

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, April 3, 2000, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Don Hartill; Trustees Lynn Leopold, Larry Fresinski, Frank Moore and John Bailey; Planning Board Member Carol Klepack; Village Attorney Randy Marcus.

Mayor Don Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:38P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor opened the public comment period. There were no comments.

Motion- To Close Public Comment Period

Trustee Larry Fresinski moved to close the public comment period.  
Trustee John Bailey seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill - Aye	Trustee John Bailey- Aye
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold -Aye
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye	

Motion-Approval of Minutes for March 15 & 20, 2000

Trustee Lynn Leopold moved that the amended meeting notes are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Larry Fresinski seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Larry Fresinski-Aye	Trustee John Bailey-Aye
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye	

Next on the agenda was N. Triphammer Rd Property acquisition but the Mayor decided to postpone this issue until a later date.

The next item was to appoint a Trustee to the Regional Planning Group and to endorse the process. The Regional Planning Group was formed to address the growth inducing impact of new sewers in the Town & Village of Lansing and Town of Dryden, outside the existing planning area, relative to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement under the provision of SEQR. Since the meetings will involve a considerable commitment of time and staff resources, Steve Farkas, Chairman, has requested that each Board pass appropriate resolutions endorsing this process and appointing a representative to serve on the committee. The Mayor proposed such a motion. Frank asked if John would have interaction with the Village Planning Board. There will be continuous feedback between John, the Planning Board and Board of Trustees. This planning group has no legal authority. It's a forum to communicate. The Mayor will also attend the meetings periodically. John will consult with the boards and engineer. It will be a cooperative effort.

Resolution#3650-The Village of Lansing's Board of Trustee endorses the process and further supports appointing John Bailey as the Village representative for the Regional Planning Group.

Trustee Frank Moore moved to accept this resolution. Trustee Lynn Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye	Trustee John Bailey- Aye
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Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Next on the agenda was Budget discussion. The Mayor had made changes that were discussed at the last meeting. Jodi put the information into the budget program and distributed copies to all the board members.

### General Fund

Don stated that you will see an increase in salary for both the trustees and the Mayor. There is no item in the budget for the audiovisual package, which Ben proposed, and the mayor would like to talk about that this evening. Some of what we do depends on what we end up with the Internet provider. The Mayor is thinking of doing the least expensive option to get started then add on as the years go on. The middle number proposed has a large piece, which depends on the Internet connection aspect. Larry stated that we have considered doing the Internet ourselves. The Mayor suggested adding \$8-9,000 to the budget. One of the major concerns the mayor had was maintenance. He also felt that audio was more important than video and that we need more than a VHS camera. The Board didn't want to spend a lot of time discussing details this evening but agreed that \$9,000 should be added to A8020.2 for audio visual bring this line item up to \$12,500.

Employee benefits were put in as last year's figures since the Board needs to further discuss this in executive session. They will be corrected for the proposed budget.

This year the Mayor would like to see us actually spend the money set aside for Community Beautification. We haven't done well at this in the past couple of years.

\$6,000 was added for Cable Franchise Fee Income A1170.

Snow Removal was increased to reflect our \$25,000 snow removal contract with the Town of Lansing and \$500 for miscellaneous items. If we receive money back from the Town then that will go under Refund of Prior Year's Expenditures.

Youth A7310.4-This \$30,000 is what we pay for Village residents to be able to participate in the Ithaca programs. Part of this is funded back by the State under A2350.

A7630.4-Adult recreation- \$2,000 is for the Northeast Seniors Program.

A5680.4-Public transportation-\$5,000 for Gadabout.

The Mayor proposed a 4% tax increase from \$1.57 to \$1.64 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The following is a tax rate comparison of other villages:

Village of Freeville-\$2.74  
Village of Dryden-\$5.15  
Village of Groton-\$7.44  
Village of Cayuga Heights-\$5.51  
Village of Trumansburg-\$4.48

This year when the Mayor was figuring the budget he ignored the cash surplus to see if the Village was breaking even and we aren't. The Village needs \$500,000-550,000 each year for ongoing street maintenance. This is a different approach then previous boards had. Our attitude is a "pay as you go budget". Each year we extract the interest income from the capital reserve account to use for capital projects. It can be used for ongoing maintenance if it is labeled to rebuild road "X". Any time capital reserve money is spent it is subject to permissive referendum. This year we will do a large transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund due to a large income fluctuation that resulted from mortgage tax collected in connection with the sale of the former Howard Johnson's property.

John asked if there was a recommended amount that a municipality should have in reserve. The Mayor commented that any business should have at least 10% but there is no recommendation.

A board member asked how to deal with the public when they are upset with the increase. Larry stated that for a \$200,000 assessed value we are only talking about an increase of \$14. People complain about the shape of the roads and we need to take care of them. If you don't maintain your infrastructure now you end up paying more for it later.

### Water Fund

F8340.2-Transmission & Distribution Equipment-\$75,000 reflects the Highgate Valve  
F8340.4- Transmission & Distribution Contractual-\$25,000 reflects previous year's experience.

The Mayor recommends we raise the water surcharge to 33% starting with the July billing to maintain a cash flow to operate. The two ways the water fund gets income are from surcharges on the water bill or Bond Anticipation Notes, which show up on your taxes.

### Sewer Fund

G8110.4-Sewer administration is for pertinent expenditures of the legislative board, legal services, accounting and billing, insurance, association dues, taxes and any other expenditure if a separate account has not been provided. We have engineering expense, which we have broken down to G1440.4

Resolution#3651-Set a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2000-2001 on Monday, April 17, 2000, at 7:35p.m in the Village Office, 2405 N. Triphammer Road.

Trustee Larry Fresinski moved to set a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2000-2001 and Trustee Lynn Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye  
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee John Bailey- Aye  
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The Mayor commented that the new assessments have hit two vacant land property owners very hard. The first is Mr. Crossmore who owns the land around Bolton Point and the other is Roy Park. Both are grossly unfair. The other large vacant landowners in the Village are pretty even with the previous assessed value. Don will be meeting with Steve Whicher of Tompkins County Assessment Department tomorrow. The mayor supports the resolution that Steve is proposing to do an adjustment on certain vacant land. Any municipality that is trying to preserve open space is doomed.

Lastly, Lynn proposed that the Village write a letter to the supervisor of the Town of Ledyard to show our support of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Management Plan Intermunicipal Organization (IO) members for NYS Department of State (DOS) quality communities demonstration program.

Resolution#3652-The Village of Lansing is Committed to Continuing Participation as a member of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Management Plan Intermunicipal Organization with the Understanding That There is a Monetary Commitment as well.

Trustee Lynn Leopold moved to accept this resolution and Trustee John Bailey seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye  
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee John Bailey- Aye  
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Motion- To Go To Executive Session to Discuss Matters of Employment of the Village's Staff and the Proposed Acquisition of Real Property.

Trustee John Bailey moved to go to executive session. Trustee Lynn Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye  
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee John Bailey- Aye  
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Motion- To Come Out of Executive Session at 10:10pm

Trustee Larry Fresinski moved to come out of executive session. Trustee Lynn Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye  
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee John Bailey- Aye  
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The Board passed a proposed salary and benefits package for the Village employees: A salary increment of 4% and added a long term disability item to the fringe benefit package with the other fringes remaining the same as last year. Long term disability was added as a separate line item, A 9055.83 for \$3,000.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Larry Fresinski moved adjournment. Trustee Lynn Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill- Aye  
Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye  
Trustee Frank Moore-Aye

Trustee John Bailey- Aye  
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Jodi Dake  
Village Clerk