

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, August 11, 2022, held at the Village of Lansing 2405 N. Triphammer Road and also via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees Carolyn Greenwald and Susan Ainslie; Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake; Code & Zoning Officer, Michael Scott; Supt. of Public Works John Courtney; MEO, Chris Zavaski and Nick Dean.

Zoom: Trustees Jeff Dobbin

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:06pm.

Scott stated that the big issue is trash disposal at multi-unit facilities. He is working on getting a letter out to the apartment owners. Scott plans to go to the apartments and look at any violations with Quadrozzi.

Scott stated that the VA Clinic is moving along. Aldi's is looking to open in September. The Drug & Alcohol Council is also moving along. Eric Goetzmann came into the Planning Board meeting. His special permit has a condition that states he must come back to the Planning Board July 26th to discuss Phase II, which are the final two buildings. The foundations were supposed to be in by July 26th but were not. The Planning Board is working to see if they will extend his time and if they will require an escrow. We will know more on August 30th when he comes back to the Planning Board with some proposals.

Scott stated that there are two proposed laws coming to the Trustees. The first amends the tree conservation section of the Code and the second is on Special Permits. Now Scott will focus on the solar law.

We had Cayuga Landscape come in and clean up the property that was deemed inhabitable at 24 Bush Lane. The property had grown up and we went in to clean it up. They will be charged for this on their tax roll.

Hardaway asked for an update on University Heights Apartments. Scott stated that he met with Peter at the end of last week regarding items that need to be taken care of. He has taken care of a few of them. Scott will be meeting with Peter again next Tuesday about other complaints the Village has received. He has been proactive about helping us out. Hardaway asked if they would be getting more dumpsters or more frequent service to empty them. Peter needs to get the ok from the owner.

Dake asked Scott if there were other code issues that were more important to work on than the solar law. Scott stated that there are other wording issues that they have talked about, they also talked about increasing the fees for the BZA. Greenwald added that Schleelein would really like to go through all of the zoning law. Hardaway stated that Tompkins

County Planning Department will give staff for updating the code. Dake feels our Planning Board members are the best ones to update the code since they deal with it, know what issues they have had, and knows what is working and what is not.

Greenwald stated that she does not want to over legislate things and make things overly complicated but at the same time she does not want the Village to be hindered by the code. But, if we see something globally where we can do more, if we have the language, then she would really like to pursue all those things.

Scott reminded the Board that we can control zoning, but code wise we have to follow NYS Code. Greenwald would like to look into things like noise and fines. Greenwald would like to be able to do something with people that take advantage. Dake stated that the Planning Board had done the code updates in the past when Ned Hickey was chair. Since then, it has gotten a little laxed. Greenwald suggested scheduling it into the Planning Board meetings on a regular basis.

Dobbin asked if the Village changes the Code does an existing building get grandfathered in. Scott stated that it depends. Existing buildings have different rules than new building. If it is a rule on garbage, no one would be exempt. On the other hand, if set back changes are done then existing buildings would get grandfathered in until they make a change on the building.

Courtney stated that the sewer benefit area project had their first preconstruction meeting. It looks like the contractor should start surveying by the end of this month and also some tree trimming. The contractor's objective is to get from Ron Seacord's residence at the intersection of Cayuga Heights Road and East Shore Drive up to the Town/Village line at Waterwagon Road. The contractor would like to get the section that is in the NYSDOT right of way done this fall. Courtney stated that they are also specking generators to run the pump stations. There are two pump stations, one at Twin Glens and the other is at the Cayuga Heights Road and East shore Drive intersection.

The Warren Road Water Reconstruction Project is going well. Three of the five road borings are completed. Courtney feels they have been good contractors staying out of road and not impacting traffic. The contractor broke a directional drill bit but there was no extra cost to village.

Courtney stated that he and his crew have been doing a lot of various projects. Now they plan to focus on completing the St. Joseph/Votapka Road project. The driveways have been tied in. There was a good test of the new stormwater infrastructure with last week's rain. Courtney stated that they stopped the progress up there because they knew they couldn't get grass to grow with the drought we were having. The village crew set the final catch basin yesterday. Next Monday and Tuesday they will start pulling wire for the streetlights.

Courtney stated that Lansing Meadows has consumed a lot of his time. There are a lot of issues with that project. There are too many serious issues for Courtney to sign off on that project. There are I&I issues with the system they installed.

Courtney would like to turn the airport I & I issue over to Hardaway. The airport promised Courtney information, but he still has not received it. He would like to see the lateral in question terminated. Courtney has requested that they add a butterfly plug to stop any potential I & I. Courtney has requested that John Nalley send the Village pictures once this is completed. Courtney would like to have Hardaway get drawings of the sewer and water utilities up there. Hardaway will contact Josh Nalley.

Greenwald asked how long Cayuga Heights Road would be closed when we do our portion of the sewer line. Courtney stated that it will not be closed. Cayuga Heights is doing a significant storm utility crossing so that is why they have their portion of the road closed. For the Village project, starting in September they will work for 30 days on the State side of it. The contractor will basically shut down for the winter. They may do some light work that will have very little asphalt disturbance because in the winter you can not get asphalt.

On Monday Courtney has a meeting with the mall regarding a sink hole that came up behind the mall on the trail to Shannon Park. When the mall did some work recently to the elbow pipe, which was part of the mall subdivision, it allowed the water to move through the pipes more rapidly and it caused some scouring which ultimately led to a giant sinkhole in the trail. Their pipe was rusted out and failed. Courtney is working with Dondi on the trail design. The trail will be moved slightly and will not be as steep. The Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with the mall is great. It helps to maintain the mall area.

Dake stated that nothing other than normal activities are happening in her office. She asked if the Board would like to pay the bills.

Resolution #6877- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 3 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$53,997.21 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No.3 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$52,437.66 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 3 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$104,493.72 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 3 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$21,186.59 is hereby approved for payment.

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Jeff Dobbin-Aye

Ainslie stated that the tree ordinance and code update to Special Permits will be coming to the Trustees. Ainslie appreciates the changes to clear concise wording. Dake stated that both proposed local laws will be on the agenda for Monday. She will email copies to the Trustees with the agenda. Lansing Meadows is coming back for an extension. Ainslie feels it needs to be done!

Greenwald wanted to raise the community choice aggregation again. It is a system where a 3rd party vendor puts together a deal for an entire municipality for either gas or electric or both. It is an opt out system. You then get a fixed price determined by the number of members. This is something that has been popular in other States, and it is now becoming popular in New York. The Town of Ithaca is looking to hire someone to look into community choice aggregation for the town. Greenwald thought we might want to join them. Greenwald will reach out to the Town and see if they would consider include other municipalities. Hardaway stated that the problem in the past was that each municipality had to do all the management of the utility bill. Our village could not accept that type of human resources. Greenwald will gather information for the Sept 15 or 19th meeting.

Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

For the past few weeks, Hardaway has participated in weekly meetings with the intermunicipal Safe Streets for All (SS4A) representatives. Hardaway emailed the following information to the Trustees:

Some SS4A Study details:

- *Applications for plan development grants are due **Sept. 15**.*
- *A formal plan will open possible paths for future federal grants.*
- *This grant requires a **20% match**. The city and town of Ithaca will cover the bulk of the match. Any contribution from the villages would be marginal. This would be clearly defined before embarking on the project.*
- *The idea is to apply for a grant to pay a consultant to develop a safety action plan that meets federal requirements. The bulk of the effort will be in helping manage the consultant based effort, i.e. steering committee participation, data access, outreach assistance, review of drafts.*
- *City staff have agreed to take the lead in submitting the application.*
- *There would be municipality-specific appendices in the final study addressing the current safety conditions and recommended future capital improvement projects that might be appropriate for federal grants.*

Hardaway begin the discussion on this topic and provided a DRAFT resolution for the Village's participation in this study. Hardaway stated that we will not vote on the resolution until we receive a final cost for the Village of Lansing. There is a chance that our contribution to this study would need to come from the 2022-2023 budget.

Hardaway had also asked Attorney French to quickly review the draft resolution and provide the Board with any legal concerns. This topic will be on Monday nights agenda.

Hardaway stated that to participate in Safe Streets for All (SS4A) would cost up to \$8,000. The grant application must be submitted by Sept. 15th. It is a grant program just for transportation safety. To even be considered for part of the \$5 billion grant monies, you must have a transportation safety plan. This Federal grant is to hire a contractor to come up with a in depth transportation safety action plan. There was discussion on whether this was necessary and what the Village would get out of it. Dobbin would like more information. The Trustees will discuss this further at Monday night's meeting. Attorney French is also reviewing the draft resolution.

Motion- To Adjourn

Mayor Hardaway moved for adjournment. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Jeff Dobbin-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:13pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer