install a permanent public utility communication mast at an existing substation behind the Triphammer Marketplace. This would replace a wooden mast that was installed without Village authorization. The mast will be 100 feet tall with two VHS antennas adding another 16 feet. The mast will be able to communicate with "Smart Meters" and therefore provide NYSEG with the capability of identifying and monitoring problem areas and outages in real time rather than relying on customer calls.

The mast will also allow NYSEG to incorporate renewable energy into the grid by monitoring and adjusting relative loads and times to allow for renewables. NYSEG has similar proposals in the Towns of Lansing and Ithaca. NYSEG has focused on the Ithaca area because of the energy vision that was adopted by the county legislators and the ongoing interest in sustainability initiatives.

b. Bomax Drive Apartments informal presentation on 5/8/2017 at Planning Board meeting

2. There have been no BZA meetings recently but one upcoming May 17th.
3. Working through Building permits coming in.
4. Upcoming projects 5-13 Cinema Drive approved.
5. 16 Cinema Drive C.U. Suites Apartments
6. John Orcutt came to me asking about the planting boxes not being planted wondered if he planted them could he get reimbursed for it?(This may have already been addressed by Jodi)

Thank You,
Adam C Robbs

Dake stated that Robbs seems to be doing a good job at adjusting to his new position. She has done a little bit of training with him on office situations.

All the information has been submitted to Tompkins County Assessment for the Village Tax Bills. They should be here by May 22nd. They will be mailed May 31st. In Lieu of Tax Bills have been created and are ready to send May 31st.

Dake informed the Board that the summer laborer position has been posted on Tompkins County Personnel. We budgeted \$5,000 for a summer laborer but we are advertising for 39 hours a week at \$15/hr. That works out to 333 hours or only 8 ½ weeks. Do we want the person to work 30 hours a week which would give us 11 weeks? Hartill wants to increase that budget line item to \$8,000 at a later date after we hire someone. Dake asked if any of the Board knew of a college student that is looking for a summer job. It would be nice to get a Village resident in that position. Applicants must apply through the Tompkins County Personnel website. The position is posted there and on our Village website.

Dake spoke with Brent Cross and the stormwater report that he is doing for the Village will be completed by May 31st. He is mapping out all of our storm water retention areas and outfalls. This was encumbered from last year.

Dake stated that she attended the Smart Meter meeting that was held here last Wednesday. It was conducted by Cornell Cooperative Extension and NYSEG. Tompkins County is the first county to install Smart Meters in New York State. The plan is to install the meters in the Village of Lansing by the end of July. They did agree to contact us when they start installing so that we can let residents know. When the water meters went in previously, we got calls from concerned residents and it will probably happen again.

O'Rourke stated that there was not a TCCOG meeting last month. The meetings are usually the 4th Thursday of the month.

Hardaway reported that at the last Planning Board meeting there was a Bomax

presentation. Their plan is for one entrance/exit only. Brent Cross wanted another emergency access. The proposed development includes a dog park, trails and 10 buildings with 140 units. On the southern trail there is a little piece of land between Northwood Road and Yardley Green where we are thinking the trail can continue. They agreed to allow residents to use the trail that goes through their property. It will be part of any final approval. The presentation was well received. There were no concerned residents present from Lansing Trails.

Hardaway is working on a proposed RFQ for the Northwood Playground equipment. He would like to send it out tomorrow. The plan is to give companies until May 22nd to submit bids. O'Neill voiced his concern with the spin cups that were proposed. O'Neill wanted the spin cups removed from the list of equipment. He feels it is dangerous for kids and will be a bird bath. Hardaway stated that they are built to drain water. Hardaway will get more info on it and email it to the Trustees. The issue was tabled until Monday.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6401- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$79,116.53, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$629,547.16, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$4,388.93, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$24,787.05, is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

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

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway –Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye

Trustee Gerry Monaghan–Aye
Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:27pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer