

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, September 17, 2020, via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill, Trustees Ronny Hardaway, Patricia O'Rourke and Randy Smith; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Michael Scott; Fire Inspector, Brian Quadrozzi; Working Supervisor, John Courtney; BZA Member (future Trustee) Simon Moll; Attorney Bill Troy

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:11pm. There was no public comment.

Clerk/Treasurer Report

Randy Smith and Simon Moll won the elections on Tuesday, September 15th. Moll will be coming into the office this afternoon to sign his Oath of Office and we will go over all his paperwork. The first official meeting of the year will be Monday, September 21st. This will also be our Organizational Meeting.

NYCOM Fall Training School is going virtual this year. It is \$99 per person to attend. Dake asked if anyone is interested in attending the online sessions Sept. 22-24th. Dake stated that this would be a great training for Moll, however, he was not available until afternoons since he is home schooling. Moll questioned whether these could be watched at a later date. Dake will check into it. Dake stated that there are other videos available on the NYCOM website and the NYS Comptrollers site. Smith also felt he should attend but he has a prior commitment also. Dake will be the only one attending the virtual conference. Dake suggested that Moll read the NYCOM Newly Elected Officials book she emailed him.

New York State has a new law that requires municipalities to develop a Pandemic Operations Plan by April 2021. There is a session on this during the NYCOM training on Tuesday at 9:30am. Hartill thought that this may be overlapping with Scott Doyle's enterprise.

Dake would like everyone's newsletter articles by September 23rd. Brush pick up is October 5th and we usually try to get the newsletter out a couple of weeks before that. A notice has already been posted on the website and sent out to the yahoo group.

Smith asked if O'Neill was attending today's meeting. It would have been his last meeting as a Trustee but unfortunately, he was not able to attend. Smith stated that he wanted to thank him for his 20 years of service to the Village. Hartill agreed that we need to do something to recognize that.

All Trustees have received copies of all the vouchers and Abstracts that need to be approved today.

Resolution #6658- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 4 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$53,465.5 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 4 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$5,818.28 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 4 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$26,543.42 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 4 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$28,970.20 is hereby approved for payment.

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

Hardaway asked a few questions of the vouchers to clarify before a vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Courtney stated that they ran a new water line down Catherwood Road last week and they were black topping the areas where they did tie ins. The installation of the water line on Catherwood went smooth. When they were doing it they found that Squeaky Clean had a significant service valve leak which was the Village's responsibility. Next week they will be digging up the trench where they ran the new water main and then Monday they will be doing storm sewer repair. The final blacktopping of the road should be done next week.

Courtney stated that they are working on the design and getting final approval from the Army Corp of Engineers for the Graham Road culvert replacement. They are replacing 700 feet of 10" water main when they replace the culvert there.

Smith asked Courtney for an update on Shannon Park. Courtney stated that they grubbed the area and they need to figure out how to get fill up in the areas where they pulled trees out. This may get done tomorrow because Hatfield and Zavaski are coming in to work overtime to trim trees over sidewalks. They will then spread grass seed and straw that area and it will be done for this year. The Greenway Committee can then look at that park and decide what the Village should do.

Hardaway asked Courtney if he received his email regarding watering trees on Beckett Way. Courtney stated that they watered the trees every day when they were first planted but they had not done it in a couple of weeks. They should be fine. Hardaway will let Gerry Monaghan know.

Hardaway stated that Matt Yarrow from TCAT contacted his wife, Deborah Dawson, who is on the TCAT Board through Tompkins County Legislature. They want to install a bus shelter across from University Park Apartments to the south of Dankert Park entrance. Hardaway asked Courtney if TCAT had discussed that with him. Courtney stated that we do not have an issue with that site but along with that TCAT wanted to fix five other sites. TCAT wanted to change sites which would make people walk across the street which Courtney sees as a liability to the Village. At the park location there is a crosswalk there so it is not an issue. A problem that Courtney has with TCAT is that they do not communicate with the Village when they are planning stops. He questioned whether the stop locations on the busy Triphammer corridor are even safe for stopping and what it will do to the flow of traffic on that road. Courtney's main concerns are safety and how the bus stop locations impact the roads. Hartill stated that the problem is the axle loading of those buses is much heavier than an 18-wheeler by at least a factor of two. That means that no matter how strong your blacktop is, it is going to get squashed. In California every bus stop is a concrete pad, but they do not have the freeze thaw we have here. One of the things that the Village should consider is having pull offs like the one in front of Key Bank for the bus stops, especially on N. Triphammer Road. Courtney stated that TCAT told him that the Village is a bus stop only area. If you get outside the Village it is a flag down stop. It was agreed that this all needs to be part of the conversation the Village has with TCAT.

O'Rourke asked Courtney if we owned Graham Road because coming out of the mall there is a huge pothole in the middle of the road. The Village does not own that road yet. It belongs to The Shops at Ithaca Mall. Hartill added that there is a pothole on Oakcrest Road right at the top of the hill going east. Courtney stated that they have patched it a couple of times and he sees it has resurfaced. The Board thanked the highway department for all they had accomplished in these rather difficult times.

Hardaway stated that Gerry Monaghan had sent an email complaining about the Covid Drive In Testing Center being moved to the back of the mall. His concern was that it was right by the trail that comes out of Shannon Park. It was moved by Tompkins County Health Department because the mall was beginning to open and more people were shopping. Hartill feels the solution could be to provide one less lane for the stacking which would give enough room to walk around it.

Hardaway stated that he sent the Board his suggested amendments to the Lansing Meadows PDA which basically limits the number of residential units and square footage in buildings on that lot, makes the north lot permanent green space and require that they have a no harm clause for the Village within their Homeowners Association Agreement. Hartill stated that to incorporate those changes it would have to be in a public meeting where there are various people available. Dake stated that this discussion is on the agenda for Monday. A public hearing can not be set until you have a proposed resolution ready to present to the public. Hardaway stated that was why he submitted this for the resolution. Hartill stated that what Hardaway is proposing becomes a major change which triggers a whole chain of events that have to be followed. In addition, the email traffic with respect to the Army Corp of Engineers acknowledges that that piece is likely to be developed. Hardaway pointed out

that the PDA is not just a benefit for the developer, it is a benefit for the Village. To make the development more in line with what the Village agreed to, that space needs to be green space so there is a buffer between the residential units and Oakcrest Road.

Hartill pointed out that the original classification of that area was Low Traffic Commercial which meant lots of curb cuts. He feels we need to be somewhat sensitive to how we got to where we are. Hardaway stated that that was the reason for the PDA. Hardaway does not want to see the property developed into something totally opposite to what the original plans were. To do that he thinks we need to prevent any more development on that lot. Hardaway feels his suggested changes would stop the piecemeal changes that are being made by the developer to get what he wants and not what the Village wants. He feels if we want to stop the process, we can put these amendments in and be done with it. Attorney Troy feels that one problem is that the developer has been dealing with many different Boards over the nine years this project has been going on. He had not seen Ronny's proposal but was willing to review it and get back to the Board at Monday's meeting. Troy understands that this is a series of compromises.

Smith stated that when he was traveling up Route 13 the other evening he was surprised at how large and bright the Nissan sign was. Moll stated that he remembers this issue going through the BZA. Originally, Maguire wanted 650 square feet of sign. The BZA ended up only approving 380 square feet of signage for that location. Originally this was a total of three signs but then Maguire came back and said that Nissan required a larger sign. They still have the same square footage but now on one sign instead of three. Moll stated that he surveyed the neighbors on Dart Drive and no one really cared with the light from the sign. They were more concerned about the speed of traffic on Dart Drive, sidewalks and streetlighting. Scott added that we are still talking to Maguire about their lighting period. They agree on the square footage but not on the lighting period. He foresees an issue when it comes time for them to get their Certificate of Occupancy.

O'Rourke left the meeting at 1pm.

Scott reported the following:

- He is working on something solid for us to put into the Village Code about lighting so we do not run into this Nissan issue again.
- He is working on some other Code updates since the new code was adopted by the State.
- New permits have slowed down. We do have a couple of new homes going in on Millcroft and the other at 12 Esty Drive.
- There are two Covid testing labs that are up and running at 10 and 53 Brown Road. A third location at 30 Brown Road should be up and running in another week or so.
- The Council was in to the Planning Board. They will be filing for a special permit.
- Scott continues to work with Mike Gavin from the mall regarding the issue of remedy for their septic system.
- Scott has a meeting with Gina from The Shops at Ithaca Mall to find out if there are any breaks in their main water. Also, to find out how Target is technically subdivided, but they do not have their own water meter.

Smith told Scott that he is interested in working on the Lighting Plan with him which was last updated around 2000. Scott stated that back when Moseley was here he had started working on some changes to the Lighting Plan. Once he has that together he will present it to the Lighting Commission and the Trustees.

Quadrozzi stated that he finally feels up to speed again. Scott stated that Quadrozzi is a huge asset to him. It is nice to be able to take a set of plans to him and bounce ideas off each other.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Smith moved for adjournment Trustee Ronny seconded the motion.
A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:13pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer