

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, December 17, 2020, via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Hartill, Trustees Ronny Hardaway, Patricia O'Rourke and Randy Smith; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Michael Scott; Working Supervisor, John Courtney.

Mayor Hartill called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:09pm.

Courtney stated that they did some ditching for Bolton Point by the plant by Poison Ivy Point. Bolton Point is also digging the electric lines from the pump station behind the office for a generator and new power service which the Village was helping them with Wednesday before the big snowstorm came. NYSEG also put a new pole in.

There was another water break just north of Twin Glens Road. Hartill stated that that line was installed in 1969. The valve at Beckett Way had to be shut off which caused there to be no water service to Oakcrest, Cayuga Heights, Beckett Wedgewood, Belwood and Stone Creek since this is not a loop system, it is a dead-end system. Courtney thought that as part of the mall subdivision, we could loop that system down thru the mall's property so we would have a loop system and increase the pressure. Courtney stated that the line was sitting on rock so they had to get a jackhammer for the excavator and jackhammer the rock out.

Courtney has submitted his annual Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) paperwork. The Village has requested for payment for the Northwood Road Project from Pave-NY Funding for \$7,307.19, \$12,831.53 for Extreme Winter Recovery and \$75,822.30 thru CHIPS.

Courtney is also working on converting the streetlights away from NYSEG. He has not been happy with the service the Village has received from NYSEG. He is really working on taking over Janivar and Millcroft areas.

Hardaway asked about the lights the Village will be installing on Dart and Graham Roads. Courtney stated that he really does not like the cobra heads on the poles. Courtney would like to see the Village put the infrastructure in if and when we install a sidewalk on Dart Drive, like we did on Northwood Road. This way the streetlights would be owned by the Village. The cost to power our own lights is minimal compared to if NYSEG owned the lights. Hardaway is frustrated because the Dart Drive sidewalk project has been delayed and his concern is with the safety of his road. Courtney stated that it is very difficult to get NYSEG to do anything right now. Hardaway would like the entire Dart Drive project to start in the spring. The Trustees pulled the Dart Drive Project due to COVID-19. Hardaway claimed that the residents on Dart Drive have been waiting for the Village to add sidewalks for 20 years. Courtney stated that in 2011 the Village made huge improvements to Dart

Drive by widening the shoulders to allow more room for pedestrian traffic. Courtney would really like to get the water and sewer fixed on Dart Drive.

Courtney asked for a small change to the Employee Handbook regarding using your PTBA time to get overtime. The situation was the guys were called in at 4am to plow snow. One of the employees had to leave for an appointment and was gone for 1.5 hours. He returned to work and worked until the normal 2pm. According to the Employee Handbook, he should not of been able to use 1.5 hours PTBA to get overtime because he worked an eight hour day. However, he submitted for overtime and Mayor Hartill authorized it. It was decided that a statement would be added to the Employee Handbook that allows for overtime by using your PTBA time when you are called in for an emergency “outside of their designated work schedule”. The official hours for the highway department are from 6am to 2pm and then in the summer they switch to 4 ten-hour days from 6am-4pm. Courtney agreed to let the Clerk/Treasurer know when this switch happens since it varies every year according to when we start to get snow.

Resolution #6696- To Amend the Employee Handbook, Compensatory Time Section 3rd Paragraph to Read as Follows:

“If an hourly employee is called in for an emergency by an immediate supervisor on a prearranged day off, weekend **or outside of their designated work schedule**, they will be able to use their PTBA time and still be eligible for time and a half for hours over 40. Any non-emergency time must be approved by the Mayor.”

Trustee Hardaway moved this resolution and Trustee 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-Aye

Hartill entertained a motion to pay the bills.

Resolution #6697- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 7 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$46,131.92 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 7 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$5,175.96 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 7 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$5,915.34 is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Donald Hartill-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

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

Scott stated that permits are dwindling now. Most of the activity has been with the Planning Board and BZA.

Scott stated that the BZA overturned his decision and is classifying the Council as a "special care facility" so they will be moving on with their special permit. Scott has received their plans. The plan review will probably take a while to do because there are different categories and uses as far as the State goes. Hardaway asked who the contractor was going to be for Phase 2. Scott stated that they have not picked a contractor yet. Smith wondered if a poll was done, how many people would support this project. Hardaway stated that at the informational meeting many questions were asked, and he felt people once their questions were answered they accepted the fact that it would be a good facility to have. Smith wondered if the Village would have any liability if one of these patients escaped and there was an issue. It was unknown for sure. This would be a good question for Troy. After questions were asked, Scott stated that no one came out and said they were against the project. Dake stated that most of the letters she received were from people that did not live in the Village. Hartill stated that almost all the letters were from someplace else because they were not willing to foster such a facility in their area.

Hartill asked if their sprinkler system was up to code. Scott was unsure what type they currently have in that building but they will need to have to meet the requirements of the most restrictive use they have which would be institutional use. Scott will be looking at that and making sure they have hospital grade wiring also.

The Planning Board is looking to approve a Preliminary Plat for the mall. There will be conditions going into the Final Plat. They will also start the BZA process. There are 40-50 variances that are need for the mall to subdivide.

Scott stated that he sent a letter to the Ithaca Swim Club asking them about the proposed zoning change. Scott asked the Board if they wanted him to go ahead with an amendment to Proposed Local Law 4 to change zoning for just the Cornell parcel or if we wanted to first hear from the Swim Club. Since there is no sort of deadline, it was suggested that we wait until we hear back from the Swim Club.

Scott stated that a while back there were five parcels on Graham Road that the Trustees and Planning Board were talking about changing the zoning from Commercial Low Traffic (CLT) to Commercial Medium Traffic (CMT). Hartill stated that it stalled because of the Autodesk situation. Scott will look into reviving it.

Hardaway stated that there was some confusion about the Lansing Meadows sidewalk

escrow at the last Planning Board meeting. Scott stated that an escrow amount has already been established by the Trustees. Lansing Meadows Special Permit was amended to add a year to the deadlines. The deadline for the four buildings to be completed is now July 2021. The escrow would have to be in place with the Village or a sidewalk would have to be built to Village specifications before a Certificate of Compliance is issued. Another condition was also added so that if the deadline is not met than the amended special permit is null and void. What this means is that they would have to come back in a start a new special permit. Goetzmann was in agreement with that.

Smith stated that he has received spam emails from w2hat appeared to be Hartill. Dake and Courtney also received the same email.

Smith stated that he is also going to contact Courtney regarding a lighting problem with East Point. Courtney feels there are a lot of lighting issues in the Village. Smith thinks the problem is that the Village does not really have a solid policy for lighting in the Village. Scott stated that he is working on something that he hopes can actually become part of the Village Code. Moseley had started it when he was here so Scott will just tweak it with the changes that have happened in the last four or five years. Hartill stated that the lighting issues are only going to get worst because LED lighting is much more intense.

Smith stated that he has been sitting in on the Planning Board meetings. For a 3,500 resident Village, he can not believe how busy the Planning Board is. Smith stated that Goetzmann had to come before the Planning Board and explain why he has had delays. He blames it all on COVID-19 and not being able to get supplies.

Smith found it interesting that at the Lansing Meadows Public Hearing that Anne Furry stated that the Village was formed because they were adamant about controlling the new construction in the Village. She felt that all this building was going against what the Village was originally all about. Things have changed in the last 30 years, but Smith asked if we really want all this expansion. Smith thinks it is interesting that these four-square miles are slowly getting developed.

Hardaway stated that one of the ways we try to mitigate some of that is through our Comprehensive Plan and through our Greenway Plan. We try to at least build in some green space within the developments to try to protect green space we have already got. We do not want to see every square inch developed out from edge to edge. One of the arguments with the Lansing Meadows project is that originally it was supposed to be a very residential looking area with pathways and trees and landscaping. If they go to the full 30 unit build out, they are going to build to every possible corner of that property. That is not what the Village wants. That is kind of why we are fighting this fight to get that green space back into that development to make it an unusual and an attractive development, not to make it just another complex that a lot is filled with a complex.

Scott stated that on Sundown Farms they are putting up an ag building to store some of their machinery. No special permit is needed because it is an ag building because it is a working farm, so they do not have to abide by New York State Code.

Hardaway stated that he spoke with Moll earlier and Solar Farms is ready to send out the checks for him signing up his electric accounts. The Village should receive those checks by January.

Hardaway reported that the CSE Task Force was still ongoing. There was no meeting this month. The Greenway Committee is getting through different activities. They do not have anything to submit to the Trustees at this time. The Greenway Committee has reviewed the Village Greenway Plan. There are some changes they will be getting to the Trustees next month. Hardaway stated that the Planning Board is looking to start a subcommittee of volunteers to help update the Codification. This will probably happen in the next year or two. Hardaway was unsure who would be leading that charge.

Dake stated that she sent all the November month end reports to the Trustees. We are now halfway through our fiscal year. It is sad that we are not having a Village Holiday Party this year because of Covid-19 and wished everyone a Happy Holidays!

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Hardaway moved for adjournment Trustee 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-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:24pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer