

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, December 1, 2003, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Larry Fresinski, Lynn Leopold, Janet Beebe and Frank Moore; David Dubow, Village Attorney; Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M. He opened the public comment period. There were no comments.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee
Janet Beebe-Aye	Trustee Frank Moore- Aye	
Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye		

The first item on the agenda was the proposed Settlement and Release Agreement from Computel Consultants. David Dubow, as he had done at the Board's meeting on November 17, gave some history on the original arrangement pursuant to which the Village engaged the services of Computel in 1996 to seek possible refunds from NYSEG, the compensation to be payable on a success basis with 50% of the recovered refunds going to Computel. It was acknowledged that this matter was discussed at the November 17 meeting and that Dubow had encouraged Board members to speak further with Dennis Reinhart. Janet indicated that she had in fact spoken with Dennis, but was still unsure as to how best to proceed. Frank indicated that although he thought the settlement offer sounded reasonable when it was presented at the meeting on November 17, he also thought the Mayor should be involved since it was a monetary decision. Larry indicated that he didn't think the Village should sign a release for that small of an amount of money. His concerns were shared by other of the Trustees, their main worry being that the small settlement amount would include a release and waiver of all liability claims against NYSEG prior to July 31,2000 other than the one specifically excepted in the Agreement. The Mayor asked David Dubow if something else came up, such as pole pollution, could the Village seek addition monetary compensation or would the proposed Settlement and Release Agreement preclude such a claim. Dubow explained that the broad and very inclusive language of the Agreement could very well release NYSEG from any and all claims. For \$1,500, the Board concluded that it was not comfortable with the release and chose to take no action at this time.

Next on the agenda was to consider the proposed Tompkins County Highway Division's Municipal Equipment and Shared Services Agreement. The Board generally acknowledged that it is very happy with our current verbal agreements and municipal cooperation. They feel it is working very well, and questioned why any change was in order. They were also concerned with certain liability issues. David Dubow suggested that if they did wish to consider this Agreement further, the Village should first check with its insurance agent regarding the indemnification and insurance provisions. The Mayor indicated that he will speak with his colleagues at an upcoming meeting on Thursday to get their thoughts on this Agreement.

Jodi presented the Board with a new health insurance plan. She proposed that the Village change the insurance coverage to the Blue Cross/ Blue Shield EPO. She offered the following information: Currently the two covered Village employees have a Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO \$500 deductible plan with a \$25 copay. This policy was started January 1, 2003 because the Univera Plan they had was no longer offered. The Univera Plan was a \$20 copay with no deductible. Geoff Wright of New York Group Administrators presented Jodi and Dennis with another plan, which has just become available. It is called Blue EPO 2 Tier Plan which includes a vision exam rider, student to 23 and RX 10/25/40. This plan has no deductible and a \$20 copay for office visits. For an emergency room visit there is a \$50 copay and for a hospital admittance there is a \$250 copay.

Jodi also presented the following monthly rate comparison of the Village's present coverage and the new proposed plan:

	<u>Present BCBS PPO</u>	<u>Proposed BCBS EPO</u>	<u>Present with 10% increase</u>
Single	\$269.00	\$267.00	\$295.90
Family	\$651.00	\$658.00	\$716.10

She then explained that at their meeting, Geoff Wright informed her that the present rates we pay will be going up 10-20% and that the EPO rates are good for 2004. This new EPO Plan is cheaper than what the Village presently has, and the staff welcomes not having a deductible again. It will end up being less expense for the employees also since they will no longer have to meet a deductible. Jodi had inquired as to why it was cheaper, and Geoff explained to her that the insurance company had to come up with a competitive plan. One draw back is that you must use a preapproved doctor. However, the doctors that the staff presently use are all included in the plan. Larry asked if there was a lifetime maximum or a yearly maximum. Frank also expressed his concern that the employees and the Village evaluate the coverages carefully to insure that the proposed new plan is in fact comparable or better in all important respects. Jodi stated that based upon what had been explained to her, it was comparable to our present coverage, but she would check with Geoff to get more exact numbers. The Mayor stated that it is the Board's duty to make sure the employees have coverage and that the Village can afford it.

Resolution#4009-To Offer the Employees the New Blue EPO 2 Tier Insurance Plan which Includes a Vision Exam Rider, Student to 23 and RX 10/25/40 to Take Effect January 1, 2004

Trustee Beebe moved that this resolution be adopted. Trustee Fresinski seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Aye Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye Trustee Janet Beebe-
Trustee Frank Moore- Aye Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Motion-Approval of Minutes for November 12, 2003

Trustee Moore moved that the draft meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Clerk/Treasurer and the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Aye Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye Trustee Janet Beebe-
Trustee Frank Moore- Aye Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Motion-Approval of Minutes for November 17, 2003

Trustee Leopold moved that the draft meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Clerk/Treasurer and the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Trustee Fresinski seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Abstain Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye Trustee Janet Beebe-Aye
Trustee Frank Moore- Aye Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

During Mayor's comments, Don informed the Board that there was a meeting today with the Group of 6 in the Village of Cayuga Heights Office. They reviewed the status of action items required to implement the Intermunicipal Wastewater Agreement. There was a 10-day waiting period regarding the environmental review that ended yesterday. The DEC can now go forward with the DEIS. Don will get a copy of the Findings statement and the Intermunicipal

Wastewater Agreement to the Trustees. The first step for the Village is to accept the findings statement in total, after which it can execute the proposed Intermunicipal Wastewater Agreement. A public hearing needs to be set for the next meeting. The Mayor explained that there are responses in the SEQR Findings document to all of the questions that have arisen, and confirmed that the questions that Don and Lynn were concerned with have been resolved. Don read a portion of the proposed Findings document to the Board to confirm that the previously raised questions had in fact been addressed.

Resolution#4010-To Set a Public Hearing for the 15th day of December, 2003, at 7:35 p.m. for the Purpose of Considering the Approval and Authorization for Execution of (i) the Ithaca Area Municipal Wastewater Collection Improvement Project State Environmental Quality Review Act Statement of Findings to be Adopted by the Village and (ii) the Proposed Intermunicipal Wastewater Agreement by and Among the Village of Cayuga Heights, Town of Dryden, City of Ithaca, Town of Ithaca, Town of Lansing and Village of Lansing.

Trustee Beebe moved that this resolution be adopted. Trustee Fresinski seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Larry Fresinski- Aye	Trustee Janet Beebe-
Aye	Trustee Frank Moore- Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Jodi will place a legal ad in the Ithaca Journal. She will also call Attorney Susan Brock to get an electronic version of the Intermunicipal Wastewater Agreement to put on the Village Web Page.

The Mayor reported that Fisher Associates held a 2nd public information meeting at the Village Office on Thursday, November 20 on the N. Triphammer Road Project, and that there was a steady stream of people stopping by the office to view the information. A further meeting with Fisher is scheduled for December 19th. It was acknowledged that that day is also the Villages 29th birthday. The Mayor advised the Board that the Village will have to pay to move the utilities. He also reported that there are still three property acquisitions that need to be finalized. One is making good progress, one is moving a bit slower, and one is less encouraging. David Dubow and Randy Marcus are working on pursuing these matters. Randy will be meeting to try and resolve the issue with the southern most piece of Graham Road West. The north side of Graham Road West involving Pyramid Company is becoming a more complex issue, and as to that matter, the Mayor indicated the North Triphammer Road design and improvement can still proceed if the Village is unsuccessful in its efforts to acquire the additional property under discussion. The Village still plans to put the project out to bid in March and start construction in May.

Ned Hickey had asked Jodi to announce that the Planning Board has tentatively arranged to have Sharon Anderson's L.E.A.P.E. training on drainage and environmental protection for 7PM January 27th at the Village Hall. Ned is awaiting conformation from S. Anderson. Larry, Lynn and Frank all indicated that they were interested in attending.

Lynn gave an update on the Intermunicipal Organization (IO). Starting in January there will not be any representatives from the Town of Dryden to run the IO. The IO voted to move its headquarters to the Town of Lansing. Doug McEver is their representative to the IO. The IO is currently ready to hire a Watershed Program Manager to help with the grant writing, programming and training.

Lynn advised the Board that she will not be at the next Planning Board meeting and asked if someone else would represent the Trustees in her absence. Janet volunteered to attend the next Planning Board meeting. David Dubow informed the Board that the Hamlet townhouse subdivision proposal has received preliminary approval from the Planning Board, and that one condition of the approval was an extension of Wedgewood Drive for snow plowing reasons. This cost of the extension will be at the expense of the developer, and the new road area will be dedicated to the Village in the usual fashion. David also explained that this subdivision matter will be coming to the Board of Trustees in the future following the Planning Board's final action as the proposal constitutes a minor amendment to the existing Shannon Park Planned Development Area, which amendment must be approved by the Trustees in accordance with the Village's Zoning Law.

