

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Monday, October 4, 2021, at the Village of Lansing Office.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees, Carolyn Greenwald, Simon Moll and Patricia O'Rourke, Randy Smith; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Attorney, Bill Troy; Code & Zoning Officer, Mike Scott; Supt. Of Public Works, John Courtney; Planning Board member, Mike Baker; 2 members of the public.

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:32pm. Hardaway opened the public comment period. There was no public comment.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

O'Rourke made a motion to close the public comment period. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye	Trustee Simon Moll-Aye
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye	Trustee Randy Smith-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of September 16, 2021

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye	Trustee Simon Moll-Abstain
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye	Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Abstain
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye	

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of September 20, 2021

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye	Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	Trustee Simon Moll-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye	

On September 28<sup>th</sup> we received notice that Mike Scott had passed the Zoning/Code/Fire Enforcement Officer Test ranked #1. Scott is now eligible to be appointed as a permanent employee. Previously, he was provisional until after taking the test.

Resolution #6778-Authorize the Permanent Appointment of Mike Scott as  
Zoning/Code/Fire Enforcement Officer

Moll made a motion to appoint Scott. O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Simon Moll-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

**Lansing Meadows Sidewalk**

Goetzmann stated that he met with Courtney and the engineers last Thursday regarding the sidewalk. Goetzmann was before the Trustees to see if the Trustees would entertain a motion to move the sidewalk to the outside of the right of way (ROW). Smith asked if Goetzmann was proposing to move the sidewalk across the street. Goetzmann stated that he was asking to move the sidewalk over five feet south which would put it outside of the ROW. Usually, it is inside the ROW but they have the road, water main, under drains underneath the ditch and the sidewalk would sit there.

Moll thinks the sidewalk should stay in the ROW over the piped in storm sewer. Goetzmann stated that other issues came to light after looking at all this. They are just trying to figure out the right way to do this. Goetzmann stated that engineers on both sides are saying that there are issues along there. Moll stated that we have not seen anything from the engineers that suggest there is any sort of issues with it. Unless Moll is presented with a major issue as to why it cannot be done then he wants to see the Village stick with the original plan. All the information that he has from the engineer's says that this can be done in the ROW and it is the best and safest way to proceed.

Greenwald agreed with Simon that the ROW is the safest place that we have seen for the sidewalk, especially because of the ditch there with regards to both pedestrians and cars. Greenwald is inclined for the project to stay how it is currently designed in the ROW.

O'Rourke stated that we already had advise from Courtney to have the sidewalk in the ROW which is the safest way to go. Smith agreed that we should stick to the original plan.

Hardaway stated that he spoke with Courtney today and we have said consistently that we want the sidewalk in the ROW. We want the ditch to be piped and covered. The problem with leaving the ditch there is safety. If we move the sidewalk, the sidewalk becomes a chute for the water that runs off the elevation from the property across the sidewalk, into the ditch. If that ices over, people can slip and fall and eventually roll into the ditch. Our Sidewalk Law and our past practices have put the sidewalk in the ROW. The sidewalk will have grates put in alongside of it to take the water away from the sidewalk and down into the pipes. This is the safest practice. Engineers may need to do some adjustments, but the Village wants the sidewalk in the ROW. We want to keep the runoff off the road and sidewalk.

Goetzmann claimed that it was the Village engineer that suggested moving the sidewalk out of the ROW so that was the only reason he was bringing it to the Trustees. Hardaway stated that the only

engineer that said it might be possible probably was Brent Cross. Our engineer Dondi, TG Miller, and Courtney requested that the sidewalk to be in the Village ROW and have the storm ditch piped which are the safest for the Village and common practice.

Hardaway stated that the other issue with this is the escrow. Hardaway urged Goetzmann to fund the escrow for the sidewalk to make it a formal project.

### **Face Mask Guidance**

Hardaway stated that he sent everyone a link to the Village Face Mask Guidance. Smith asked if he had also shown this to the employees. Smith was interested in hearing what the staff thought of this. Moll stated that he would require anyone from the public that is coming into our buildings to wear a mask and out of respect our employees would wear a mask when they are having interactions with the public. We do not know their vaccination status or if they have Covid. Moll does not know if we need a policy for the purpose of our employees working together. We have a small staff and they can figure it out among themselves. Moll does not really think that John, Chris and Nolan can work with masks on. He is reluctant to have a policy that says you have to wear masks. Moll feels the employees are comfortable enough with one another that they can just figure it out. Hardaway stated that it is the indoor spaces that concern him. Smith and O'Rourke were also interested in hearing how the employees feel. This issue was table until Thursday to hear from the employees.

### **Surplus Loader**

The Board needed to surplus the Loader so we could send it to auction. We had been offered \$67,500 as a trade in for the new loader but had budgeted for a revenue of \$75,000 for the sale of the loader. The minimum will be set at \$67,500 in hopes to get at least \$75,000.

Resolution#6779- To Surplus the 2013 Volvo Loader

Smith made a motion to surplus the loader. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

### **Budget Transfer/Purchase Plate Compacter**

At the noon meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup>, Courtney requested that the Board approve buying a Wacker BPU4045A 17.7 Reversible Soil Plate Compacter instead of a side bucket. After researching the cost, the amount would be \$8,005.

Dake stated that there were two budget transfers that needed to be done. When the Board authorized the purchase of the AV System, that overdrew line item A1620.2 by \$2,999.99. The second is a transfer to A5110.2, Equipment to purchase the tamper. Both would come from A5112.2, Permanent Improvements, Capital Outlay. We have two highway projects that are not going to get completed in this budget year that total over \$250,000.

Resolution #6780- To Authorize the Following Budget Transfer:

Transfer \$8,005 from A5112.2, Permanent Improvements, Capital Outlay to A5110.2, Equipment to Purchase a Soil Plate Tamper and,

Transfer \$2999.99 from A5112.2, Permanent Improvements, Capital Outlay to A1620.2 Building Equipment for the AV System

Moll made a motion to approve these budget transfers. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

The next resolution was to authorize the purchase of the plate compacter.

Resolution #6781- To Purchase a Wacker BPU4045A 17.7 Reversible Soil Plate Compacter for \$8,005

Smith made a motion to approve this resolution. Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

### **Mayor's Comments**

Hardaway stated that the highway crew is planning on installing the culvert on Graham Road tomorrow but with this rain they may not be able to. Hardaway will send out a message to the Dart Drive list serve tonight to let them know that this may be happening tomorrow.

### **General Discussion**

Smith stated that he has not seen any Planning Board abbreviated meeting minutes from the Trustee covering the meetings. He hopes that this can get back on track. Smith will put together a spreadsheet with all the information he collected from the surrounding municipalities on retirement health care so that it can be discussed on Thursday. Smith will get the information to the Trustees before that discussion on Thursday. Smith also congratulated Dake and her son Kyle on winning a 3<sup>rd</sup> World Wrestling Title.

Greenwald went to the NYCOM Conference in September and thought it was very informative. She learned that the Village needs to opt in or out of the cannabis situation by the end of the year. Scott was aware of this and has been working on it.

Greenwald asked if the Trustees had heard of Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). Hardaway stated that the CSC Task Force sort of broached it. The CCA can be very valuable to a municipality, but it requires a lot of administrative work. The only way it might be beneficial for the Village is if we hire a CCA Manager. There are several businesses that will manage the CCA for us but that cuts into your profits. Greenwald stated that she went to a presentation by a company called Good Energy which is a CCA Aggregator. For more information one can go to the NYSEDA website and look up Community Choice Aggregation. It is legislation that allows a municipality to group all of its resident's electricity together, not the municipality, and sort of buy in bulk like Costcos. Instead of opting in you would opt out. This will be discussed at a future meeting once we get enough information together. Hardaway added that TCCOG also has a specific committee that is looking at how TCCOG members can buy into CCA. If there is a company that is willing to come in and evaluate the sector at their cost and give us a model for getting a better price, then that is a good deal.

Greenwald asked about policy review. She went to a session where they discussed different policies that are mandatory or that are suggested that municipalities have. Dake explained that we have all the mandatory policies in place and they are reviewed annually at the Organizational Meeting. Hardaway suggested that we go through Greenwald's list and just make sure we have the necessary policies.

Troy stated that with regards to cannabis, a permissive referendum has to be done. Greenwald stated that the permissive referendum does not have to be done by December 31<sup>st</sup>. You do have to have the board's decision regarding opting out by this date. Hardaway has put together a flow chart of what has to be done with this and he will share it with everyone. Hardaway learned from NYCOM that we should make two propositions, one for the consumer consuming cannabis on site and a second for retail sales. That way people can choose both, one or none that they want to opt out of.

Troy complemented the DPW for how they cleaned up brush. The Town of Lansing did the pickup. Hardaway suggested writing a thank you note to the Town DPW crew.

O'Rourke has completed the History of the Village of Lansing, a one-page summary, which will hang in the shadow box along with a copy of Rita Smidt's book. O'Rourke will share this with the Trustees. The Village will be selling Rita Smidt's book, Lansing at the Crossroads, here at the office for \$20. Next O'Rourke will be working on the wording for the plaque that will hang in the conference room which is to be dedicated to Mayor Donald Hartill. After that we will work on the final project of honoring past mayors. Some people on the committee want to honor all those involved in the formation of the Village but there are too many and it would be easy to forget someone.

Simon gave an update on the Town of Lansing Board meeting. NYSEG canceled the Bell Station auction. The Town has hired the services of a negotiator liaison to try and get negotiations started between NYSEG, the Town, Tompkins County, NYSDEC, and the land trust. The Town is also going through budget discussions. Moll asked how it worked with the ARPA money that we received. Hardaway stated that we plan to use the money on water projects since that is our weakest fund. There is the Warren Road Water Main Expansion Project or Graham Road West Water

Project. We will not have a problem spending the money in the next couple of years. We do not have to file a report on the money until next April. The Town will be voting on a moratorium in the RA Zone at their meeting at the end of October. There will be a public hearing. The Town elections are November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Hardaway asked if Simon had heard anything about opting in or out of the cannabis law. The Town has a committee, but Simon did not hear anything about it.

Motion- To Adjourn

Smith motioned to adjourn. O'Rourke seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Simon Moll-Aye  
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer