

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Monday, February 6, 2023, in person at 2405 N. Triphammer Rd. and via Zoom Videoconferencing/Teleconferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees, Patricia O'Rourke, Carolyn Greenwald, Susan Ainslie, Drew Riedl; Attorney Natalie French; Public-Andrew Sullivan Finger Lakes Newspapers

Zoom: Planning Board Member, Pat Gillespie and Kathy Yen

Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Roll Call: Carolyn Greenwald, Susan Ainslie, Ronny Hardaway, Patricia O'Rourke

Hardaway opened the public comment period.

Motion - To Close the Public Comment Period

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The next item on the agenda was to approve the minutes from January 12, 2023.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes from January 12, 2023

Hardaway moved that the meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes of the January 12, 2023, meeting. Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

**Appoint Trustee**

Hardaway recommended that we appoint Drew Riedl to fill the remainder of Dobbins term. Unfortunately, Riedl had made plans before he volunteered to fill the position. Per State Law, Riedl will have to run for a one-year position at the next election. This means we will have four candidates in this year's elections.

**Resolution #6918- To Appoint Drew Riedl as a Trustee to Replace Jeff Dobbin Thru April 30, 2023**

Hardaway made a motion to appoint Riedl. Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The Board welcomed Riedl as a new trustee.

### **Set Public Hearings**

The Village of Cayuga Heights and Bolton Point have both raised their rates for 2023 which will affect the Village residents on their April 2023 billing. The water rate can be increased via resolution but since the sewer rate is in the Codification it must be done by local law.

The Village of Cayuga Heights has increased their rate to \$6.00/1,000 gallons and the Village portion would be increased from \$1.44 to \$1.51. This will be applied to all village customers.

### **Resolution #6919- To Set a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law A (2023)- Sewer Rents on Monday, March 6, 2022, at 7:35pm**

Hardaway made a motion to set a public hearing. Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye  
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

The next item on the agenda was to set a public hearing for Proposed Local Law B(2023) to amend the Codification to replace "Lighting Commission" with "Code/Zoning Officer". Jodi previously provided the trustees with the following explanation:

*On December 15, 2022, the Trustees discussed dissolving the Lighting Commission. On 3/21/22 Local Law 1-2022 added Section 145-20.2 on Exterior Lighting. This section gives the Lighting Regulations/Requirements that we did not have before. Since we now have these requirements, and not just guidelines, it is no longer necessary to have a Lighting Commission. The Code/Zoning Officer interprets the laws of the Village. The Code/Zoning Officer can review the proposed lighting plans using the Codification and have it approved or changed.*

*The Comprehensive Plan under Planning for Character, Quality, and Sustainability (page 12-13) states that one of the planning strategies is to "Update the Village Lighting Plan guidelines and encourage all builders and developers to follow". Also, it says the Village requires prior approval of landscaping and lighting plans for development, but it does not say by the Lighting Commission or Code Officer so there would be no change needed there.*

*There was an Informal Special Permit Checklist that the Code/Zoning Officer uses that has been updated to reflect the recent change in the law on lighting.*

*On June 7, 1999, the Trustees adopted a Village of Lansing Lighting Plan which were also guidelines. This document was used in the creation of the new law and is no longer needed.*

Hardaway feels this will simplify the overall lighting approval process.

**Resolution #6920- To Set a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law B (2023)-  
Amendment of the Village of Lansing Code/Zoning Law to Replace Lighting  
Commission with Code/Zoning Officer on March 6, 2022, at 7:40pm**

Hardaway made a motion to set a public hearing. O'Rourke seconded the motion.  
A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye  
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye

**Refund Escrow**

Hardaway has discussed this with Scott. All the conditions of this escrow have been satisfied. Goetzmann has requested a refund of the escrow for the landscaping that was set up for BJ's in 2010-11. When the gas station went in the escrow got transfers over to the BJ's gas station in 2012. The escrow has been sitting there. Scott has confirmed that he has met what needed to be done and recommends we release that escrow. The Planning Board had an escrow recommendation for landscaping for the residential area that will have an agreement and an escrow deposit of \$38,700. On 10/17/22 the Trustees approved this amount with Resolution #6894.

**Resolution #6921- To Authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to Refund the Escrow Deposit  
Made by Triax Management Group LLC/Arrowhead on 6/27/2013 in the Amount of  
\$37,586.46 Which was for BJ's Planting on Senior Parcel Under Special Permit #2505**

Mayor Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A  
vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

**GTCMHIC 2023 Amendment**

Each year the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium submits their Amendments to the Municipal Cooperative Agreement for each municipality to agree to. The main change is the addition of new municipalities that participate. Every year we seem to add new members from other counties.

**Resolution#6922- To Approve the 2023 Amended Municipal Cooperative  
Agreement for the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance  
Consortium and Authorize the Mayor to Sign**

WHEREAS, the Village of Lansing (municipality) is a Participant in the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium (the "Consortium"), a municipal cooperative organized under Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law, and

WHEREAS, the municipal participants in the Consortium, have approved and executed a certain Municipal Cooperation Agreement (the "Agreement"; effective date of October 1, 2010) and the 2023 Amendment that provides for the operation and governance of the Consortium, and

WHEREAS, the Consortium's Board of Directors has recommended approval of the 2023 amended agreement, and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Cooperative Agreement requires that amendments to the agreement be presented to each participant for review and adopted by each municipal board,

RESOLVED, that the Village of Lansing (municipality) approves and authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to sign the 2023 Amendment to the Municipal Cooperative Agreement of the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium,

RESOLVED, further, that the Clerk of the Village of Lansing (municipality) is hereby authorized to execute this Resolution to indicate its approval, transmit a copy thereof to the Board of Directors of the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium, and take any other such actions as may be required by law.

Mayor Hardaway moved this resolution. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

### **Budget**

Every year we split our various sections and have a pair of trustees on each section to work with staff members. This helps to create next year's budget. Dake has been through this process many times and is there to help if you have any questions. Hardaway assigned the following budget sections to the Trustees:

Water/Sewer-O'Rourke & Ainslie  
DPW-Ainslie and Riedl  
Staff -Greenwald and Hardaway  
Recreation/Greenway- Greenwald and Hardaway

All this information has to be to Dake by February 24<sup>th</sup>. Greenwald asked if they should talk to all staff members or just the department heads. Hardaway suggested that they talk to all staff members.

Dake has already sent out letters to all our professional people we use asking for their budget recommendations. (Accountant, Lawyer, Engineers) Dake has been working on budget over the last couple of weeks. She and Courtney will sit down and go over what he would like to do next year and what in this year's budget will not get done.

Ainslie and O'Rourke arranged to meet with Dake tomorrow.

### **Mayor's Comments**

Hardaway stated that back in August we passed a resolution to be a partner SS4A. The County and the City of Ithaca won the \$750,000 grant. The Village portion will be \$6,190 to pay into the grant. There are still some steps to be done by the City of Ithaca since they are the lead agency. Once they sign an agreement, they will look for a consultant to help put the grant program definition together. This \$750,000 is just to write the program for future Federal Highway Association grant monies to help us to do all the things we want to do. Hardaway was not surprised that we received this grant because there were a lot of municipalities and the County involved and the federal government likes to see municipalities work together.

### **General Comments**

Greenwald stated that she will be attending the Planning Board meetings for February and March. She has been working with Baker and Schleelein on a Solar law. About six years ago she drafted a solar law based on the model law, but years have passed and now there is a new model law. This will be the discussions the Planning Board will be having. Greenwald hopes to have a solar law in the next couple of months that will address all levels of solar. It is a very cumbersome proposal. Hardaway stated that we can always change the law in the future to go along with changing technology. Basically, what she would like to see is a law that limits obstructions to neighboring properties.

Greenwald asked if there was a contact at NYSEG that we could ask about painting NYSEG housing. Around town some of them are painted but you must first get permission. Courtney or Scott may have a contact.

### **Adjournment**

Motion- To Adjourn

Hardaway motioned to adjourn. Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke-Aye  
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Greenwald-Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer