

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, December 3, 2012, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Julie Baker, Lynn Leopold, Patricia O'Rourke and John O'Neill; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm and opened the public comment period. There were no comments from the public.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

Trustee Baker moved to close the public comment period. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

The next item on the agenda was to approve the minutes from November 15 & 19, 2012.

Motion- To Approve the Minutes from November 15, 2012

Trustee O'Rourke moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Leopold seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Julie Baker-Abstain

Motion- To Approve the Minutes from November 19, 2012

Trustee Leopold moved to approve the minutes. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

The next item on the agenda was the Comprehensive Plan process update. Mayor Hartill stated that not much has been done with the holidays. Lynn thinks it is hard to do much without a community survey other than data collection. Lynn thinks we should move forward on a survey. Hartill stated that wording the questions of a survey is a tough task. Dan Veanor asked if the Village has decided whether to take Yasamin Miller up on her offer to assist with the survey process. Mayor Hartill stated that we have asked her for help with census information. Yasamin

didn't offer to design a survey. As far as getting someone to do a survey, the mayor indicated that it would be best to create a list of specifications and go forward with a competitive procurement process. The question is how we can do the survey in a sensitive way. Census data is very straightforward. The Mayor wants to understand the value added by doing a survey. Can we get by with a more modest approach? Typically, businesses get left out when these surveys are done but they are just as important as the rest of the Village. Veavor asked if this is a high enough priority to spend a lot of money on. Mayor Hartill would be comfortable with spending \$20K if the Village would get something useful.

Baker thinks it is premature to do a survey. Baker feels we need to continue to work through the Comprehensive Plan first ourselves. Julie stated that her efforts are to get minority participation, but she has up to now been unable to accomplish that. Currently the Village is trying to gather questions which they feel are necessary before putting a survey together. The Board agreed that they must go through the Comprehensive Plan and then use that process as the basis for identifying issues and questions. The Mayor stated that the last survey the Village did only had a disappointing 150 responses. Veavor stated that if people don't want to participate that probably means the Village Board is doing a good job.

O'Rourke reported that she has scheduled a meeting with Deb Dawson after the holidays. She has agreed to help work on the Comprehensive Plan. Baker feels she will be a good asset. Lynn has asked Nick Vaczek to look at goals for sustainability with her. Mayor stated that sustainability is a very complicated issue. The Mayor stated that the idea of completing the Comprehensive Plan update in a couple of months is not feasible. Lynn would like to see the Boards do the SWOT (Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats) Exercise which the Town of Lansing did when they were reviewing their Comprehensive Plan. The Mayor would like to have a joint meeting in February with both Town Boards and our Boards to have a round table discussion. Jodi will call the Town tomorrow to see if they would like to meet in February. It would be nice to hold this meeting at the Town of Lansing since their meeting space is larger than ours.

Julie reported that there was a water main break tonight on Cedar Lane.

Mayor Hartill stated that the Town of Lansing is continuing to try to figure out how to finance a new sewer plant. The cost went up again due to the slope of the piece of land the Town is building on.

The Holiday Party at Mayor Hartill's home is Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

The Mayor has received a response from the Village of Cayuga Heights Mayor Kate Supron regarding their discussion on concerns resulting from the recent change in the sewer billing method. Each Trustee has been given a copy of the letter. The Village of Cayuga Heights will review billing appeals on a case by case basis. They will not consider billing appeals based upon consumption due to watering. They have also decided to follow the billing practices of Bolton Point with regards to multiple dwelling units served by a single meter. The VCH will charge a minimum sewer charge for each dwelling unit. The following five cases had been previously given to the VCH to consider:

-10 Bush Lane-(high consumption due to lawn sprinkler usage)- No billing relief for watering or irrigation.

-62 Janivar Drive- (high consumption due to lawn sprinkler usage) - No billing relief for watering or irrigation.

-21 Cedar Lane- (sprinkler left on & leak in sprinkler system) - No billing relief for unintended sprinkler usage. Owner may submit claim documentation to support this claim

-51 Highgate Circle- (Broken pipe in basement floor) - Owner may submit claim documentation to support this claim

-165 Graham Rd.- (Water meter not read for approximately 10 years, but sewer charges paid all of those years)- Bill for minimum usage for previous quarter, then tied to metered water use moving forward.

Lynn thinks it makes people pay attention to what they use. Mayor Hartill stated that the Water Commission is revisiting the minimum charge for water. It may go down a little. The minimum charge softens the rate by 10%. What this means is that if we didn't have that minimum then our rate would have to go up by 10%.

There is some concern among certain parties with the proposed traffic light at the corner of Craft and N. Triphammer Rd. O'Neill reported that Ann Furry is worried that the signal would be too close to Bush Lane. Hartill feels we really have to do something to regiment the traffic from the north. O'Neill stated that today there was a line pulling out of Craft Road but it was gone after 2 minutes. It was concluded that we will go ahead with the traffic study. Mayor Hartill has had email exchanges with John Courtney and he feels the traffic has really changed since the last traffic count before the Triphammer Road Improvement project. Mayor Hartill will talk to Fisher Associates tomorrow. He will also try and contact Vince at QPK to talk about the new office building.

Lynn stated that at the recent sustainability meeting she spoke with Ed Marx from the County regarding their new solar panel project. The County figured that they would be paying for the leased panels about the same amount they are paying to NYSEG but would be saving on carbon reduction. One of the Mayor's concerns is that you do have to replace the roof which also has a life expectancy of about 20 years so the benefit is not clear. Hartill stated that this is more complicated. When considering the carbon footprint one must take into consideration that the solar panels have to be made and transported which adds to the carbon footprint. If one considers all these things, it isn't nearly as much of a reduction in the carbon foot print as one would expect. It was suggested that we explore and learn what the tradeoff is. Lynn will invite Ed Marx to a meeting this winter.

Leopold stated that she also ran into Joanne Florino of the Triad Foundation who stated that the addition to the Triad building is almost complete and they will be installing porous pavement for their parking lot. O'Neill stated that this area has rock so because of the cost to excavate rock to

get below the frost line it would be very expensive to install.

Julie asked Lynn if there was an update on the deer hunt in the Village. Lynn stated that she had not spoken with Bernd since the last report of 30 deer being taken from the Village. Lynn added that she has not been seeing the deer on her property like she used to.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Leopold moved for adjournment. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion.  
A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Jodi Dake  
Clerk/Treasurer