

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, March 15, 2012, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Lynn Leopold, Patricia O'Rourke, John O'Neill and Julie Baker; Code & Zoning Officer Marty Moseley; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; Laborers, Adam LaLonde and Nolan Hatfield; Mario Tomei, Planning Board

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.

Lynn thanked Adam and Nolan for picking up the piles after she weeded the gardens.

John Courtney stated that he has looked into the light down in the vicinity of Shannon Park/ Beckett Way/Wedgewood and the trail that goes back up to the mall. NYSEG said they would charge at an energy only cost. They weren't sure if they could justify putting their equipment in there. The Village could expedite the process if we want to install our own equipment. The reason that the Village is considering a light there is to deter people from hanging out and vandalizing that area. John is worried that if we do install a streetlight that someone in that development will not be happy with the light. John is trying to get a hold of someone for the homeowners association in that area. Lynn suggested that John contact Jerry Monahan on Beckett Way since he has been the one to bring this issue to the Board's attention on a couple of occasions.

Julie added that someone asked her about the ice problem in that area. Courtney stated that there is a drainage issue due to elevations which causes a problem with ice. Julie asked if this was our property. John stated that it's our easement. Julie asked if we could add gravel there to take care of the problem. John said he has budgeted about \$1,000 in next year's budget to add gravel in that area and \$10,000 for blacktop. John stated that they try to blacktop all the Village trails. John stated that if we had to make the trail ADA compliant we would just have to close the trail because it would be too expensive due to the slope. John feels that 75% of the Village is ADA Compliant. Marty added that there has been discussion at the Planning Board meetings to make all the trails around the mall area ADA Compliant.

John will fix the trail up a little better as soon as they can. The Highway Department will crown the trail so that water runs off easier. This past winter someone fell on the trail and John stated that they went right out and salted that section after he received the complaint.

Don suggested looking into vertical ballards. It is like a vertical fluorescent light. John will look into it. Lynn stated that we don't want to leave ourselves vulnerable for mischief.

Don stated that the transfer of Bolton Point Road is moving forward. He and Jack Rueckheim at Bolton Point have both reviewed the proposed intermunicipal agreement and are satisfied with it. One problem that there is down there is ATV's going around the fence and big rocks and down the road. John stated that two of the four big rocks that the Highway Department placed down there have been moved. John will get larger rocks for down there.

John wondered if Jodi had mentioned anything about doing a budget transfer from highway to storm sewer so that they could get started on the stormwater work. Don stated that a budget transfer was approved at the last meeting.

John wants to get an equipment trailer because the 1996 trailer they have isn't in very good shape. A new 7 ton trailer would cost about \$5,500. Don said go ahead and purchase a new trailer.

The uniforms contract is up and John thinks we currently spend about \$1,200 a year for uniforms. John thought we should get rid of the uniform contract and do our own laundering. He suggested each person get \$350 clothing allowance for yellow shirts, pants and sweatshirts. Lynn asked if this would also cover Carhartts. John stated that the Village already buys Carhartts and boots for the highway department in addition to the Coyne Contract. Don will check with Jodi to see what the most reasonable thing to do would be.

John stated that they are excited to get outside and do some work. They are building a fence out back to shield the neighbors from the garage. Lynn stated that there are pieces of metal sticking out of the ground back there where she dumps the brush. It is also trashy back there. John stated that they have cleaned it up a little bit but he agreed that it does need some more work. The mezzanine in the garage is up and looks good. We are now thinking of ways to stockpile our salt in the salt shed.

Adam stated that they have been working outside. Don asked if we know where all the infrastructure is out front so we can start with the new office. John stated that they have found all the lines.

John O'Neill presented a traffic calming diagram for the Janivar neighborhood. The plan includes stop signs and raised crosswalks. Don stated that speed tables promote people to slow down but once they are across they accelerate which increases the noise level. Don feels the best traffic calming devices are stop signs. Courtney is concerned with a yield sign up against two stop signs. He suggested an all way stop. O'Neill would also like cross walks painted on the road where the trails cross the road. Courtney is concerned with delineating a trail that is not really promoting anywhere to go. It's not connecting to a sidewalk. Mayor Hartill reiterated that we must follow highway standards. Courtney will do a little research on this and get back to the Board. Lynn suggested looking at all the areas.

Julie asked if anyone responded to Nick's email about getting your Greenback. Lynn thought that having a series of meetings here at the Village Office was a good idea. The Board will discuss this at their April meeting. Marty suggested that we reach out to other communities and associations as well.

Julie stated that a couple of people in her neighborhood have asked about leaf pick up. After talking with John Courtney, Julie believes that the reason we don't do leaf pick up is because it is very expensive and equipment has to be replaced every three years. Courtney stated that the Village of Cayuga Heights does leaf pick up but is thinking about cutting it out of their budget. It's labor intense and goes on for 2-3 months. Courtney suggested designating an area here that they could come and drop off leaves & brush and we could then drop it off at the Town of Lansing. Lynn stated that the Town of Ithaca is starting to charge residents to drop off leaves and brush because of the expense to haul it away. Currently, if anyone from the Village of Lansing has leaves to get rid of they can take them to the Town of Lansing.

Julie now understands the difference between PILOT and PIF if anyone wants to know. People have been complaining about BJ's getting a tax abatement but they did not and Julie can now explain it. Julie was also concerned with the laws for the Coventry Walk/Wood Thrush Hollow issue. Now she understands that there are really two issues. One is that our Subdivision Law 125-21 specifies that 20 lots or more needs to have two means of ingress/egress. That area does have 20 lots. The second issue is there are a lot of precedents in NYS to have a public road connected to another public road.

Lynn stated that she and Julie attended the subcommittee meeting last night. There isn't a whole lot to report because this was a discovery phase. Lynn feels that the main thing that will come out of these discussions is a traffic plan. There are supposed to be three meetings. Lynn stated that we will never please everyone all the time. Each neighborhood has its own issues. Julie stated that the good thing about this committee is that everyone in that area is represented. Lynn stated that it became clear last night that many of these people had never talked to each other before.

Lynn asked if we could get someone on the Environmental Management Council. Tony Nekut was our last representative. John Dennis has expressed a strong interest in representing the Village. O'Neill stated that Derrick Evenson lives in the Village but represents the Town of Lansing on the EMC. Lynn would like to have our own representative that reports to us.

Resolution #5826-To Appoint John Dennis to the Environmental Management Council

Trustee Leopold moved this resolution. Trustee O'Neill seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Mayor Hartill stated that he had met with Jack Rueckheim from Bolton Point and they are moving forward with taking over Bolton Point Road which goes down to the water intake plant. The first step will be SCLIWC approval. The Commission will take care of snow plowing and the Village of Lansing will take care of maintenance. It will be listed as a trail. We will need to arrange signage. The Village will probably have to contribute to the fee that the Commission pays to the railroad every year to cross the tracks. Once it becomes a trail people will be able to park at the top and walk down to Poison Ivy Point. Lynn suggested having a clean up day. Mayor Hartill stated that we need to be careful because we don't have legal assess across the tracks. We only can assess that area from the lake.

Mayor Hartill stated that after looking at our budget he is seriously thinking about lowering our tax rate to \$.99/\$1,000. We have significant capital reserve funds and he doesn't want to increase that.

Lynn suggested we develop a park on the north side of Route 13. We have Dankert Park on the east side but it would be nice to also have a park on this side.

Patricia O'Rourke has looked into the Youth Board. She found that this year they want us to pay \$14,356, which is an increase of \$856. The number of Village youth being served is 25 of 125. Money mainly goes to Coddington Daycare, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Learning Web. It's a lot of money for very few kids. We really need to look into this further and do what is best for our residents. Don stated that we can go ahead and participate this year but tell them we really need to understand what the benefit is to our residents. Pat thinks it is a five year contract. Don suggested if we renew, we renew with the option to opt out in a year.

Marty followed up with the Cayuga Mall sidewalk individuals but they haven't gotten back to him yet. Permits have slowed down a little bit. Marty has opened the communications regarding the sidewalk along TOPS. Marty spoke with Tompkins County Planning on the intermunicipal agreement and they want to continue with the current 239 process being applicable to amendments to a previously approved special permit, even if it is a minor amendment. The gentleman that Marty talked to didn't quite understand the County's position. Don expressed his frustration with this determination as well. The Planning Board annual training conference has been moved to April from the fall. Mario and Marty will go to Saratoga this year. This item will be added to the agenda for April 2nd.

At the last Planning Board meeting they discussed some possible CLT District changes which they will continue to discuss at their next meeting. Ithaca Swim Club submitted \$50 for a demolition permit which was not necessary since Marty reclassified the work that they are doing as a repair. Mayor Hartill agreed that the \$50 should be returned.

Julie asked about the BJ's landscaping. Marty stated that typically we don't have the current nice weather this early. BJ's Temporary permit doesn't run out to July or August so they have until then to complete the landscaping. Marty stated that there are also a few planting issues which they need to come talk to the Planning Board about. The lighting issues also need to be worked out.

Nolan is enjoying working outside.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #5827- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 10 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$32,908.25 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 10 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$1,259.44, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 10 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$555.94, is hereby approved for payment.

Trustee Leopold moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted and Trustee Baker seconded the motion.

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill -Aye	Trustee Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye	

Motion- To Go Into Executive Session

Trustee Baker moved to go into executive session regarding personnel matters. Trustee O'Neill seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill -Aye	Trustee Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye	

Motion- To Come Out of Executive Session

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill -Aye	Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye

Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

The meeting adjourned.

Jodi Dake

Clerk/Treasurer