April 1, 2024

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 April 1, 2024 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
Councilmen: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Katherine O'Connell and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent: Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Frankie Page (Dog Warden), Mike Page, William Wharton, Andy Weaver, Tom Eakin, Karen McComb (Library President), John Seifts, Nancy Seifts (Budget Officer) and Shorty Hoffman.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #63 To Approve the Minutes of March 18, 2024.
Offered by: Braunius
2ND by: McGovern
Discussion – O'Connell would like the minutes approved with recommended changes from Parascandola. These changes had been included in the tentative minutes.
Be it resolved, that the minutes of March 18, 2024 be approved as presented.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway announced that the new garbage truck was in the library parking lot this evening and had been 2.4 years in the making.
- He thanked the county for the ARPA funds of $20,000.00 and the state for the $42,000.00 which saved the town taxpayers a total of $62,000.00. LaVarnway would like this garbage truck to last seventeen years like the last one did.
- LaVarnway asked the board if he could list the old garbage truck on Auctions International to recoup some money from it.
-

Resolution #64 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve the Listing of the 219 Freight Liner M2 2007 Garbage Truck on Auctions International.
Offered by: O'Connell

2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

- LaVarnway let the board know that new top rails for South Shore Cemetery fence were ordered and delivered from Brady Fence Co. in Poland. Smith has reached out to the surrounding landowner about damage and need to cut tree debris. Updated approval was given by the land owner.

-Pickleball/tennis courts quotes have been coming in. Estimates are not needed, quotes are what LaVarnway is collecting to award bid for best price. Bain explained that once the quotes are in and figures are approved the town can move forward in filing for a BAN to cover expenses not covered by grants.

- Parascandola went over the grants that she and O'Connell have been working on. Adirondack Community Smart Growth Grants open in September and look like a possible grant that the town could apply for. Another grant that the town could apply for is from the New York Parks and Recreation and Historic Preservation program which opens up in June and July for application window. O'Connell mentioned that the only pickleball grants out there are for no more than $250.00 and applicants must be members of the National Pickleball Association for $38/yr. She mentioned that AARP has a nice grant for our population, but it won't be available until next year.

- LaVarnway let the board know that the new backhoe is ready. The possible buyer declined the trade in listed price of $36,000.00. A reappraisal was done after sixty days and the same value of $36,000.00 was given for the backhoe. The new John Deere backhoe's 1st payment is $60,0000. Leased payments of $13,858.08 that can be paid off early and reduce interest on the lease can be done.

Resolution #65 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Allow the Highway Superintendent, Randy LaVarnway to Trade in the Existing Backhoe and get Payment of $60,000.00 to John Deere Financial for the First Year Payment of Six Year Lease for 2024 John Deere Backhoe.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None
-LaVarnway went on to explain that Hamilton County has offered to transport the Backhoe's after this next storm passes.

Old Business:

1. **Chamber Contract –** Tabled

2. **Museum Grant –** Meg Parascandola reported that she has heard from Vogel Construction about doing the work starting this fall when the museum closes and work would be completed by the spring deadline of the grant. At the last meeting there was conversation about, if there was extra money, could they do more improvements such as height or depth of the foundation or change the floor of the foundation. Come to find out the scope of work cannot be changed under the grant. The cost for concrete is high and funds left over would most likely not cover such costs of repair.

3. **VFIS Update –**
   McGovern and the fire department have been trying to meet with Steve Sawn, the town and fire department's insurance broker, about the LOSAP program but have not been able to meet with Mr. Sawn yet.
   McGovern explained how important it is for a meeting with the insurance representative about how to manage the increases to LOSAP expenses. John Seifts and McGovern discussed what the fire department has received from VFIS and that there is a $12,000.00 increase to the fire departments contract for LOSAP and payment options are being reviewed. Bain announced that the regular LOSAP bill is in tonight's bill pay for the town. McGovern reassured that the town board wants to support this valuable retention tool for the fire department.
   Discussion continued between McGovern and Seift about LOSAP and retention of firemen and their benefits.
   Seifts asked for a copy of notes from the meeting with board members and Steve Sawn when the town does meet with Mr. Sawn.

New Business:

Adirondack Land Fill Services –

Bain received the agreement for services from the Adirondack Land Fill Services for post closure sampling at the transfer station. This year the cost has gone up $130.00 reflected in the increase in laboratory costs.

Resolution #66 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve the Adirondack Land Fill Services Agreement
Offered by: Parscandola
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Dog Kennel -

Frankie Page (dog warden) spoke about the town kennel not having running water which kept her from properly cleaning the kennels after seizing two dogs more than a week ago. She had to bring water in for the dog kennel. She reported to the board that this is not up to code according to Aga Markets. She understands that water and sewer hookups to a kennel that is used only on occasion is expensive so maybe an alternate site for dog kennels could be found. Page would

like the facility shut down and dogs sent directly to Brennan if the current kennel site cannot have water and septic on site. Parascandola asked about direct delivery of dogs to Brennan and Page explained that the contract would need to be amended with removal of the kennel and dogs going directly to Brennan. This will cost the town more by the day to keep dogs at Brennan. LaVarnway explained what will need to be done to get septic or water to this building that the kennel is currently housed in. He also explained that water was accessible to this building years ago but had to be shut down. McGovern discussed that at a meeting with Frankie, Betsy, Randy and himself, options were gone over. McGovern stated that the building committee needs to address this before a public hearing on it. O'Connell asked that the building committee get to know about this issue and get a chance to discuss it before it is discussed by the board. Page let the board know that she is meeting with the inspector on the 15th and she needs to know what to tell Aga markets. McGovern asked about the last inspection and Bain explained that the last inspection was in the fall. Bain explained that in the past the issues with the kennel were not known but Frankie let the town know about the issues she had recently. O'Connell mentioned that after the inspection, Aga market can let the town know what they would like done.
Discussion about infection control and how this can be done with the existing facility for the near future was had.
Bain suggests the building committee meet to discuss and, in the meantime, get a mop bucket and gloves with other cleaning supplies to sanitize the kennel. Fresh water will continue to be brought to dogs that do get temporarily housed at the Town dog kennel. LaVarnway mentioned that if a hose is needed for a water source, then eventually a way of disposing of the water through septic will be needed. The table agreed that this needs to go to the buildings committee next.

Resolution #67 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Move Town Hall Dog Kennel Moved to Buildings Committee for Further Investigation.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - (Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None
Abstained: McGovern

Committee Reports:

- **Highway Committee –** New garbage truck here and in working order.
- **Cemetery Committee –** Braunius reported that work will get started to clean up and repair cemeteries after winter storm debris and damage.
- **Building Committee –** Meeting set for 4/2/24 time to be determined.
- **Web Site Committee –** Parascandola mentioned that STR updates are getting entered in, working on demo set up, making some information more accessible.
- **Youth Recreation Committee–** O'Connell reported that ski lessons are over, working on a trip for spring and activities for the summer. Portable planetarium and a bubble show is what the committee is looking into currently. Parascandola asked about charges to the library for pavilion use and it was explained that the Village of Speculator owns the pavilion and charges for use.

Resolution #68 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #15 dated 3/26/2024, #3362-3368 in the amount of $27,134.77. Abstract #16 dated 4/1/2024, #3369-3392 in the amount of $161,053.30.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: McGovern
Discussion: O'Connell asked about the two dogs that were seized, did they go to Brennan and Page said that they did not. Page adopted the dogs as per agreement with her family and the deceased.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

LaVarnway let the board know that the truck ordered in May of 2022, chassis is supposed to be in, in January of 2025, frame factory burned down. Western Star went to a different frame that is a single lighter frame. LaVarnway called the truck company to find out that they make them this way now. The truck manufacturer and truck company explained that this will be OK with all of the attachments. They are now a year out and looking at a 2025 or 2026 truck. If they go with a single frame, they could have it in Feb-March of 2025. LaVarnway suggests the board go with a single frame, but this will cost $8,000 more with a heavier suspension due to more tork. Heated windshield and wipers will come with this new truck. They will give a $3,000 discount when the chassis is at the body company. We have had this factory fabricate trucks for the town in the past. Henderson Body Company has been dependable in the past. There is a $5,000 net increase. Bain asked if these funds are in the truck reserve fund and LaVarnway assures that the funds are there. O'Connell asked if LaVarnway had it in writing that the frame has guaranteed strength specifications. LaVarnway to e-mail the differences in contracts to the board.

Resolution to move to purchase.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius to move to discussion.
Parascandola and O'Connell would like time to look over the information.

Resolution #69 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Table Change to New Truck Order of 2025 Western Star Truck.
McGovern rescinded his motion to approve for review of specifications.

Public Comment:
-McComb sympathizes with what is going on at the dog kennel that was built in 2001.
-Nancy Seifts commented that the new garbage truck is beautiful.
-Bill Wharton said that Gail, his wife, got a notice that Saratoga won't take Humana. He filed a grievance with Humana now that his family must start over again with another provider.
- Wharton wants the board to get a guarantee before buying a policy for its health care recipients.
-McGovern went over providers and how they are affecting our covered constituents. Senator Mark Walczak's office was contacted to voice complaint and an understanding needs to be met. McGovern explained how the board checks the rates of different plans to determine the best carrier for its retirees and employees.

-Hoffman advised that the town should contact their attorney about the health insurance contract with Humana.

Roundtable:

-Braunius mentioned that his provider, NY Oncology, will now accept Humana through November 1st after pushing back the cutoff date.

-Smith announced that the town completed collection of taxes today and any taxes coming in are to go to the Hamilton County Treasurers office starting tomorrow.

-Smith asked the board for permission to go to the NYSTCA Town Clerks Conference on April 21-24.

Resolution #70 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve Town Clerk, Stephanie Smith to Attend the 2024 NYSTCA Town Clerks Conference.

Offered by: McGovern

2nd by: Parascandola

Adopted by the following votes:

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

Nays: None

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday April 15, 2024, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2ND by:** Parascandola

To Adjourn @8:29 P.M.

All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk