

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Monday, October 21, 2019, in the Village Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill; Trustees, Ronny Hardaway, John O’Neill and Patricia O’Rourke and Randy Smith; PT Clerk, Tina Freelove; Attorney, Bill Troy; Planning Board Member, Monica Moll; Lansing Star Editor, Dan Veanor; Planning Board Alternate, Tony Ingraffea; Planning Board Chair, Lisa Schleelein, Robert Schleelein, Debra Dawson, Osamu Tsuda and 4 other public.

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:30 pm and opened the public comment period. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Hartill entertained a motion to close the public comment period.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

O’Neill made a motion to close the public comment period. Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye	Trustee Randy Smith-Aye
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye	

The next item on the agenda was the approval of minutes from October 7, 2019.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of October 7, 2019

Hardaway made a motion to approve the October 7th minutes. O’Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye	Trustee Ronny Hardaway- Aye
Trustee Patricia O’Rourke-Aye	Trustee Randy Smith-Abstain
Trustee John O’Neill-Aye	

Approval of Vouchers

Hartill stated that since we did not have a Thursday meeting last week we need to pay the bills.

Resolution #6616- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$366,071.07 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$156,098.85 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 5 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$242,010.32 is hereby approved for payment.

Trustee Smith moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted and Trustee Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

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

Status of Climate Smart Community Resolution

Hartill stated he is very concerned with the resolution for the Climate Smart Community. He stated that the Village needs to take a balanced approach regarding climate change and wants extended discussions about future choices. Hartill stated that eventually the Village will have to move forward with fossil fuels and replacing snow plows with electric vehicles, which will be very expensive.

Hardaway stated that the Village needs to move forward with goals regarding climate change and green energy. The Village needs to figure out how to plan for the grid and battery storage. Hardaway feels the Village could work with Cornell Cooperative who has helped other villages and communities move forward with these changes. Tsuda from Cornell Cooperative said he has helped Dryden with geothermal, LED lighting and the trail system. Tsuda is also currently working with Montour. Tsuda told Hardaway that he is willing to work with the Village.

Hardaway stated that any changes done are on a point system and the Village can document them and submit it to NYSEDA for a grant in the future. Hardaway further stated that earning the points is not the real value in the CSC program; the real value comes from the discussions of action items and Village artifacts generated by the action items. Smith said it is very clear the State has made this their top goal and this is not going to go away. The State has spent millions of dollars on green energy and most of the areas are in the Southern Tier.

Deborah Dawson stated that Climate Smart Community has been around since 2009 and she feels the Village needs to be proactive for climate change and have ongoing conversations with the community for involvement on moving towards green energy. Hardaway said the CCE team is willing to help with how to do this along with NYSEDA.

Schleelein stated that from the Planning Boards perspective she would like to see more landscaping and walk-ability in the Village. Schleelein feels they have to get out in front of this and some things on the list are possible and she would like input from the Trustees.

Ingraffea stated he would like to see the Trustees adopt the resolution, which is the first step in moving forward. Ingraffea asked why the Village would not want to move forward like several other villages that have already started the changes for green energy. Ingraffea countered that some of Hartill's statements about the limitations of technology and efficiency of electric-vehicle batteries and battery storage systems were inaccurate. Ingraffea stated if they want to have future conversations then they need to involve individuals with expertise and can appoint people in this area.

Schleelein asked Hartill what the downside to this would be. Hartill stated there was not a downside but his concern is he wants everyone to be aware and understand what will be involved moving forward.

Hartill made a motion to move forward and commit to the Climate Smart Community resolution at the next meeting. Troy asked about the verbatim on the pledge that is stated in the resolution. Tsuda stated he could help with the wording for the resolution before it is approved at the next meeting.

Status of Cell Phone and Computer Use Policy

Hartill stated he had no comment at this time.

Mayor's Comments

Hartill stated that the sewer lines connecting to the Town of Lansing are still a proposal project. Hardaway asked how many easements there were. Hartill stated there were still a few. A final payment agreement still needs to be completed.

Hartill stated he has been talking with the attorney from the Shops at Ithaca Mall on acquiring Graham Road West and wants to know how to move forward. There is a concern with lighting. Schleelein stated that she would like to get a better idea of what is going on as well.

General Discussion

O'Rourke thinks the village community should be involved with the Climate Smart situation, however, she wondered how the Village could get the word out to get them informed. O'Rourke suggested doing a mailing. Hardaway suggested a list serve or website posting. Smith asked how many attended at the last meeting.

O'Neill asked Veanor if he could explain the National Grid handout. Veanor stated it is very confusing but, that it is currently downstate.

Hardaway stated he had all the quotes on the park signs and would send the comparison information to the trustees before the next trustees meeting.

Motion- To Adjourn

O'Neill motioned to adjourn. Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

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

Trustee Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Tina Freelove
Part Time Clerk