

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, May 18, 2015, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Gerald Monaghan; Trustees Ronny Hardaway, John O’Neill and Patricia O’Rourke; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Attorney David Dubow; Planning Board Member Lisa Schleelein.

Deputy Mayor Monaghan called the meeting to order at 7:32pm 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 O’Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye	Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye

The next item on the agenda is to award the contract for N. Triphammer Rd. & Craft Road Intersection Improvement Project. There were only two bidders for the project which is considerably fewer than expected. The lowest bidder was Binghamton Road Electric, LLC with a base bid of \$274,107.00. This bid is \$52,947.18 or 24% above the Engineer’s Estimate of \$262,235.11.

Hardaway was concerned with the engineering estimate and the 24% increase. He asked if we need to change our bidding. Dubow stated that the market is not hungry so contractors are putting in higher bids. We are seeing this with other water and sewer projects. If we postpone and rebid the project we don’t know if the price will come down. This is a project that has been in the works for some time. It comes down to the decision of do we want to wait or do we want to go ahead and award the bid to the current low bidder. It is also possible that the engineering estimate was less than it should have been. We would of loved to have more bids, and it is unknown if the project was rebid if we would get more bidders. The market is driving the costs up. We need the project done and it has been a long time. It is also a traffic and safety issue. We have received \$40,000 in grants for this signal. O’Neill stated that he was against this project for year, but thinks now we should just get it done. Monaghan thinks it is the last piece of the intended project.

Resolution #6165-To Award the N. Triphammer Road & Craft Road Intersection Improvements Contract to Binghamton Road Electric, LLC for \$274,107.00 as the Low Bidder and Authorize the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to Sign the Notice of Award

Trustee Hardaway moved to award the contract. Trustee O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Opposed	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The Clerk/Treasurer will be out for surgery starting May 27th. It is unknown how long she will need to be out, but it could be up to two weeks. She will then need to be out again in 4-6 weeks. Since tax bills go out June 1st the Village should appoint a Temporary Village Tax Collector/Deputy Clerk so that the designated individual may collect money during this time. Dake stated that the person that gets appointed would more than likely just be writing receipts for collected money. After speaking with Barbara Epps from NYCOM, it was suggested that the person the Board appoints should not be a Trustee. It was suggested that we appoint someone for a period of 3 months. Dake stated that two months should cover the whole process. Dubow stated that the Board can appoint temporary deputy officers at any time.

Hardaway was concerned generally with the issue of potential need for additional coverage for both the Code Officer's office and the Clerk's office. Dake stated that we use to have a Deputy Clerk, but after she retired Dake took over her duties and we haven't really needed an extra person. When Moseley or Dake are out of the office they cover for each other. Hardaway wondered if we should have someone trained that could come in if needed on a long term basis. Dubow stated that many municipalities have a Deputy Clerk, but Dake stated that this is one of the draw backs of not having a large staff but it has worked for the Village and saves money. The Board decided that this could be a discussion for a later date.

The two options for Deputy Clerk are Marty Moseley, the Code and Zoning Officer, or former trustee Leopold. Dake stated that Mayor Hartill had not had a chance to talk to Leopold. Dake tried to contact her before the meeting but was no able to reach her. Leopold would be a good candidate because she knows the Village. Mayor Hartill will still try to contact Leopold. If Lynn covers the office hours from 9am-1pm on Mon.-Thurs., that would keep someone in the office when Moseley needs to leave the office for inspections.

Resolution #6166-To Appoint Marty Moseley for a Temporary Village Tax Collector/Deputy Clerk for Three Month

Trustee O'Neill moved to appoint. Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan entertained a motion to approve the vouchers.

Resolution #6167- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$32,685.61 , is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$1,885.62 , is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 12 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$174,842.04, is hereby approved for payment.

Trustee O'Neill moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted and Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye Trustee - Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

Deputy Mayor Monaghan asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the May 4th Organizational meeting. Hardaway stated that Dake did an excellent job on the extensive minutes. Deputy Mayor Monaghan entertained a motion to approve the minutes of May 4th.

Motion- To Approve the Minutes of May 4, 2015

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

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

O'Neill attended the last Town Board meeting were they discussed Autumn Ridge stormwater matters and stated that they would discuss banning fracking at their next meeting which is this Wednesday. O'Neill asked if everyone received Leopold's note regarding New York State and recent reports issued from the State and possible local municipal actions to be considered. O'Neill asked if we wanted to consider a motion against gas fracking. It was pointed out that there are not any desirable areas in the Village that would allow for fracking. Dawson feels this is less about fracking and more about auxiliary uses that fracking activities create. If the Town of Lansing passes a ban it, it will not affect the Village. Placing a ban on fracking would be a clear message that we support other municipalities. The Board decided to at least start a discussion at the next meeting.

O'Neill stated that TG Miller is looking at stormwater issues in the Autumn Ridge development. Since this development borders on the Village of Lansing, Moseley has spoken with the Town regarding potential impacts of their proposed improvements. Dondi Harner, TG Miller Engineer, does not see any negative impacts as this is mainly maintenance that is being proposed.

O'Rourke stated that she attended the Planning Board meeting last Tuesday and John Gillott brought up a point about each Board member having a Village email address. Dubow stated that recommendations to that effect are often provided to municipal officials. Having a separate email for Village business just separates out Board issues. Dake stated that if you use your personal email to discuss Village issues, it is still subject to FOIL. Dubow stated that if everyone wants to proceed with such a program, it presumably would be preferable. Lisa Schleelein thinks it makes some sense. Hardaway stated that you can have your program flag things as high priority. It is not that expensive to have additional vlansing.org email accounts. Hardaway can help set that up if the Board wants to do this. It makes emails more official, but it does not necessarily protect you.

Monaghan has been watching the "pour" process for the new concrete on the Cayuga Heights Bridge. He is concerned with the intersection of Cayuga Heights Road and East Shore Drive, and would like the Village to look at that intersection and consider redesign. Dake stated that this has been discussed in the past. With the bridge being closed over the weekend, O'Rourke stated that it was nice to not have traffic.

Monaghan stated that he is working with Cooperative Extension and Ithaca Schools on his proposed Art Project in the Park, and it looks like there will be a possible date in October. Monaghan hopes to bring a proposal to the Board at the next meeting.

It was pointed out that since the last Planning Board meeting discussing sign matters at the Shops at Ithaca Mall, it appears that a number of signs have come down. However, Lisa stated that she saw a car strategically placed in the Mall parking lot with a company magnet on the side. It is obvious that the car was not there just for a shopping visit at the Mall, but the intent was to use the car for advertisement purposes at the Mall. Schleelein feels that this is something the Planning Board should also look at.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan-Aye
Trustee John O'Neill-Aye

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer