

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, April 15, 2013, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Lynn Leopold; Trustees Julie Baker, Patricia O'Rourke and John O'Neill; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Planning Board Member Phil Dankert; Planning Board Chair Mario Tomei.

Deputy Mayor Leopold called the meeting to order at 7:31pm and opened the public comment period. There were no comments.

Motion-To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Deputy Mayor Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Amie Henderix was present from Tompkins County Youth Services along with Lorraine Moran, chair of the Joint Youth Commission (JYC), and Henriette Bulmer. Amie presented the Board with a print out of a Power Point Presentation. She went on to talk about the Youth Development piece done by Youth Services commission. There are 237 youth aging from 10-17 from Lansing that are served by the JYC. Amie briefly explained the service they provide. Amie stated that there are two seats open for the Village on the JYC. Henriette Bullmer of 19 Ayla Way would like to be appointed to the Joint Youth Commission.

Lorraine stated that they are trying to keep this simple. State levels are less but the County has stepped in. Four of the programs that are funded are Cooperative Extension Rural Youth Services which served 97 youth, Cooperative Extension Youth Employment which served 32 youth, Learning web which served 123 youth and the Coddington Road CIT Program which served 14 youths in 2012. In the last couple of years they have narrowed their focus to targeting middle and high school youth with first time work opportunities. Lynn asked them to further explain what the CIT training involved. CIT training teaches youth not only how to be counselors but they also learn how to write resumes and fill out applications. There are 14 CIT and 100-200 campers at the Coddington Road location.

Amie stated that on April 30th they will be bringing schools together to see if we can expand services. Trustees are welcome to attend. Pat will be attending this meeting.

Amy & Lorrain have met with Henriette who is an engineer in the area. Henriette stated that she got interested because she came to Ithaca when she was 16 and there wasn't much for her to do

so she would like to change that for other youth. Henriette heard about the opening on the JYC through the Village of Lansing Spring Newsletter. Amie stated that the JYC will still have one additional seat to fill on the commission with the departure of Gina Giambattista but are excited by the potential addition of Henriette Bulmer. The Board thanked Henriette for volunteering for this position. They were pleased with Henriette and stated that they would pass a resolution at the Organizational meeting to appoint Henriette Bulmer as the Village Representative on the Joint Youth Commission for a term of 3 Years.

The next item on the agenda was to receive an update on the progress of the new Village office building. Dubow stated that bids were opened on April 10th. Our architectural firm is still evaluating the bids. Vince is reviewing bids for the important issues. As of this afternoon, Mayor Hartill had not heard from Vince about the status of his review of the low bidders. It is unlikely that we will be able to move on the new building this evening.

Don stated in an email that he is reluctant to delay until the 1st meeting in May and has been thinking about how to proceed. One way would be for the Board of Trustees to pass a resolution this evening authorizing the Mayor to approve the construction pending satisfactory resolution of the lowest bidder issues by our architectural firm and concurrence by the Village attorney. The other path would be to schedule a separate meeting sometime next week to act on going forward with the construction. The Mayor's preference is to pass the resolution with the understanding that all Board members would be polled before actually going ahead.

There were nine general construction bids, three plumbing, five mechanical and six electrical bids submitted. Each of the 4 categories has to be evaluated. The Village is required to have four separate contracts because of WICK's Law. The standard is to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. Lynn stated that "responsible" is the key.

The Board members stated that they will be available for a special meeting in the next couple of weeks. They recognized that both the Mayor and Lynn will not be able to attend the first regular meeting in May and felt that the best way to proceed was to schedule a special meeting with notice as provided by the Open Meetings Law once we have received further input and direction from QPK Design following the completion of their review of the bids.

Dubow explained that a special Board meeting can be called at any time. There is not a 10 day publication notice for a special meeting. The Open Meetings Law provisions indicate that a meeting scheduled at least a week in advance requires no less than 72 hours' notice to be given to the public (by posting) and news media; and when a meeting is scheduled less than a week in advance, notice must be given to the public (again by posting) and news media "to the extent practicable" at a reasonable time prior to the meeting. The calling of a special meeting in this fashion is not an unusual practice.

Lynn gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan survey. Lynn had previously asked Board members to send her questions that they would like to see in a survey. Lynn stated that she and Mario attended a meeting at the Town and did a lot of work on the questions this afternoon. Lynn also looked at the 2005 survey that was done by the Village. In general they talked about themes such as housing transportation, green space, youth programs and looked at different questions. Lynn stated that we will not be designing the questions; we will leave that task to the

technical people at SRI. Most of the questions will be closed-ended questions. The first question that will be asked in the survey is if they live in the Town of Village. The surveyors will ask different questions for those that live in Village versus in the Town. They will also be asked if they rent or own and a general question about income. We will approve questions before they administer the survey. The Village must decide on what is a priority to learn about. Many of the Town and Village questions are similar but both municipalities have questions that will be specific to them. For instance the Town has 10 Hamlets and heavy industry which we don't. Lynn thought it was interesting to hear that many people in the Town think of the Village as the town center. The survey will mainly be a phone survey along with a web survey portion being done only by the Town of Lansing. Lynn has given Jon Kanter the list of questions that she has so far but she is still collecting questions. Lynn will send the list of questions to Jodi. The staff deals with the public every day and may also have some good input.

Lynn stated that to keep from getting costly we can't have questions that have a lot of ratings. Yes and no questions will work best. She doesn't know if we can ask about deer with a yes or no question. You can formulate questions to get any answer you want. The Town subcommittee will meet with SRI soon to start thinking about how to put this together. It was suggested that the Board defer working on the Comprehensive Plan until after the survey is complete. Lynn assumes that SRI will test the survey out on the Board members. To poll 5% of the Village population would be approximately 175 people. It is unknown what the cost will be to the Village. We will have to contract with SRI for our piece. The Town got a proposal that 30-50 item will cost from \$7,600 to \$10,300. For the Town 396 people will be sampled. Combining forces with the Town should take our cost down. Village residents are also Town residents. The Village makes up about 1/3 of the Town's population. It is nice that we can share this service with them.

Jodi thinks another good way to get people's input is to just talk to your neighbors and find out what they want. There are neighborhood email groups that can be utilized. Look to see if the apartments have meetings that Trustees can attend to get input. Get information when out canvassing for elections. Lynn suggested we also send a survey to the businesses. We should consider crafting a survey that focuses on business issues.

One of the issues that the Town of Lansing has is fracking. Lynn stated that the Village is concerned because the trucks will travel through our Village on our roads. There could be issues with spilled products.

When Lynn was reviewing the old survey, one of the issues was bad places to cross the roads in the village. It is interesting to see that now these areas now have traffic signals. It shows that we have fixed some of the problems that were expressed in that survey.

Baker was concerned that if we ask a yes or no question about if the residents would like more sidewalks, how will we know where they would like them and at would cost they would be willing to pay. She also expressed her interest on the NY Safe Act. She went to a meeting yesterday with the three County sheriffs. It was clear that they think it will take years to sort all this out and interpret it. There are many unanswered questions. They are worried about the amount of additional resources they are going to have to deal with with all these regulations.

This is yet another unfunded mandate. They were left out of the law as far as enforcement. State Police will be enforcing the law. The people's whose job it is to understand do not understand it. There is not one place to go to learn about the law. Julie feels we will need to communicate this information to our residents.

O'Neill stated that previously it was stated that the garage next to Crystal's Spa on N. Triphammer Rd. is historical. The Board didn't know if this was true or why there was an issue with it when N. Triphammer Rd. was rebuilt about 10 years ago. Jodi volunteered to call to find out if it is truly historical. She will contact Tompkins County and the Town Historian to see if they have any information.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Deputy Mayor Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Julie Baker-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer