

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, April 14, 2022, in person and also via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees Simon Moll, Randy Smith (via zoom) and Patricia O'Rourke; Code & Zoning Officer, Michael Scott; Working Supervisor, John Courtney; MEO, Chris Zavaski; Laborer, Nick Dean. One member of the public.

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:04pm. Members of the Board that zoom in are still allowed to vote until at least April 15th. Hardaway entertained a motion to pay the bills.

Resolution #6825- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$58,323.44 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No.11 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$3,568.73 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No.11 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$778.50 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$10,313.16 is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trust Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Scott stated that he attended the first stormwater webinar. The training answered a lot of questions that he had that the State and NYSDEC could not previously answer. Scott has four more stormwater webinars coming up. The 2022 Stormwater Report has been sent out along with the 1203, which is basic information of what the Village has done over the last year.

Cayuga Medical came to the Planning Board for their special permit. Cayuga Medical will be sending back a parking lot layout with possibly some islands and greenery to break up

the asphalt desert. The Planning Board is allowing Cayuga Medical to reduce the number of parking spots required by 20% because of their use.

Scott stated that there is a VA Clinic coming to the old Party City space at Cayuga Mall. There is a letter requesting to reduce or eliminate the special permit zoning fee which is close to \$10,000. The way our Code is set up, special permit and building permits are based off the same calculation. They are claiming that they are nonprofit, however, Moll thinks they are something different. Hardaway stated that we definitely need to investigate some more to see if they are a nonprofit organization. It seems that they are a private medical clinic that focuses on certain patients. They will be on the Planning Board's agenda for the first meeting in May. Hardaway may potentially consider giving them a reduced permit fee if they are nonprofit. The Trustees all agreed to look into this further.

Scott has issued an unsafe occupancy area at University Heights Apartments at 134 Graham Road. Also, Mike is getting quotes for repairs to the unsafe structure at 24 Bush Lane that he reported on last fall.

The Village elections will take place in the Community Room. We got approval from the Tompkins County Board of Elections to move them, so we do not have to move our new AV system every time there is an election.

The Alcohol & Drug Center is moving along with their renovations.

Scott is really concerned with the break ins that are happening in the Cayuga Mall area. Store owners are concerned with people hanging out in their stores and they are making the customers uncomfortable. There is trash all around the Econolodge and the old Pizza Hut building. Scott is unsure what is going on at the Econolodge. He believes there is a State funded type of home there.

Hardaway stated that the Econolodge is being used for temporary housing for homeless. The County and State are funding it. The Econolodge management likes having them there. Hardaway stated that he received a call from a concerned resident that there is a lot of crime happening by residents that seem to live there. Hardaway would like to know of any incidents so that he can keep track of it. Scott can start writing up the Cayuga Mall for all the garbage. He will also look into whether this is now a different use of the Econolodge. O'Rourke is concerned that other businesses are going to be deterred from going to the mall area because of this.

Courtney stated that they have been dealing with the end of season snowfalls, Pyramid Drive storm work, and 3 pipe failures on Leif's Way. Courtney thinks that we should eventually consider installing storm sewer up in that area where people's driveway headwalls are failing. Courtney will add this to the budget in 2023-24.

Courtney would like the Board to approve Zavaski going to Highway School with him in June.

Resolution #6826 - To Allow John Courtney and Chris Zavaski to Attend Cornell Highway School at a cost of \$100 for the First Two Days

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trust Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Courtney would like the Trustees to amend Resolution #6716 from March 11, 2021 to Read "To Allow Bolton Point to Use a Portion of Land Located on the Village of Lansing's property, by the pump building to place their diesel generator for a One-Time Fee of \$9,000 to Place the Generator on Village Owned Land". Hardaway asked Courtney to send the proposed resolution to the Village attorney, Trustees and Jodi. It will be placed on the May 2nd agenda.

Courtney stated that the Warren Road Water Project and the Town of Lansing Sewer Project are both out to bid. The bid openings are May 10th and 11th.

Courtney would like to pop manholes on rainy days to check Inflow and Infiltration (I&I). The Village does not want driveway drains, gutter drains or sump pumps running into our sewer system. If we find this situation, it is the homeowners responsibility to disconnect them from the sewer. Courtney plans to work on this.

Courtney stated that he is having trouble with emails going to spam. Hardaway will tweak it down one more step to see if that solves the problem. Hardaway stated that all staff should always confirm the email address because there is a lot of people that use our names but a different email address to try and get money.

O'Rourke asked who was responsible for the pothole when you are driving into Target. Courtney stated that it is the Malls responsibility. Courtney stated that he has sent an email to the mall regarding this. Hardaway thinks that with Cayuga Medical coming in that they will put pressure on the mall owners to get those potholes fixed.

Smith congratulated Courtney on being at the Village for 17 years. Smith stated that if we cancel our Monday meeting this will be his and Moll's final meeting. Smith stated that it has been a pleasure working with everyone and he will miss this. But he is moving on to something else.

Zavaski had nothing to add.

Moll asked what the next big project would be. Courtney stated that they would be doing St. Joseph/Votapka the first week of May since Bellisario needs to go do another project and is not available until then to help us. There is 2,500 feet of pipe to install. Courtney stated that they can do about 500 feet in a day. Zavaski has done a great job of training Dean. Dean has become their full-time truck driver.

Smith stated that the water line was fixed at 3 Bellwood Lane. Smith asked Courtney if they were going to be able to fix her yard. Courtney stated that they were waiting on it to settle before going back out there. Courtney stated that they have a ton of fixing to do. In a couple of weeks, the highway department will be out taking care of these areas.

Courtney stated that he would be off next week. He would like the option of buying back 100 hours to keep his vacation and comp time down. Hardaway stated that we will discuss that in the future. Smith stated that with the Village adding more road we need to consider increasing hours or adding another employee. Hardaway stated that he and Courtney briefly discussed this and we are not ready for it yet but maybe down the road. Courtney stated that the guys like to work and get overtime.

Moll stated that at the Planning Board meeting they discussed the parking for Cayuga Medical. The Planning Board is willing to lower the number of required parking spots to get a more aesthetically pleasing parking area with landscaping. They also talked a little about the tree local law. Scott has put that into code form.

Moll stated that the Joint Youth Commission (JYC) will be attending the Village's May 16th meeting. They will be discussing their budget and last year's annual report. Moll reported that only 11 kids from the Village went to JYC programs last year. These are not free programs. It is costing the Village about \$3,000 for each kid to attend a program that the kids are paying for as well. JYC knows that the numbers for the Village of Lansing are really poor. The reason is because it is just too far to go. Since Moll is leaving the Village he does not want to make any decisions. He would like someone else to go to the JYC and see what they can do. These are really good programs which are heavily attended by the Town and City of Ithaca. Village kids are not participating because we are part of Lansing Youth Services. Moll feels we need to give it a little more time to see if we can get participation up. Hardaway stated that the participation numbers have been low ever since he has been a Trustee. Greenwald has taken advantage of the program with her kids and she really liked the programs. Hardaway thinks one problem is that the Village has two different school districts. Moll stated that people do not always know which municipality they live in so the numbers may be misrepresented. Moll stated that we are also part of the Recreation Partnership and we do not seem to have a problem with numbers there. Even during the Covid years the Village sent over 200 kids to that program, which the Village pays the same amount of money for. Moll feels we need to think about where we are spending the money. O'Rourke stated there was the same problem when she was on the Board. She also feels we are paying too much.

Moll stated that if this is the last meeting, he will send out an email to try and wrap up a few things. He was unsure where we ended up with the bus shelter situation on Uptown Road. Courtney stated that they talked about removing the current bus shelter and bring in some clean fill to make it even with the road to create a nice place for people to stand. Hardaway suggested putting a bench there. Moll would like to get rid of both bus stops. Moll feels we have too many bus stops spaced too close together. Moll researched this and they say that bus stops should be at least a quarter of a mile apart.

Hardaway thanked both Simon and Randy for their contributions to the Village. Hardaway stated that we are looking for Planning Board members. With Monica Moll stepping down we need another full time Planning Board member and an alternate.

The Village elections are Tuesday, April 26th from noon to 9pm in the Community Room.

Motion- To Cancel the April 18, 2022 Board of Trustee Meeting Due to a Lack of Agenda Items

Trustee O'Rourke moved to cancel the meeting. Trustee Moll seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trust Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

Hardaway encouraged the Board to always stay in touch between meetings with emails.

Motion- To Adjourn

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Simon Moll-Aye

Trust Patricia O'Rourke-Aye
Trustee Randy Smith-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer