

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees, Lynn Leopold, Julie Baker, John O'Neill and Patricia O'Rourke; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Marty Moseley; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; Asst. Supt. of Public Works, Adam LaLonde; MEO, Nolan Hatfield; Dave Putnam, TG Miller.

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

Putnam stated that on Monday it was discovered that the water lines that used to serve the existing Village building and the airport tank are only under two feet so they will have to be replaced from one side of the driveway to the other. The office will be without water for a couple of days. The Village office is the only one that gets service from that line. The Airport tank is fed out of this building. The new line will be installed as low as possible. Currently, there is no bedding around the pipe. This project will be a time and material job. We already own the valve. There will also be a new main under our new driveway. Putnam stated that the pipe is in good shape.

Courtney stated that they have been buttoning up loose ends for the year. They are getting the trucks ready for winter. There are a couple of sidewalk repairs to do on Graham Road and Brook Drive. They may be crack sealing on Bomax and the newly accepted roads. Courtney is trying to get oil & stone on Bolton Rd. The Town of Lansing graded this road for us.

There was a water issue up in Lansing Trails Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There were high volumes of trench water following our line so we dug up our line to verify if it was trench water. We have a drainage easement between O'Neill's house and neighbor. The ditch was full and the Town took out three 10-wheelers of material. They did drain lines to ditch. Doing this will allow us to stop future infiltration. Courtney hopes that this will resolve issues downhill. When doing the repair they broke up their driveway which we had to replace. The ditch had no maintenance which made their driveway soft.

Courtney addressed the stop sign issue in Lansing Trails. He stated in his recommendation that after reviewing the FHWA Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices he sees no criteria that could justify a study or the installation of a three way stop at the location of Janivar Dr. and Leifs Way. There are no known complaints or police reports that document any vehicle/pedestrian conflicts in this area. Courtney recommended replacing the current yield sign on Leifs Way with the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Leifs Way and Janivar Dr. The addition of a three way stop for traffic calming and pedestrian safe crossing could give pedestrians the false sense of security that a motorist will give them the right of way resulting in pedestrian/motorist conflicts. The area would see an increase of rolling stops and also an increase of vehicle

acceleration (additional noise and loss of vehicle control) when regulatory signs are used for traffic calming. These semi-stops will then migrate to other areas when stop signs are actually justified. Snow removal will be made more difficult with increased snow banks at the intersection as the truck slows to a stop. We use rubber blades that have a great deal of resistance on certain snowfalls, stopping will have numerous effects on the truck including increased wear (shifting/blade full of snow increased weight on plow rubber blade), fuel consumption, driver fatigue, etc.

Courtney added that there is no reason why we can't revisit this issue when we make the final connection from Bomax to proceed to N. Triphammer Rd. Yield signs are highly discouraged. The Hemlock to Cedar and Janivar to Craft intersections both have yield signs. Courtney recommended changing those yield signs to regulatory stop signs. To convert these signs the Village will have amend the Village Code by local law.

The second issue Courtney wanted to talk about was mid-point stop walks. Courtney stated that they are discouraged because there is no means for that traffic for a stop. He discourages this also. Courtney pointed out that it is a trail system, not sidewalks.

Courtney did some research and found that edge lines can be used to discourage traffic from driving on the side of the road. We don't need to have a centerline just because we have edge lines. Courtney doesn't want to install any unnecessary signs. Hartill supports Courtney's recommendation. Hartill stated that striping provides for a pedestrian and designated bike use area. The shoulders have less asphalt. O'Neill doesn't like this but if that is Courtney's recommendation he accepts that.

Courtney has reviewed the request for crosswalk installations at Lansing Trails I area and, according to the MUTCD, Section 3B.18, "crosswalks should not be used indiscriminately at a midblock location". Crosswalks are typically installed at signalized or regulatory signed (stop/yield) intersections. Therefore he highly discourages midblock installation of crosswalks.

Leopold asked if we could use a pedestrian crossing sign before that crossing. Courtney stated that it may be different when a thru connection is made to Bomax. Hartill spoke to Ivar Jonson in July and said he hopes to get the road done before it snows. Courtney doesn't think it will be done until spring. The right angles are traffic calming themselves. Courtney stated that he will get edge lines in and add signage before winter.

Courtney was unaware that Hickory Lane off of Cedar Lane is our road. There were water issues up there and Mike Tokman graveled the driveway. Tokman has been maintaining it and plows it. Hartill stated that Mike is putting in fill up there. Courtney stated that they scraped some of it out because it caused flooding issues. The Village has sewer lines that run up there. Courtney wanted everyone to know that they weren't out their fixing peoples driveways, it is Village property.

It was asked if the pole out in front of the new building will be relocated. Courtney will talk to NYSEG about the brace and pole in front of the new administration building. It is an eyesore.

Mario Tomei stated that he was here to discuss traffic signs, but Courtney already covered it. He feels the two yield signs should be changed. It was pointed out that the trails on Janivar don't go to another trail. One must go down the roadway to get to another trail. At the Planning Board meeting they looked at Lansing Trails I developed as being a neighborhood. Currently, there are many turns creating slower traffic. The speed limit is 30 mph, and Mario asked if changing it to 25mph would help. Courtney doesn't think so. The Village speed limit is 30mph. Courtney doesn't know how Dart can be 25mph. He highly discourages a change in speed limit. Right hand turns will help verses a stop sign. O'Neill is worried about Janivar becoming a speedway. We can revisit this issue in the future if it becomes a problem. Jon Kanter suggested the Village have Fernando De Aragon come speak to the boards. He is the head of MPO. ITCTC is a consultant. O'Neill talked to him 10 years ago and he said the tables and chicanes work best. Hartill stated that the feedback he has heard from Forest Home Drive on tables is that the motorists slow down but then gun it which increased the noise. Courtney stated that you will also get junk bouncing out of truck and all the debris in the area. Courtney will give Jodi the recommended sign change list to have Dubow draft a suitable local law. Courtney will also add pedestrian signs by cross areas. Installing too many signs can also be more distracting. Courtney will also clear the brush around the pedestrian sign.

O'Neill and Baker had nothing to report.

Leopold will be missing the November 4th meeting. O'Rourke may also miss that meeting but will let Jodi know. From November 14th - 29th Mayor Hartill will be gone for a pleasure trip to South Africa. He also plans to be away again in December.

The second water tank off of Horizon Drive is almost complete. The tank has been casted right on sight. It has the same design as the tank we tore down, but better technology. The life expectancy for the new tank is 50 years.

Hartill stated that the Village will be closing on the center Dart parcel before the end of month or early November. His vision is to leave the western portion forever wild and develop a small park on the eastern most part facing Wood Thrush Hollow Road with a trail to Dart Drive. No new roadways are anticipated. The proposed park area won't happen until we take over Northwood Rd. These two areas are already separate parcels. The Mayor has heard a number of very positive comments on the new building going up. One question that is frequently asked is: Why is the new building so close to the road? We are only following our Commercial Low Traffic Zoning Law provisions and related Design Guidelines which has buildings closer to the road with parking in the rear to give it more of a walkable village feel. Once the new building is landscaped it will look better.

Dake pointed out that SCLIWC had submitted an invoice for relocation of the antenna on the building. It was moved because the new building interferes with their signal. Hartill instructed Jodi to not pay this SCLIWC bill. This was previously discussed at a SCLIWC meeting; Hartill will take care of it.

Jodi Dake stated that our accounting audit will take place next week. The fall newsletter has gone out. Tax reminders have been sent. There is still over \$58,000 outstanding. This large amount is due to one property owner that had a large delinquent water/sewer charge that hasn't paid their taxes. Jodi and Marty have been looking at furniture for the new office. Dake has been talking to a lot of people about the newsletter as they come in to pay their water bills. Jodi has contacted the Shannon Park "go to person" who has agreed to forward Village information to her email group of Shannon Park residents. Jodi feels we need to get out and communicate to people face to face. Our new website is up and running. We've had a lot of positive comments on that. Jodi is working with Ron to add a banner of pictures at the top of the webpage.

We have had a couple of issues with illegal hunting in the Village. The Sheriff's Department has contacted the Village about two issues. They came over to get a copy of our law. Leopold stated that to get the approval from landowners for hunting is very time consuming. Bernd and Jay both stated that if they have to get approval every year they wouldn't do it. This is an issue that the Board needs to consider before next year's hunting season. Hartill feels it is very important to get permission annually to make people aware. Leopold stated that there is nothing about deer on the Village website. Hartill stated that the Village is trying to keep a low profile. Leopold will look on the Village of Cayuga Heights website to see if they have anything.

Leopold reported that there is an upcoming deer forum "Nature Wars" at Cornell University. They will discuss urban area problems with wild animals. Municipal heads are invited to attend a special meeting to talk with experts and other municipal officials. That evening, there will also be an open meeting at Ithaca High School to hear what deer are doing to our landscapes and what that means for the future of our forests. We will hear what people are doing to manage deer herds. The Village picked up five dead deer this week. It was suggested that we have something on our website about deer hunting not being allowed except with special permission under our program.

O'Rourke had nothing to report.

Marty has received plans from TG Miller with proposed prices for storm sewer work associated with the new administration building and parking areas. It doesn't include the cost for porous asphalt. Courtney feels he may be able to get the porous pavement at a better rate. There are two options. The Board needs to decide on which option as the Village must have the required stormwater management. Option A goes out front near the canopy of the building, and another out back. It was asked if freezing is still a problem with porous pavement. Moseley replied apparently not. It thaws out quicker. Courtney is concerned with Option B having two porous areas with regular pavement in the middle. Courtney hopes for Option A which would be the least maintenance. You'll have great drainage under porous pavement, but he is afraid the freeze-thaw cycle there would cause a heaving of the regular pavement. Leopold asked if we have any information on anyone that has the two different types of asphalt. Courtney stated that Dave Herrick brought up Taper subgrade so we won't penetrate so much. Porous pavement is a special mix.

Moseley also asked Herrick about replacing the porous pavement in the future and ultimately having to replace it totally. Porous pavement also has to be vacuumed a couple times of year. We will have to do this by hand which is a big maintenance issue. Hartill asked if you make a pond, could you get rid of porous pavement. Moseley stated that he would have to talk to Herrick. Hartill would like to find out from Herrick if we could do something else. Hartill feels we need to revisit this issue and try to avoid porous pavement. Moseley stated that we previously talked about a pond but Courtney was hesitant about a pond. We increased permeable surface significantly when we expanded the garage area. Courtney is now not against the pond option. The stream bed also needs to be stabilized along the northern property line. The run-off is in that direction.

The Planning Board is dealing with a proposed 100 foot cell tower behind Cayuga Mall. Dairy One wants to build a new building on Warren Road next to its existing building on an adjacent lot to the north. They will be in to discuss this with the Planning Board in November. Trip Hotel has improvements that were approved by the Planning Board. Moseley is working on a local "Carts law" and will continue in that effort. The Planning Board suggested adding questions on this issue to the commercial survey to be circulated in the future as part of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Unwind Café will be opening in the Business & Technology Park. Smart yogurt is open in the Shops at Ithaca Mall by the Cinema. Houses are being built on Burdick Hill Road and Sun Path. Ivar Jonson is finishing the current road work in Lansing Trails II, and will put gravel in front of Ayla Way. This area is being used as a cut-thru which is making many Lansing Trails residents unhappy. Moseley will take the Board on a tour of the new administrative building. We will see a change order coming because of an apparent QPK problem related to the design of the fire alarm system and the required compliance with Code. Interior heat infrastructure problems are an issue and are being addressed. No landscaping plan yet. There is an issue with the soffit lights in the meeting room.

There are three pine trees next to the road going up to the garage that will have to be cut down. They are scraggly trees, not the nice ones.

Mosley stated that the Village may need to provide temporary heat for the new building. Edgar has done a lot of time and material work for us. QPK has been the biggest issue. They don't seem to be good at details.

Nolan had nothing to report.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6010- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$69,991.91 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$256,191.38, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Capital Projects Fund, in the amount of \$148,135.03, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 2 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$185,385.09, 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 Julie Baker-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill -Aye

Motion- To Adjourn

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

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer