

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, November 4, 2019, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees, Ronny Hardaway, John O’Neill and Patricia O’Rourke and Randy Smith; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Attorney Bill Troy; Planning Board Member Jim McCauley ; Lansing Star Editor, Dan Veanor; Katherine Herleman; Andrew Foster; and four other public.

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:30 pm and opened the public comment period. Katherine Herleman stated that she was a Village resident and was attending the meeting because she was interested in the topic of Climate Smart. Herleman works for Schyler County Cornell Cooperative Extension administering Clean Energy Programs. Her background is in environmental geology. Herleman would like to volunteer her time. Herleman stated that it doesn’t matter what others agendas are, she feels this as a common sense cleaning action. Andrew Foster, who was attending with Herleman, stated that he also supports the Climate Smart Community resolution, and is also a resident of the Village.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway- Aye
Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye	Trustee Randy Smith-Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye	

The next item on the agenda was the approval of minutes from October 7, 2019.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of October 7, 2019

O’Rourke made a motion to approve the October 7<sup>th</sup> minutes. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway- Aye
Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye	Trustee Randy Smith-Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye	

**Unpaid Taxes to Tompkins County**

Sixteen taxpayers have not paid their taxes totaling \$5,042.24 plus 8% penalties of \$403.37. Hartill explained that every year the Village taxes that are unpaid get turned

over to Tompkins County for collection. They are relieved on the Town & County Tax Bill, and the County reimburses the Village in the spring.

Resolution #6617-To Forward the Delinquent Village Taxes in the Amount of \$5,445.61 to Tompkins County

Trustee Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee O'Rourke 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
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye	

Consider Planning Board Recommendation

The Planning Board gave the Trustees a recommendation:

*MEMORANDUM*

*DATE: October 16, 2019*  
*TO: Mayor, Don Hartill*  
*Trustees: Ronny Hardaway, John O'Neill, Pat O'Rourke, Randy Smith*

*CC: Code Officer, Mike Scott; Village Attorney, William Troy; Planning Board Members: Mike Baker, Carolyn Greenwald, Jim McCauley, Monica Moll; Alternate, Tony Ingraffea; Village Clerk, Jodi Dake*

*FROM: Lisa Schleelein, Planning Board Chair*  
*SUBJECT: Planning Board Recommendation Regarding Request to Incorporate Low Traffic Food and Beverage as a Use in the Commercial Low Traffic District Regulations*

*As requested by the Board of Trustees, at the October 14, 2019 Planning Board meeting, the Planning Board considered the proposed change to add Low Traffic Food and Beverage as an allowed use in the Commercial Low Traffic (CLT) District.*

*Several members expressed concern that such a change is an erosion of the Village Code. It was also discussed that in parts of the current CLT District such a use might be appropriate, but that in certain areas it might not, i.e., those areas closest to residential neighborhoods; the intent of the CLT being to provide a transition from the higher commercial districts and preserve the residential environment of the surrounding areas.*

*In a 4-0 vote (McCauley and Ingraffea being absent) the Planning Board voted to recommend to the Board of Trustees that the proposed change not be made at this time.*

*However, the Planning Board will be reviewing the CLT properties east of Triphammer from Graham Road south to the Cayuga Mall and considering whether it might be appropriate to up zone that area to a Commercial Medium Traffic (CMT) District. The Planning Board would welcome input from the Trustees as we consider this possible change.*

The consideration came about after a proposal was made by Marty Moseley to incorporate Low Traffic Food and Beverage as a use in the Commercial Low Traffic (CLT) District.

The Trustees felt the biggest concern is the traffic and to add to that would be an issue. There would be a potential for more traffic accidents. The Board wondered if a traffic light would be an option there. It was pointed out that it is already hard to get out of McDonalds across the street.

Hardaway stated that to change the Commercial Low Traffic (CLT) District would be a problem because it could ripple into other areas. Maybe CMT would be possible but he is not in favor of changing or up zoning that stretch of the road.

O'Neill did not think it was so bad to have a sit down restaurant. A sit down restaurant would be consistent with low traffic food and beverage use.

Smith thinks that at some point there will be a demand for more restaurants. He wondered how you facilitate that.

O'Rourke was concerned with the parking arrangement at the current Lama Office. Would there be enough parking area.

The Planning Board is getting more requests for variance and they want to take a look at the whole area. There is more to it than just up zoning an area. They are not opposed; just want to look at the whole picture. The Trustees also do not want to see this just piece mealed. The Village needs to study this situation.

Hardaway expressed a concern that improper ingress and egress in the proposed restaurant might increase traffic accidents in that stretch of Triphammer Road. He wondered if the Trustees could get accident numbers to determine the risks. Hartill stated that the Village has plenty of numbers available on accidents and these numbers could be made available to the Trustees.

Hartill stated that a traffic study needs to be done by the Planning Board to consider adjusting the CMT area. Then we can look at the different options. Hartill restated that he would get accident data for this area. The Board tabled the decision until we get more information.

Motion- To Table Consideration for a Recommendation Regarding the Request to Incorporate Low Traffic Food and Beverage as a Use in the Commercial Low Traffic District Regulations

Trustee Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

**Consider Climate Smart Community Model Resolution**

Mayor Hartill proposed an alternate motion that the Village adopt the New York State Climate Communities Pledge with no political agendas or whereas statements, only the list of ten required elements. It had been previously pointed out that the "whereas" statements in the model resolution express a certain point of view that is not universally agreed to. We need realistic and achievable solutions. It is the solutions that are important.

Resolution #6618- Adoption of the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Lansing adopts the New York Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

1. Build a climate-smart community.
2. Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
3. Decrease energy use.
4. Shift to clean, renewable energy.
5. Use climate-smart materials management.
6. Implement climate-smart land use.
7. Enhance community resilience to climate change.
8. Support a green innovation economy.
9. Inform and inspire the public.
10. Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

Trustee Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

**Status of Cell Phone and Computer Use Policy**

Hartill stated that he was supposed to provide recommended policies. He didn't get it done so this will be delayed until the next meeting. We have to realize in our modern electronic world we use our devices in many different ways. Hartill will propose language for the cell phone and computer usage that is consistent with how we currently use them.

**Review Park Sign Information**

Quotes for six park signs were received from Art Sign Works, Lake Country Signs, Vacker Signs and Wood Products Signs. The cost ranged from \$2,399 to \$12,439. The

Board agreed to first get Courtney's recommendation before proceeding since they will be installing and maintaining the signs. A decision can be made at the next meeting.

### **Mayor's Comments**

We are nearing the end of the construction season. We still need to finish a few loose ends. They are forecasting snow at the end of the week. We have salt secured thru State Contract. It takes about the same amount of salt to deal with 3 inches of snow as it does a foot of snow.

Hartill reminded everyone that we need to be sensitive to our driving. People don't pay attention while driving because they are on their electronic devices. We also have a few deer running around the Village which everyone needs to watch out for.

### **General Discussion**

Smith asked how the Village weathered the storm last week. Hartill stated that there was flooding at Target again. The area that previously had trouble on the south side seemed to be ok. Our ditches and culverts were fine. There was a small power outage around the airport Thursday afternoon. Hardaway was surprised we didn't have any trees down with the high winds.

O'Rourke asked about Graham Road. Hartill stated that he is still working with their lawyer and we are close to having an agreement. Once we take it over we fill the potholes which will give us a temporary solution. The plan is to reconstruct that road next year.

Hardaway reminded everyone to vote tomorrow. The polls are open from 6am-9pm. This was the first year that New York State has offered early voting. Hartill added that the overall cost of having early voting ranged from \$11-\$30-40 per early voter. Technology is expensive and can easily be hacked. Is it not bullet proof.

Crystal Mullenix informed the Board that she wants to do a coffee shop/retail with senior housing above on her property on N. Triphammer Road across from Security Mutual. Hardaway suggested that Mullenix make an informal proposal to the Planning Board so they know that it is coming down the pike.

Mullenix stated that the light at the corner of Craft Road and N. Triphammer Road has slowed down the traffic and works well. Hartill stated that she could thank Roy Park Jr. for contributing to that traffic light which cost around \$2-300,000.

Mullenix would like to have a sidewalk on her side of the road. People are always walking through her yard. Hartill stated that one of the goals is to cut down on our carbon footprint but you need places to walk to. Our plan is to help people but we also need to do what is best for the Village.

Motion- To Adjourn

Hardaway motioned to adjourn. O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer