

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Monday, June 21, 2021, via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees, Carolyn Greenwald, Simon Moll and Randy Smith (Arrived late trouble getting on); Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Planning Board Member Tony Ingraffea. There were 8 total people in attendance on Zoom. Attorney Bill Troy and Patricia O'Rourke were traveling and unable to attend.

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:37pm. Smith had trouble signing in because of power outages in our area.

Hardaway opened the public comment period.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

Greenwald made a motion to close the public comment period. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Hardaway entertained a motion to approve the minutes from May 17 & June 7, 2021.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of May 17, 2021 and June 7, 2021

Moll made a motion to approve minutes. Greenwald seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

After analyzing the financial reports, Dake has put together a list of year end transfers and encumbrances that are needed. Dake answered a few of the Trustees questions about how the process works before putting this resolution forward.

Resolution #6758 -To Approve the Following Budget Transfers and Encumbrances:

2020-21 BUDGET TRANSFERS- GENERAL FUND

Be it RESOLVED to transfer

\$.02 from Transportation, Street Maintenance, Equipment, A5110.2 to
Transportation, Street Administration, Personal Services, A5010.1
\$1,663 from Transportation, Street Maintenance, Equipment, A5110.2 to

	Transportation, Street Maintenance, Personal Services, A5110.12 (Chris Zavaski's overtime)
\$11,900	from Transportation, Street Maintenance, Equipment, A5110.2 to Transportation, Street Lighting, Equipment, A5182.2 (BC of encumbrances)
\$20,162	from Transportation, Street Maintenance, Equipment, A5110.2 to Transportation, Street Maintenance, Contractual, A5110.4
\$1,206	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Transportation, Snow Removal, Contractual A5142.4
\$ 0.12	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Home & Community Services, Zoning Personal Services, A8010.1
\$ 300	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Home & Community Services, Zoning Personal Services, BZA Members, A8010.12
\$2,522	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Home & Community Services, Zoning Legal Expenses, A8010.42
\$ 274	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Home & Community Services, Planning Legal Expenses, A8020.41
\$ 18	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Employee Benefits, Life Insurance, A9045.8
\$ 45	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, A1990.4, to Employee Benefits, Long Term Disability, A9055.83

2020-21 BUDGET TRANSFERS- WATER FUND

\$72.00	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, F1990.4 to General Government Support, Source of Supply, Power & Pumping, Electric, A8320.41
\$6,086	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, F1990.4 to Home & Community Services, Transmission & Distribution, Contractual, F8340.4
\$3,651	from General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, F1990.4 to Home & Community Services, Source of Supply, Power & Pumping, Engineering, F8320.45

2020-21 BUDGET TRANSFERS- SEWER FUND

\$152,247	from Home & Community Services, Sanitary Sewers-Contractual I&I, G8120.4 to Home & Community Services, Other Sanitation, Intergovernmental Charges, G8189.4
\$3,911	from General Governmental Support, Special Items, Contingent Account, G1990.4 to General Governmental Support, Engineering Contractual, G1440.4 (Due to encumbrance CH Rd tech & borings)

ENCUMBRANCES

\$10,000	A5182.2-Streetlighting-finish wiring Highgate Trail lighting
\$ 9,700	A5182.2-Streetlighting-Convert to LED Janivar/Leifs-Fingerlakes Electric Quote (Res #6706-\$9,670)

\$16,660	A8510.4-Beautification-Cayuga Landscape Northwood Trees \$9,860 Spring Clean Up \$6,800 (Due to Covid & staff issues done late)
\$47,000	G1440.4-TG Miller Cayuga Heights Road Expansion Tech and Soil Borings
\$21,294	G8120.4-Flow Meters to Match Contiguous Municipalities
\$4,500	F8320.45-TG Miller Dart Drive Water
\$7,000	F8320.45-Warren Road Soil Borings
\$40,000	F8340.2-Graham Road Water
\$390,000	F8340.2-\$333,326.99 Warren/Brown Road Water Main Core & Main Materials plus work

Moll made a motion to approve the budget transfers and encumbrances. Greenwald seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

HeatSmart Tompkins Presentation- Lisa Marshall

Lisa Marshall, Program Director of HeatSmart Tompkins, gave a presentation on air-source and ground-source heat pumps and also on the NYSERDA campaign which promotes heat-pumps within municipalities. Heat Smart Tompkins is a purely educational, community, non-profit outreach organization, funded by NYSERDA. HeatSmart Tompkins is committed to being a resource and advocate for improving residential building efficiency. They are one of about 20 NYSERDA clean heating and cooling campaigns. They provide resources for home energy audits and work with commercial partners to install energy efficient systems. They will help get the word out to Village of Lansing residents about the energy efficiency savings and all the special programs that are available to help pay for some of those things. The money that pays for all these campaigns is collected through your utility bill. On your bill you will see a “systems benefit charge” and that charge funds most of NYSERDA’s activities. The idea started as a community idea right here in Tompkins County. Out of that also came Solar Tompkins.

Marshall stated that the best pathway that they know of is to electrify homes and transportation. One concern is our current electric grid. What makes the heat pump so efficient is it is taking free thermal energy, the suns energy, and puts it through a refrigeration cycle that helps capture that energy and use it to heat and cool your home. They are very inexpensive to operate after the expensive initial install costs. Heat pumps will reduce your bills if you are currently heating with propane oil or electric resistance. As compared to gas they cannot guarantee savings.

If the Village launches a campaign to promote heat pumps, NYSERDA will give a \$5,000 grant if 10 customers within the Village install heat pumps. This is through the Clean Energy Communities program. It is a similar campaign to the Solarize program currently undertaken by the Village. There is a scoping document that will need to be filled out by the Village and submitted to NYSERDA. Hardaway had previously emailed the Trustees a proposed resolution to participate in the program.

Resolution #6759- Approving Participation in A HeatSmart Tompkins Community Campaign

WHEREAS, NYSERDA is currently offering generous incentives for low-to-moderate income households for insulation and air sealing, energy efficient heat pumps, and heat pump water heaters, and

WHEREAS, some of these incentives are time limited, and

WHEREAS, HeatSmart Tompkins is offering municipalities the opportunity to participate in a Campaign for Clean Heat to provide information and coordinate resident sign-ups for these services, and

WHEREAS, the campaign offers residents free assessments for home energy improvements, and

WHEREAS, successful participation in this campaign will result in greater comfort and energy savings for participating households and potential grant funding for the Village, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing wishes to partner with HeatSmart Tompkins on this campaign, and

WHEREAS, the Campaign will include a Clean Heating and Cooling Webinar that will be open to all residents, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing wishes to help residents lower their energy costs, and to promote clean indoor and outdoor air, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees hereby approves Village participation in the HeatSmart Tompkins Campaign for Clean Heat from June 21st through December 31st, 2021.

Hardaway moved this resolution. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Hardaway and Moll as part of the Climate Smart Community will get in touch with Lisa and be the initial point people. Marshal hopes to complete the scoping document with them by the end of the week.

Stormwater Shops at Ithaca Mall

Hardaway stated that a resolution with four options had been previously distributed. Courtney has recommended option one or two as the simplest solution. Dake suggested one and two. TG Miller has provided an estimated project cost for the Pyramid Drive Drainage Improvements. Smith asked if we had budgeted for this project. Dake stated that we have \$40,000 in that line item but this

project was not specifically mentioned. Hardaway stated that we may have to do a budget transfer for this. The plan is for our DPW to do the work.

RESOLUTION#6760-Procedure for Accepting Work Performance Bond for Mall Stormwater on Pyramid Drive

WHEREAS, This matter involves consideration of the following proposed action: A requirement for the finalization of a major subdivision of The Shops at Ithaca Mall (Tax Parcel #42.1-1-22), owned by PMI NEWCO, LLC, involves the excavation of the stormwater infrastructure to allow offsite stormwater from Pyramid Drive to flow along the south side of the Mall property. The work needed to be performed is described in the attached document and will be the responsibility of PMI NEWCO, LLC with the Village of Lansing contributing one-third (1/3) of the cost. The Village of Lansing Board of Trustees will determine the type of performance bond required; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Board of Trustees require PMI NEWCO, LLC to establish an escrow account with the Village of Lansing in the amount of \$49,081, which is an estimated amount determined by the Village engineer, **OR** PMI NEWCO, LLC can provide a letter of credit to the Village of Lansing for this amount.

Hardaway moved this resolution. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Moll all for accepting it and no reason for declining. Smith asked what the liability is. If we don't spend it we return it. Hardaway sees no risk. We can spend easily on water, sewer or storm. \$194K this year and then next year. Must spend by 2026. Greenwald thinks will be helpful for our sewer projects.

Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

The Village of Lansing need to either request or decline their portion of the federal Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by July 9th. The trustees feel they could spend the money easily on water, sewer and storm water systems. It is estimated that the Village will receive approximately \$194,000 this year and the same amount next year. The money then has to be spent by 2026. Hardaway sees no strings attached other than accounting and a potential audit by a federal agency.

Resolution #6761- To Request Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Hardaway moved this resolution. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

In Motion Contract

Hardaway stated that website has nested within a shared server that he has for smaller accounts. The size of the Village website has grown to a point where it drags down the resources of the shared site. The best solution is to move to an individual server of its own within the In Motion Hosting servers. Before we were only paying for the domain name and now we will be paying for an individual space. WP3000S is the best option and will increase the speed of the site. The additional cost to Village of \$ for 3 year contract. This update includes website back up. Greenwald stated that she agrees with whatever Hardaway recommends since this is his area of expertise. Smith stated that he sent the information to ICS to get their opinion and he is fine with this choice. Hardaway feels In Motion has great customer service.

Resolution #6762- To Pay for In Motion Hosting WP3000S Package for a 3-year Contract of \$359.64

Hardaway moved this resolution. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Dake pointed out that it really was not necessary to do a resolution for this. It would get official approval when the vouchers are approved.

Sidewalks

Greenwald asked if we could go back to the sidewalk discussion that was skipped over. The proposed sidewalk law is not ready. It needs to be reworded to be similar to our other local law formats. She also suggested that the determination be by the Village engineer and not the Supt. Of Public Works to be consistent with the rest of the Code.

Hardaway’s concern was with how to enforce it. Greenwald stated that it is not enforcement, it is a requirement. This is part of the special permit process. One does not get a special permit if they do not meet all the requirements of the special permit. Jodi will update it, have Bill Troy review it and send it to the Trustees before the next Thursday meeting. At that meeting we can then set a public hearing for the first meeting in August.

Dake informed the Trustees that Villages are not allowed to pass ordinances. Villages can pass policies or Local Laws. The proposed tree ordinances either needs to be a policy or a local law. Greenwald feels that policies do not have the teeth that the Planning Board needs to have builders put in sidewalks or plant trees. Dake stated that if we have policies, they should have been enforced.

Mayor’s Comments

Hardaway stated that we need to start thinking about when we want to open the Village office to the public. The restrictions have pretty much been lifted by the State. We can discuss this at the July 15th meeting. Smith feels we need to do what makes the most sense for protecting our employees. Hardaway stated that the Village is also working on getting an audiovisual system in the conference room so we can do both in-person and remote participation in our meetings.

The next topic was the Kline Road Bypass. The Village of Cayuga Heights (VCH) doesn't think it needs to pay to keep it completely open and usable. VCH thinks their new plant can handle anything that comes along. The group of 6 decided to continue to maintain that pipe in case of emergencies. The City of Ithaca believes that it will cost about \$10,500 for maintenance annually. 17% is our share or \$1,785. This will be billed annual from VCH. We should soon be getting a letter from the VCH that explains all this.

Dart Drive/Graham Road water work is still going on. They are going to put a couple of temporary culverts in at the creek while they are waiting for the permanent culvert.

General Discussion

Moll solar program going well. He is still getting people inquiring on how it works and how to sign up. He contacted the newspapers, and they ran an article. We have more than 10 now.

There is a Recreation Partnership meeting tomorrow night to discuss the budget. Moll stated that he sits in on the Recreation Partnership and JYC meetings and one of his concerns is with the amount of money we are spending. We contribute about \$35,000 a year but we are not sending a lot of kids to the programs. Moll does not want to step back from these programs but we need to do a better job of informing our youth so they can take advantage of these programs. We need a better way to get this information out. Moll has prepared a document listing all these programs to put on the website.

Greenwald stated that she attended the last Planning Board meeting. She has attended a few solar energy programs done by the State so she will start drafting something for the Code.

Smith stated that the Lighting Commission is working on a law.

Motion- To Adjourn

Moll motioned to adjourn. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer