

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, April 16, 2015, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees, Lynn Leopold, John O'Neill, Gerry Monaghan; Code & Zoning Officer, Marty Moseley; Fire inspector, Brian Quadrozzi; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; MEO, Nolan Hatfield.

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 12:31pm.

Courtney stated that the traffic signal will go out to bid. Dake placed a legal ad in the paper announcing the May 12<sup>th</sup> bid opening. Route 13 Water Project is essentially done. There is some swale work, seeding and sidewalk pour that still needs to be completed. The Highway Department crew has been hauling spoils and will be doing pothole repairs. The 2009 International truck is in getting repaired. Mill and fill and crack sealing will be done when weather allows. Wakefield/Churchill Drives will get paved in May. Uptown Road will also be started soon.

Courtney would like to send the 2004 Sterling Dump Truck to the Palmyra Municipal Equipment Auction on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Dake stated that it needs to be surplused before that can be done.

Res #6136-To Surplus the 2004 Sterling Dump Truck

Trustee O'Neill moved to surplus the truck and Trustee Monaghan seconded the motion.

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye  
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Courtney stated that this year he plans to rent a roadside mower two times for 2 weeks each time. It was asked when we would do roadside mowing. Courtney plans to do it in July. The cost to rent a roadside mower is \$5,000 plus paying for all new blades and trucking. The cost of blades is \$650 and trucking is \$350 which will bring the total to approximately \$6,000. Courtney feels it is too expensive to buy a new roadside mower and that a used one would not be good. Courtney asked if he should surplus the roadside mower. The Board felt he should not send the mower to auction and instead use it as a backup. Courtney stated that they spent \$9,000 to fix it and it didn't work. Stephenson Equipment is who he plans to rent from.

Monaghan asked if we would be cleaning up Dankert Park. There are lots of leaves there. Courtney stated that they would just mow and that should get rid of the leaves. It was also stated that someone is composting on our trail at Bellwood Lane. Courtney stated that it was the residents at 3 Belwood Lane. Courtney will talk to them about it. Monaghan

asked if the utility box on the path behind the Shops at Ithaca Mall can be removed. Courtney stated that there is no way to take it away. Also, there is another set of wires in the box behind in the woods. Courtney will check that out.

Hatfield stated that it was nice to have some sunshine. He had nothing additional to report.

Quadrozzi reported that he has established a productive relationship with Tompkins County this year. Quadrozzi and Tompkins County will now be doing inspections of the County facilities together. Everything is going well.

O'Neill would like to talk to Courtney about the mid-block speed signs for his neighborhood. He reminded Courtney that he said he would get signs in the spring, and it is now time. Courtney will take care of it.

Leopold reported that she just came from a Long Term Flood Resiliency Program. She will write up a summary on ways to deal with stormwater. In general, we are doing a good job. Advanced planning is the most important thing we can do. What happens up stream affects those downstream. The Village is high above in the watershed. We need to think of watershed planning. It was suggested that we have at least 6 feet of brush and shrubbery along a stream. Leopold feels we need to plant brush along the stream next to our office and not mow right up to the street.

Leopold reported that the NYSDEC deer nuisance season ended last night. There were 28 deer taken with nuisance permits. The flyover has not happened yet. Leopold will sit down with Bernd Blossey to discuss this. Forty deer were taken in the normal season which makes a total of 70 for the year. The Board needs to decide if they want to continue to do a nuisance hunt in the fall. The Board will talk about the possibilities later in the summer.

It was asked if the Deer FOIL request documentation had been picked up. Dake stated that it had not. The original charge was appealed because of the price of copying and staff time being charged based upon what was previously done by the Village of Cayuga Heights. Dake talked to New York State and they said we can't charge for staff time, but can charge for copying. Hartill feels this was pure hassle for Jodi and Lynn and an abuse of the FOIL process. What we do is sensible, worked well and very effective. Leopold stated that she didn't even know when hunters were coming because there was no disruption. The deer have eaten the forest floor and now there is no way of controlling run off from that area. Leopold stated that she bought wood from Courtney and is happy to see the nice weather so she can stop burning wood.

Mayor Hartill stated that today is Leopold's last staff day with us. The Board and staff presented her with cards and a cake. Hartill stated that Pat O'Rourke sends her best wishes via email. Hartill went on to say that Leopold has been a friend of the Village for a very long time. In February 1999, Kahn stopped being a trustee and Leopold was appointed. Then when Deputy Mayor Fresinski left the Village, Leopold was appointed

to be the new Deputy Mayor. We will continue to keep her engaged with water issues. On behalf of the Village, thank you! Leopold stated that she will miss working with everyone. It has been a pleasure to work with this cordial group. Leopold feels we are a model for other municipalities. This respectful group also has a sense of humor which is great to work with. Leopold thanked the staff for the work they all do. She especially thanked Dake for all she does and keeping on top of everything ensuring that the Village is running smoothly.

Dake stated that Tom Stephens has left the Village and has taken a job in Union. The MEO position has been listed on the Tompkins County Website. Courtney wanted to also advertise for a laborer that is willing to get his CDL. On the Tompkins County site they have continual recruitment for that position and don't list it specifically for the Village of Lansing. Dake has also looked into additional ways to get the word out. The Lansing Star Online Paper would cost the Village \$20 to run an ad, but Courtney didn't want to do that. He felt it would not reach the type of person he is interested in. After hearing an ad for employment on the radio, Dake looked into what it would be to advertise. To have 25 spots throughout the week on three different radio stations would cost us \$550. Since the deadline for admitting applications is just over a week away, Jodi had the radio station go ahead and create an ad which they dropped off this morning so the Board could approve it. The Board reviewed the ad and slightly revised it to include a reference to hiring a laborer who is willing to get their CDL. The ad will run during the drive time when people are going to and from work. The idea is to get people that already may have a job, are hardworking but maybe not happy where they are. Courtney stated that he also was thinking about advertising in The Shopper. It was agreed that radio was a much better way to advertise than the newspaper.

Courtney stated that he had no update on the Route 13 Bridge Project. He stated that Brent was sending a letter to his residents that contained answers to questions that he asked New York State. Courtney will send the information that Brent received to Dake. Dake will put an announcement on our webpage. Dake stated that even though it is not our project, we should do whatever we can to keep the public informed. Courtney stated that ITC sent accident repair on Tompkins County and he will also forward that.

Courtney informed the Board of an insurance claim submitted by the residents of 2 Dart Drive. There was a water break on Graham Road and when they were repairing the water break they hit a sewer lateral. A week later the house at 2 Dart had sewer back up and when Drain Brain came in to investigate they found that the problem traced back to the hole where they dug. Courtney stated that they were back in that afternoon and fixed the problem. Dake stated that Bellisario charged us for that project and wondered if it should go under their insurance. Courtney stated that he was there and directing him when it was hit and claims we will take responsibility. He feels because Bellisario was being watched by the Village, it is our liability. Courtney stated that the gentleman at 2 Dart was very nice; however Courtney claims that his wife was very aggressive.

Moseley reported that the number of permits issued so far this year are the same as last year. The stormwater annual report has been completed. Mosley worked with Leopold to

do this. Moseley is also working with Courtney, and the Planning Board has recommended proposed zoning changes that Moseley will present to the Trustees on Monday. He has already sent the electronic documents to the Board so they can review them before the meeting. Moseley is continuing to work with New York State on taking over a portion of Catherwood Road that is owned by NYS. He also is continuing to communicate with owners of Graham Road West regarding similar efforts to obtain additional road width.

There is a BZA meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> to review a new and revised variance request from CU Suites. Two years ago CU Suites was given approval for a mixed use building and now they want it to be higher. Moseley stated that we need to officially respond to the Thalers request to consider his sewer hookup charge. The Board has considered lowering the hook up charge in the past and it is time to revisit this. Dake will place it on the next agenda. The Mosque has been in to discuss their proposed plan revisions with Moseley.

Monaghan informed the Board that he had a meeting with Sy Smidt. He got a lot of information about the formation of the Village as to what was done and why. Monaghan is recording these interviews. He continues to work with the ESL individuals from Dewitt and Northeast Schools about the Village having an international art day in Dankert Park in mid-October. He stated that half of the Village residents are renters and he feels we should tap into this resource.

Courtney asked if he could go ahead and purchase a streetlight platform for \$2,000 and a broom for \$5,800. Courtney needs to look at A5110.4 and see what he will have left after estimated operations through May. Dake stated that she would be willing to help go through this with him when he is back in to work next week.

Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6137- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$22,224.52, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$123,534.84, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$5,296.32, is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$199,539.92, is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Donald Hartill  
Trustee John O'Neill –Aye

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye  
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Motion- To Adjourn

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

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

Trustee Lynn Leopold-Aye  
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer