March 3, 2025

State of New York
2679 Route 8
County of Hamilton
Town of Lake Pleasant

A Meeting of the Lake Pleasant Town Board was held on March 3, 2025, at the Lake Pleasant Library 2864 State Route 8, Speculator, NY 12164. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., to make approvals, give reports, establish organizational tasks and conduct any business that may come before the Board.

The following were present:
Supervisor: Betsy Bain
Councilman: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Katherine O'Connell, and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent: Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Shorty Hoffman and Paul Allen

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #29 To approve the minutes of February 18, 2025.
Offered by: Braunius **for Discussion:**
2ND by: McGovern
Discussion: O'Connell asked if suggestions from two different people had been applied to the draft that was sent out and Smith said that they are already in the tentative minutes.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway reported that Jeff Murdie, temporary HWY employee, has left to go back to his other job.
-Power at the museum was reinstalled last Thursday.
-Damage occurred to the 212 Dodge pickup truck when it was parked too close to the building and the snow came off the roof. There was a bow in the roof that had been pushed back out. The hood has a 3in. dent in it. Towns Insurance Company has been contacted for coverage. LaVarnway let the board know that an insurance claim is not necessary when the repair can be done for less than the deductible.
-Grooming and plowing continue on weather permitting.
-O'Connell asked the HWY department to fix the library projector screen that is not raising and lowering as it should.

Old Business:

1. **Short Term Rentals/Bed Tax –**
   Bain explained that the bed tax is tabled up at the County. She will let the board know what their final decisions are when they are made.
   O'Connell provided for the board renovated STR forms for review that she, Bain and Page went over and revised. There is a newly added 6A on the registration form to ask: Has the septic tank been pumped recently? 7. Has a Note about resources for well and septic test kits. Change on renewal form lists all safety topics that the town wants homeowners to look for.
   LaVarnway asked about adequate parking in line 8 on the forms. He wants to know if it should specify how many vehicles. This can be confusing with vehicles and trailers during snowmobile season. O'Connell suggests that law enforcement get called in if parking space is not used as designated.

2. **Post Closure Monitoring (Landfill) –**
   Bain provided the Post -Closure Monitoring Results and information explaining that in 2000 DEC started enforcing the monitoring but there was a gap between 2001 and 2007 when monitoring was not done. In 2008 monitoring started again but there was another gap from 2009- 2016.
   2016- present monitoring has been done every year. Originally this would go on for 30 years but doesn't have to be that long. At this time Iron and Manganese are high so testing has to continue. It is the responsibility of the town to reach out to the company for testing and then to DEC for monitoring reviews.

*****See Attached*****

New Business:

1. **County Highway Superintendent to Post Weight Restrictions on Town Roads-**

Resolution #30 Town Board Requesting and Authorizing the County Highway Superintendent to post Weight Restrictions on Town Roads for the Year 2025.
Offered by: Braunius
WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law Article 41, Section 1660 gives authority to the Town Board to post weight limits on Town Roads when the Board deems necessary to protect roads from harm during spring break up, and
WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law Article 40, Section 1650 gives authority to the county superintendent of highways to post weight limits on County Roads when the superintendent deems it necessary to protect County roads from harm during spring break up, and
WHEREAS, the Town would need to place an ad in the local newspaper notifying the public of such postings, and

WHEREAS, the County Superintendent places a legal ad in the local newspaper notifying the public of such posting on County highways, and
WHEREAS, the Town roads are typically posted for the same duration as the County roads, and
WHEREAS, the Town Board and Town Highway Superintendent believes that it would be in the interest of the Town if the County Superintendent post weight restrictions on the Town roads in conjunction with the County Roads during spring break up, be it
RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Lake Pleasant hereby requests and authorizes the County Superintendent of Highways post weight restrictions on Town roads within the Town of Lake Pleasant when he deems necessary for the calendar year 2025.
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

2. **Intermunicipal Agreement with Hamilton County-**

Resolution #31 Town of Lake Pleasant Financial Services Intermunicipal Agreement
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

*****See Attached*****

3. **Post Closure Monitoring Contract with Adirondack Landfill service-**

Resolution # 32 Town Board to Accept the Post-Closure Monitoring Services at the Town of Lake Pleasant Landfill
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

*****See Attached*****

Committee Reports:

- **Building Committee –** LaVarnway explained that the town buildings committee met with the President and Vice President of DRAG. The committee is in contract

negotiations with them for the garage to go on town land near the community gardens/tennis courts complex.

Parascandola went over the museum grant pre-estimations for painting and a new roof. Three contractors have submitted bids with each of them coming in close to $30,000. ADK Heritage and Allison Gaddy needed more information about lead abatement and certifications. Finding a contractor that will be willing to do the work under the Foundations parameters may be difficult and costly. Power washing, painting and replacement of the roof is what the building committee wants to get done. The roof is approximately 30 years old and has always been metal. The board decided to have this submitted to the grantee and see if they will grant the funds. If the grantee denies the work, the town will look into paying the costs to get the needed work completed.

Discussion about new decking, railings, back room and how painting will get done was had in the room.

Resolution #33 Town Board to move forward with the next work to be completed on the town museum.

Offered by: McGovern to move forward with light scraping/sanding and fresh paint and a good high-grade commercial new roof made of steel. The town will strive for grant reimbursement but will be ready to fund through town funds if needed.

2nd by: O'Connell

Adopted by the following votes:

Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)

Nays: None

- **Website –** Parascandola reported that the website and its advisory committee are established. The website has launched and Smith and Parascandola have gone through training to begin working on the website platform. Parascandola and Smith will meet on Friday to develop a format plan. The committee is still in need of photos for the website. Photos can be e-mailed to the clerk's office at townclerk@lakepleasantny.gov. Discussion about what kind of photos and ideas went around the table. Parascandola asked all to please be patient while the website is under construction. Work on reviewing the password policy is being done by the advisory committee and guidelines will be discussed at a meeting next week.

Resolution #34 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #8 dated 2/27/2025, 3924-3929 in the amount of $244,437.60. Abstract #9 Dated 2/28/2025, 3930-3940 in the amount of $9,417.71.

Offered by: McGovern

2nd by: O'Connell

Adopted by the following votes:

Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
-Hoffman wanted to know why there is national involvement with the grant and not a historical preservation. Parascandola explained that national involvement is where the funds come from through the historical preservation. Hoffman stated that the roof is the priority, and painting can wait another year. A room on the back is needed as well so that the museum can operate. Hoffman asked, on the dump closure, where do they expect the leaching to go. LaVarnway explained that gases go out the vent pipes sticking out of the ground. Can the natural level be measured to compare to the results from the testing at the site was the question for discussion in the room.
-Allen explained that he is a member of ARRA. He advises the town to check out their webpage.

Roundtable:
- Braunius mentioned his grandson participating in several events at Oak Mt. that turned out to be an excellent weekend for kids and their families.
- McGovern mentioned the 22nd of February poker run being well attended. That night the snowball at Melody Lodge raised funds for the holiday decorations to go around town. The Fire Department did a fabulous job at their pancake breakfast even though the turnout was down, donations were up.
- McGovern mentioned the Pomeroy foundation that is a prerequisite for giving funds. He will get the contact information for the board.
-Smith let the board know that her deputy clerk, Faith Cleveland is now fully retired.
-Hamilton County has their directory booklets published and out to county employees with Lake Pleasant listed with the .gov e-mails.
-Deputy clerk position is still available with a few individuals inquiring about the job.
-Smith let the board know that she was undecided about running again for reelection this coming year but that without a deputy clerk and anyone else running for the position to date, she will be running for the next term starting in 2026. If a potential candidate comes forward and is willing to learn the job Smith is willing to support that candidate and step back herself.
-Smith let the board know that she will be changing the clerk's office public opening hours to Monday and Tuesday 9-4, Wednesday 12-5, Thursday 8-3, and Friday's, appointment only.
-Smith asked the board for permission to go to the NYSTCA Conference in Syracuse, April 27-30th.

Resolution #35 Town Board approves the Town Clerk to go to the NYSTCA Clerks Conference in April.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

-LaVarnway mentioned that the 911 emergency towers run on solar power and when the sun power doesn't power them, they are run by propane. Hamilton County and some HWY

employees bulldozed up East Mt. with 700 lb. bottles of propane to the towers. They then bulldozed down the mountain bringing several empty bottles off the mountain.
- Parascandola mentioned that she had e-mailed Digital Towpath to dispute the additional bill, and they responded with the request for the town to pay the $200 for services after the contract ended. Discussion about this additional bill was had then:
McGovern moved to: table the bill
2nd by: Parascandola
Tabled by All: (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)

-Bain announced that the museum donations are $9,000.00 total.
-Coon Creek bridge going out of Speculator towards Wells will get funded for repairs by the County to refurbish the bridge for safety. This bridge is in Wells providing passage for snowmobiling, snowshoeing, hikers and hunters.
-Ken Kurt stopped by town hall to report that all EMT students passed their NYS exam. The Core is still in need of drivers and EMT's. If NY state and Department of Health decide to mandate that all Counties make EMS essential, then Hamilton County will be responsible. SVAC recently bought a curtain with the funds given to them from the Consolidated Health District. This curtain is hung in the new garage to use when the ambulances are getting washed after they return from emergency runs.
-Bain let the board know that the annual financial reports for Consolidated Health District have been completed and submitted to the state through the treasurer's office for 2024.
-Hamilton County Pickleball courts will be closed this year due to the County parking area getting dug out and redone. There will be a need for County business parking during this process. Bain reached out to the pickleball contact John Granath to let him know of this shut down of the courts.
-Towns Investment policy is going into effect soon after paperwork gets signed. The County Treasurers Office has assured Bain that any investments the town makes will gain interest that can be used to funds such things like emergency repairs that are not budgeted for in the yearly budget.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday March 17, 2025, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2ND by:** Parascandola
To Adjourn @8:21 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk