

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, July 6, 2015, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees Ronny Hardaway, John O'Neill, Gerald Monaghan; Attorney David Dubow; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; John Gillott Planning Board Member.

Mayor Hartill called the meeting to order at 7:33pm and opened the public comment period. Sandra Boise stated that she lives in the Kensington Townhouses. She was present to find out what is going on with Northwood Road. She wanted to know who is in charge of maintenance because there are a lot of pot holes on that road. Mayor Hartill stated that there is an agreement to go forward but the details are yet to be worked out. He is working with the Rosen's, owners of Northwood Apartments. He is hopeful that this week they will be able to meet and iron out those final issues. The Village would like to take over the road and perform maintenance before snow fall. The Village owns the section of land over to Dart Dr. and it will become a park in the future. That is intended to happen next year.

Lisa Schleelein stated that she is concerned with landscaping issues in the Village. She has been involved with the planting of the flower boxes. She is concerned with the dead trees along North Triphammer Road. She is frustrated with the way the landscape looks around the building. She and Maria Stycos spent 4-5 hours weeding earlier in the spring. She knows that it is under consideration to get outside help around the office. She feels it is a matter of commitment by the DPW. Dankert Park is being mowed, but we are not trimming the grasses. She feels it sends a message of whether we care. She urged the Village to get it done and don't rely on volunteers any more. The cost to maintain wouldn't be that excessive. People do notice and have commented. Hartill stated that there was some warrantee issues being resolved. We are also looking into trying to engage an outside contractor to do landscape maintenance. We have been down in our DPW staff, but now we are up to full staff. At one point this spring we hired an outside contractor to mow. Monaghan stated that at the meeting in June they were confused with the landscape proposal. It appeared to be very expensive. The proposal was only for maintenance, the dead plants are covered under a year warrantee. It was asked what our DPW can do, and if they can't find time to maintain our grounds, what should we do. Hartill stated that at the next Thursday meeting we will discuss this situation with John Courtney. Based on resources we can work out something that is ongoing or adhoc.

Motion- To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

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

Hartill stated that O'Rourke is stuck in the Newark airport and will not be attending meeting this evening.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the minutes from June 11th and 15th.

Motion- To Approve the Minutes of June 11th

Trustee Monaghan moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill –Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

Motion- To Approve the Minutes of June 15, 2015

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Abstain
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill –Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

Hartill stated that there is a short section on East Shore Drive within the Village that is 55mph. The rest of East Shore Drive that is in the Town of Ithaca and Town of Lansing is 45mph. He would like the Board to consider lowering the speed limit in the Village from 55mph to 45mph to be consistent with the rest of the road. The speed limit was dropped from Burdick Hill to the bottom of the hill in 2009. Then in the Town of Lansing there was a petition to change the speed from Rogues Harbor to the Village line from 45mph to 55mph. Hartill has discussed this situation with a number of people who agree that it makes sense to have it one speed through that entire area. This road is a NYS highway so if the Board passes a resolution to recommend this change the Mayor will take it to the State.

Resolution #6178-To Petition New York State to Change the Speed Limit on East Shore Drive in the Village of Lansing from 55mph to 45mph

Trustee Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee O'Neill seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Gerry Monaghan-Aye

Trustee John O'Neill –Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

The Mayor stated that this will make it a more uniform section. There have been a couple of comments from young residents with children in the developments in that area. When the speed limit was changed on East Shore Drive going down the hill just past Burdick Hill, it was done because of a noise issue. This is more of a consistence issue. It doesn't make sense to have the small section in the Village be 55mph between two sections of 45mph.

Mayor Hartill stated that he is working hard to make Northwood Road happen. We are about to receive the dedication of the new roadway in Lansing Trails. Hartill will talk to Moseley regarding the final issues that need to be resolved before we take over the road. The holdup has been getting all the other issues with that development completed.

The Mayor feels that the Village hasn't suffered from all the rain. We did have one emergency and expenditure on Cinema Drive involving the culvert. We are trying to decide what to do with that area. We will probably end up installing a culvert system.

Dart Drive storm system has been able to handle all the rain. We have had twice as much rain in June than normal.

Gerry Monaghan stated that he attended the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council (ITCTC) meeting. Monaghan reported that the gateway across Route 13 is finally going to be completed. That will complete that section of trails.

Monaghan attended the June 30th Planning Board meeting. It was Mike Baker's first meeting and Monaghan feels he did a nice job. They discussed the YMCA pavilion addition and proposed outside facilities. The YMCA had hoped to get approval for the whole project, however, the Planning Board only approved the projects they had money for at this time which are the pavilion and some pathways.

Monaghan also reported that Eric Goetzmann was present at the Planning Board meeting to explain what's going on with the senior housing project and the pending landscaping/buffering obligation. Eric stated that they are making progress on the swap of Army CORPS wet lands. Hartill stated that Eric wants to increase the senior housing density. The Planning Board extended the planting deadline for another 6 months. Eric should know what he is going to do by that time. The Planning Board is aware that no planting can be done in January; however, their intent was for the Village to be kept updated.

Monaghan also reported that Goetzmann discussed the idea of opening up the plantings along Route 13 to allow for more visibility. Goetzmann would like to see 4 new restaurants added to his mall area. Monaghan stated that he drove by and he can see the mall just fine from Route 13. Lisa Schleelein stated that if he would cut out the dead trees he would see that it probably isn't necessary to cut down any additional trees.

Monaghan feels the path down Pyramid Drive needs to be maintained. He would like to see the Village fix the uneven sidewalk. Hartill stated that the problem is the steep slope.

The Mayor would much rather resolve the southern side issues. Doing this would involve an exchange of property on the north side. This would allow us to use part of that drainage system.

Monaghan stated that TCCOG wants municipalities to give input. One suggestion that he has heard is to have a bus that goes to TC3 from the Village without going downtown first. Herb Engman of the Town of Ithaca has a proposal to pool their long term investments. Hartill stated that the Village is not interested. We are the only municipality without debt.

Hardaway gave a report on the TC Youth Services meeting he attended. They voted and approved what they feel would be needed for next year's budget. This is the beginning of the budget process. Hardaway feels that all the numbers looked good. He also informed the Board that they are doing a survey in an attempt to provide information on how youth in Tompkins County are truly doing; the Achieving Youth Results (AYR) process is being launched. They are requesting that members of the Tompkins County Community rank the indicators that they believe should be tracked to measure our communal success in achieving the goals. The survey can be found online. The survey was briefly discussed.

O'Neill gave an update on the working session he attended at the Town of Lansing. They talked about the health care consortium. Our BCBS bills are less expensive than the consortium.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Jodi Dake
Clerk/Treasurer