August 21, 2023

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 August 21, 2023 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, RaChelle Martz and Katherine O'Connell
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent - Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Eileen LaVarnway, Chris Ambrose and Gary Rhinehart (Dackland radio)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #94 To approve the minutes of August 7, 2023
Offered by: McGovern
2ND by: Braunius
Discussion: none
Be it resolved, that the minutes of August 7, 2023 be approved as presented
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell
Nays: None

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway contacted DEC about the Fawn Lake snowmobile trail to find out that there is a 0% chance of trail reroute on state land this year and slim chance for next year. McGovern asked about what the holdup was and LaVarnway replied that it is due to NY State litigation with trail systems up north. Cutting trees on state land that are over an inch in diameter is not permitted. Braunius asked about how far the trail would need to go and LaVarnway said less than a mile. McGovern asked if a private property solution is needed and LaVarnway replied that yes private property access would work but that no solution has been found yet. LaVarnway suggests that the board pass a resolution approving the opening up of Woodmere drive (pit Rd.) to the end of Fawn Lake Rd. to allow snowmobiles passage to connect to trails this year. Discussion was had about the need of support from law enforcement and compliance of residents. McGovern asked if LaVarnway felt that he and Braunius should ask the neighborhood about allowing this to happen in this emergency situation. LaVarnway agreed that it would be a good idea. O'Connell suggested that discussion with residents happen first before board approval.

This needs to be figured out promptly because trail mapping will be done soon.

- Golf Course Rd. rocks have been removed and town is currently waiting for grinding machine to be available for use.
- Fish Mt. bridge is progressing. Welding employee called in sick so there is a setback on concrete pouring.
- Backflow preventer valve has been replaced at the health center and is still leaking in the same place. Inspection will be held off until leak is fixed. Braunius said that he heard these valves should be inspected yearly. LaVarnway said that it hadn't been inspected since it was installed.
- Tennis court washing tool has arrived and will be put to use on Wednesday or Thursday to wash the courses.
- No update on the new garbage truck.
- LaVarnway has submitted the second payment for FEMA funds for reimbursement on the Fish Mt. project.
- Salesman got back to LaVarnway and, no can't put a thumb on the back of the back hoe. Meeting with John Deer representative will be scheduled. Parts should be universal but planning to start from scratch.
- Quote back for tennis court rebuild on Elm Lake Rd. Each court from ground up will cost $90,000.00. To replace the two courts on Elm Lake Rd. it would cost an estimated $180,000.00. McGovern asked if CHIPS could be used and LaVarnway said he will look into it. The current idea is to have local contractors involved and build tennis courts with pickleball courts combined. The Elm Lake courts will need parking, lights, and bathrooms possibly as well so that they are more desirable. Bain suggested porta Johns that could be seasonally rented. McGovern and board discussed how these areas will also need constant maintenance by town employees. O'Connell asked why the town won't qualify for a grant. Bain explained that the grant is through the tennis association that will not award a grant for pickleball. The board discussed doing this project right for its residents and the increasing number of pickleball players in the area. Board members to come up with ideas for the next meeting.

Old Business:

1. **Short Term Rentals –**

   O'Connell announced that the state has filed local law #2 on STR's. Adjustments have been made to the registration form. Starting in September STR owners can download the form or pick it up at town hall, fill it out and get completed form and payment to Steve Page at town hall. O'Connell went over the changes to the good neighbor flier. Speculator is not participating so will be removed from the title. No parking on the lawns is being removed. Discussion about the garbage pickup and using town dumpsters was had by the board. Town board members decided to not invite use of dumpsters at town hall on Sundays. This is a responsibility of refuse for the STR owners not the tax payers.

Resolution #95 Lake Pleasant Town Board to set annual STR 2023 registration fee to $50 per rental.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell
Nays: None

2. **Nathan Littauer/Clinic Contract –**
   Bain and McGovern have been working with Patrice McMann on the contract and are currently waiting for signed agreement from CEO of Nathan Littauer Hospital.

3. **Community Garden Grant –**
   At the next board meeting a date will be announced for taking the fence down and working on putting the new fence up. Looking for volunteers for one day in mid to late September.

4. **Historical Society –**
   O'Connell, Bain and McGovern went and painted the shutters and did repairs on the route 66 houses. Painting projects are done except for scraping and painting on the church. Smith family has volunteered to do work on church when the rains hold off. Town hall has offered to store the paint and supplies in the basement of the library for winter.

5. **Museum –**
   Chris Meixner has applied for another grant with the help from Allison Gaddy and the Lake Champlain/Lake George regional planning board for the museum foundation. Fundraising thus far is up to $34,116.00. Chris has been selling raffle tickets but ticket sales were down so she has had to cancel this last round of raffles and is returning funds to individuals who bought tickets for the second raffle.

New Business:

1. **Library Agreement –**

Resolution # 96 Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve the use of its Library Building to be used as a Library for the Next Ten Years.

Offered by: McGovern

Whereas, The Town of Lake Pleasant Library is housed in a town owned building on town property.

Whereas, The people of the Town of Lake Pleasant are well served by a flourishing Library as a center for learning, information and career training.

Whereas, The Lake Pleasant Library is a positive influence on our residents and visitors' cultural well-being….

Be it resolved… That the Lake Pleasant Library will be used as a Library for the next ten years, and this Town Board is so committed.

2nd by: Martz

Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius and Martz
Nays: None
Abstained: O'Connell

Committee Reports:

Highway committee - McGovern will have committee work on the snowmobile trail issue.

Youth Recreation –
Martz announced that summer recreation program has wrapped up and committee will talk to Arietta about how it went working together.

Resolution #97 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #30 dated 08/08/2023, #2947-2947 in the amount of $198,645.00. Abstract #31 dated 08/14/2023, #2948-2954 in the amount of $1,010.90. Abstract #32 dated 08/17/2023, #2955 -2967 in the amount of $16,025.29
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion:
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Public Comment: None

Roundtable:

- Braunius mentioned that he has camp reservations at Lewey Lake for the fall and there is plenty of availability due to the late opening. Bath houses are clean. Route 30 is a pleasure to travel on once again due to the new pavement.
- McGovern mentioned route 66 and how wonderful that is as well as the gardens outside town buildings. Lions club fly in breakfast will be this Saturday at the Piseco airport. Bear and wine festival will be held this Saturday at the Speculator Pavilion. John Van Alstine – Caroline Ramersdorfer sculpture park in Wells is a site to see.

- Martz mentioned Apple Fest, hosted by the historical society on September 23, with parade committee there to raise money for the fourth of July parade.
- O'Connell mentioned that volunteers for the apple fest would be greatly appreciated.
- Bain announced the Salute to service 4th annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner August 24th from 4:30 – 7:30 PM at the Paul Nigra Center free to all veterans, active duty service members and a guest, $40 for additional guest. Flyers are at town hall.
- Margaret Crisbacher passed away August 14th. She was responsible for starting the community gardens in Lake Pleasant.
- Almina Baker passed away five days after her 100th birthday.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on TUESDAY September 5, 2023, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2ND by:** Martz
To Adjourn @ 7:59 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk