August 7, 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 7, 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, Frankie Page, Paul Allen, Carriann Grexa-Allen, Nancy Seifts (Budget Officer), Gary Rhinehart (Dackland radio)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #92 To approve the minutes of July 17, 2023
Offered by: Martz
2ND by: Braunius
Discussion: none
Be it resolved, that the minutes of July 17, 2023 be approved as presented
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell
Nays: None

Highway Report:

Buildings –

- There is a leak in the backflow preventer valve located in the health center basement. Manufacturer no longer makes this model valve. One on order today and plumbing company to come up and replumb basement when valve comes in while patrons are not in the building. Backflow preventer valve must be inspected after valve is replaced. LaVarnway is trying to have installation and inspection done at the same time. There is no damage to anything stored in the basement.

Highway -

- Last week two 3' wide culverts on Fawn Lake Road were replaced by one 12'4 1/2" wide culvert. Road was not shut down but was reduced to one lane during this project.
- LaVarnway thanked Hamilton County for lending the town an excavator for the project as well as Lenny Croote for allowing the town to borrow soil and waters watering pump.

- Fish Mt. Rd. culvert project started today, Monday August 7th, with 60' steel pile driving started. Complications so far consist of rocks in the way that have to be removed. Should be done with pile driving by Wed. Initial bill of $198,645.00 is getting paid by the county tomorrow. This is a third of the total bill for this project.
- LaVarnway wanted to announce that the snow mobile trail from Sacandaga Lake access to the Oxbow Lake trail will be closed this coming winter due to owner of land not allowing passage on property. This land owner has notified the town, snow mobile clubs and law enforcement of this closing. LaVarnway has notified DEC due to this trail is listed as a corridor trail. He is working on a detour at the moment. State land is not an option due to the law that prohibits clearing trees on state land.
- LaVarnway presented to the board the option of opening up snowmobile riding along the side of Fawn Lake Road from the pit road to the end of Fawn Lake Rd. at the dead end. Snowmobiles would come up Sacandaga Lake and come through Peisley's drive way, up fawn lake rd. to pit road and from there onto the trail.

  O'Connell asked how many feet on fawn lake Rd and how many residents? LaVarnway responded with six houses not sure on feet. O'Connell asked about speed limit enforcement in the area.

  McGovern asked about any speed limit signs. LaVarnway responded that the speed limit of this road is 40 MPH and that there is a sign at the intersection of Tamarack and Fawn Lake Rds. McGovern stated that speed will need to be reduced to 20MPH for cars and snowmobiles with law enforcement enforcing this area.

  Seifts asked if the town would be liable for an accident that occurred on the town road with snowmobiles. LaVarnway said that it would not be a liability. Accidents would be treated like any other car accident that occurs on town roads. Discussion on how to change the speed limit and that plans need to be made now so that maps can be drawn up correctly for the coming season was had around the table. LaVarnway mentioned that the state would have to change the speed limit and this could be a seasonal speed limit change.

  O'Connell asked how this will affect the quality of the road. LaVarnway explained that it will get worn but groomers will not go over the road. Changes of trails will need to be reflected correctly on trial maps. LaVarnway will call DEC to see what is down the line. McGovern asked if this could wait until more answers get answered and LaVarnway replied that yes, they can. Mapping will be a crunch time soon.
- DEC and Lyme Timber are planning to shut down Perkins clearing for two miles stretch to mud lake intersection for 60 acres of trees that they want to cut down. LaVarnway said that they could do a bypass trail and Lyme Timber could decide to use the bypass trail and then block it. Another option that LaVarnway suggests is from December 15th – April 1st the town could shut down the road which would prevent Lyme timber from getting through their land during snowmobile season. Conservation easement swaps won't work unless DEC is present. Discussion of the town possibly closing the access if they need to was had by the board. LaVarnway askes that the recreation trails committee be present when he can set up a meeting with DEC and Lyme Timber.

Old Business:

1. **Nathan Littauer/Clinic Contract –**
   McGovern and Bain met after the last meeting and made changes. Changes have been sent to Patrice McMan and she has responded with making requested changes. The committee hopes that the contract can be finalized and signed at the next meeting.

2. **Community Garden Grant –**
   Fence has been ordered and paid for from Mill Brook fence Co. out of Dover Plains NY. Thank you to June Burghholtz and family for picking up the fence. In September after the garden goes to bed for winter, a group will be organized to install the fence. June asks that anyone who has access to compost or top soil please pass that contact onto her.

3. **Historical Society –**
New shed is in place at the museum. Bain and volunteers had planned to paint at Rt. 66 yet with rain in forecast they haven't been able to paint. Bain read a thank you letter from Sally Cross, the Historical Society president to the town thanking them for continued support and help. Raffel tickets to benefit the museum foundation project are being sold now for the second round of nine weeks of drawings. Bain announced a thank you to Cristine Meixner for all her hard work to get the funds raised so far up to $34,016.00. Tickets can be purchased from Cris or any board member.

4. **Cyber Security -**
After discussing this with Steve Sawn, he feels that we need this and is looking into costs. Hamilton County has the town covered, but the town as a third party could be liable.

New Business:

1. **Consolidated Health District –**

   The annual board meeting is scheduled for August 22 for 2024 budget approval. This committee board consists of Mayor Jeannette Barrett, Carla Darrow, Cindy Rumsey, Carrianne Grexa-Alen and Betsy Bain.

Committee Reports –

Highway committee - meeting was held and decided that several HWY trucks will be carrying safety kits on board containing more than just band aids. Hole in library building will be fixed with a vinal patch. Backhoe is having computer issues and some days takes over an hour to start. It has quit on the crew a total of fourteen times in one day. Currently $41,000 is the quoted price for a basic trade in, $100,000 with all the attachments. A new basic backhoe was brought up for the HWY crew to test out. Discussion about comparing the backhoe options was had by LaVarnway and the board.
Braunius asked if a fixed thumb is an option. And LaVarnway replied no.

Youth Recreation – The committee has received good reports on youth rec. trips from director Samantha Desrochers. There was another transportation difficulty but a local event was done in place of traveling. Group went to the Sacandaga pathway, Camp store and mini-golf. Next week is water safari and then the end of the year party. Bain praised Martz and O'Connell for all their hard work on youth recreation.
O'Connell said that she is interested in seeing how the mix of Lake Pleasant and Arietta kids went for the events that each town sponsored.

Resolution #93 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #27 dated 07/25/2023, #2904-2915 in the amount of $27,353.43. Abstract #28 dated 07/27/2023, #2916-2916 in the amount of $464.33. Abstract #29 dated 08/03/2023, #2902 resubmit, 2917-2946 in the amount of $26,968.23
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: H&M Equipment glass assembly window questioned by O'Connell and was explained by LaVarnway. The back window of the mower cover broke out and needed to be replaced.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

- Nancy Seifts mentioned that the library is doing the Quack of Palooka fundraiser on August 16th. Those interested can purchase a duck for $5 each or six ducks for $25. There will be a race on Wednesday August 16th down the Sacandaga river and the winners get: 1st prize is $100, 2nd prize is $75, 3rd is $50. Tickets can be purchased for a duck to float in the race at the library or at the concert at the point on Wednesday nights.

Roundtable:

- McGovern much appreciates the new route 30 that is going in.
- Friday is family fun day and McGovern will be in the dunking booth.
- Martz mentioned that Reserve America was contacted and their pages for Lewey lake and Moffit's campgrounds have been updated and fixed to reflect the opening fall schedule.
- Smith mentioned the fee that will get set for the STR applications. STR Law has not come back from the state as filed so applications can not be sent out to STR owners at this time. Bain and Smith have been receiving calls from STR owners asking to get registered.
- Bain mentioned that she, LaVarnway and Smith met with Steve Sawn our Insurance Agent for NYMIR to go over the 2023-2024 insurance contract policy. At the next meeting Jody Small and Josh Troxel will be present to discuss the two programs KVS and Tyler's system that the county has. Bain gave board members estimates from both programs to look over and ask questions at the meeting.
- RO systems at a resident had to be worked on. Depressurization tank had to be replaced.

- Tennis court hours were questioned by someone that came into town hall. Calls have come into town hall about discrepancies between pickle ball and tennis. Bain told these individuals that these issues need to be worked out by the parties involved and that town hall is not policing the tennis courts.
- US tennis association rumors that we are not doing the tennis courts on Elm Lake Rd. is untrue. This project is still in the works. Five thousand a year is put into reserve each year for the repairs on these courts and a grant is being worked on.
- Almina Baker was the first female in NY to hold the democratic chairman position and she is turning 100!

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday August 21, 2023, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2ND by:** Martz
To Adjourn @ 8:05 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk