December 19, 2022

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 December 19, 2022, at the Lake Pleasant Library, 2864 State Route 8, Lake Pleasant, 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
Councilpersons: Neil McGovern, RaChelle Martz, Katherine O'Connell and Don Braunius
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Eileen LaVarnway, Nancy Seifts (Budget officer), Karen McComb (Library President), Shorty Hoffman and Paul Allen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #128 To approve the minutes of December 5, 2022.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell
Be it resolved, that the minutes of December 5, 2022 be approved as presented
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings:

LaVarnway reported the following to the board:

- Highway crew and equipment have made it through all of the storms thus far with minor repairs needed.
- In the last bill pay there was discussion about a receipt that was taxed from BJ's. LaVarnway explained that Seifts had to go to the BJ's store in person, as requested, and got it resolved after it was found that the date was wrong on the tax exemption form.
- Loggers are working across the street from the snowmobile trail near pig rock. The trails in this area have closed signs up and loggers won't be out until after New Year. When they do move further down the road this will have to be shared with the log trucks during the week.
- The groomer went up for sale on Auctions International and the sale ended last night at $17,400.00. This was good news after LaVarnway only expected to make $15,000.00.

Resolution #129 The Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to approve selling the groomer on Auctions International to the highest bidder.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
Whereas, Town of Lake Pleasant will sell its listed groomer on Auctions International to the highest bidder at $17,400.00.
2nd by: Don Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

- A TV ad for I Love NY has Speculator NY on the snowmobiling ad this year.
- LaVarnway announced that an employee has a new healthy baby girl that was born today.

Old Business:

1. **Museum Fundraiser –** Up to $31,766.00 and awaiting to hear about grant that Cristine Meixner applied for by the end of December. She is also working on another grant.

2. **Campground Update –** Bain is asking everyone to keep write letters. Brian Wells sent a letter that was signed by Robert Smullen, Jim Tedesco and Mark Walsack asking for all the points we are asking for all of the campgrounds.

KC is still working at his petition which is well over 2,000 signatures.
McGovern feels that we should be having public hearings about this issue. Discussion was had by the board on this issue.

New Business:

1. **Library Report –** McComb presented to the board that Nancy Welch will be retiring from the board of trustees after five years. The Library board has discussed the appointment of Barbara Tracy from 1/1/2023-12/31/2024 to fill Welch's term. Katherine O'Connell will be up for reelection this coming year. The library board recommends appointing Katherine for another five-year term running 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2027.

Resolution #130 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Appoint Barbara Tracy to fill Nancy Welch's Term as Library Trustee from 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2024 and Katherine O'Connell to be reappointed for a five-year term from 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2027.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
2nd by: RaChelle Martz
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius and Martz)
Nays: None
Katherine O'Connell abstained

The library has a renovation in progress. Katherine, Pam Pooler and Sherry Matthews have been working together making some changes to the children's room. There are new tables and chairs. The Lego table has been removed now that the lego club is using independent boards to do projects. Renovation will include changing some lighting for artwork display. There will be an afterschool chess club starting up. The library is looking for someone to start up an adult book club.

2. **Chamber Director, Katlyn Eldredge – absent**

3. **James Brennan Contract –** Went up $150 this year to $700 for 2023.

Resolution #131 Town of Lake Pleasant to accept the 2023 contract with James Brennan Humane Society.
Offered by: Don Braunius
Whereas, The Town of Lake Pleasant will sign and follow the contract provided by James Brennan Humane Society and pay the requested contract fee of $700.00 for the 2023 calendar year.
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Resolution #132 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Table Chamber Contract Renewal.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Resolution #133 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Adopt Changes to Employee Handbook. New Employee Benefits change to Medical Insurance effective date.
Offered by: RaChelle Martz
Whereas, 306 New Employee Benefits Medical Insurance – A newly hired full-time employee will be eligible to receive medical insurance through the Town after six continuous months of employment. Change to – A newly hired full-time employee will be eligible to receive medical insurance through the Town after ninety calendar days of employment.
Whereas, after ninety calendar days of employment newly hired full time employees will go on the town's health coverage if eligible.
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

6. Change of Insurance Status for Retirees - The board discussed changes to be made to the handbook regarding retirees and when they will go from active insurance to retirement insurance at age sixty-five.

This will be tabled until January

7. **Cooperative Extension –** Hold harmless agreement and Identification agreement.

Resolution #134 Town of Lake Pleasant to Accept the Cornell Cooperative Extension Hamilton County Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement.
Offered by: Don Braunius
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Resolution #135 Approve Audit of Abstract #40, December 12, 2022 Voucher #2468-2475 in the Amount of $1,066.73.
Offered by: RaChelle Martz
2nd by: Neil McGovern
Resolved that all bills in the following funds be paid as presented – General, Highway, Landfill, fire district and Library
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Resolution #136 Aporove Audit of Abstract #41, December 15, 2022, Voucher #2476-2501 in the Amount of $17,958.39.
Discussion:
O'Connell asked about Spinner Veins. LaVarnway responded that they are on the back of salt trucks that spin off the salt/sand.
She also asked why we pay for a real wreath and not get a fake long term one for every year. McGovern explained that this was discussed in the past but never pursued. Bain and Smith will take note for next year to purchase a wreath to use year after year.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Committee Reports -

- Ski lessons started but first lesson was canceled due to the storm. At this time there are funds left in the ski line for this year. Martz is hoping to reach out to Oak Mt. for gift certificates for this season.

Resolution #137 Town of Lake Pleasant to provide funds from the 2022 budget for ski lesson/credits to be used in 2023 since the first lessons were canceled due to weather conditions.
Offered by: Betsy Bain

2nd by: Neil McGovern
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
McComb mentioned that when an individual reaches sixty-five years of age they don't have a chance to stay on regular insurance. Medicare is secondary and retirement insurance is primary. When you retire it flips and Medicare becomes primary and retirement insurance secondary.
Hoffman mentioned that he was offered Medicare at age sixty-five and if you don't sign up you don't get on the Medicare.

Round Table:

McGovern wrote an e-mail to Bob Smullen thanking him for pursuing the campgrounds closing early. He also praised the Wreaths Across America that happened today with the LPCS students, teachers and community. O'Connell reported that this was the fourth year that the school was able to put a wreath on every veteran's grave.
McGovern also mentioned that we lost a member of our community suddenly yesterday.

Bain mentioned that SVAC will be collecting bottles and cans now that they have found a dispensary.
Bain is looking for a program that will convert PDF files into word documents.
Bain will ask the board in January to pass a resolution to support the increase in snowmobile registrations. The county is asking the towns to follow suit in this increase that has not gone up in fourteen years.

Paul Allan explained to the board that there are snowmobile groups that will hold a snowmobile cross country race on the 28th of January, a coned race towards COTW's. This is a large group that brings in high end competitors. Allan called the promoter who will be here on the 24th to set up. They will plow Osborne Point and have this event on Lake Pleasant.
McGovern will contact Village board member, Mark Donecker, about this event.

Resolution #138 Town of Lake Pleasant to Close Meeting and go into Executive Session for a Personnel matter at 8:03
Offered by: Neil McGovern
2nd by: Don Braunius
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz)
Nays: None

Resolution #139 Town of Lake Pleasant to come out of Executive Session at 8:30 with no action taken.
Offered by: RaChelle Martz
2nd by: Katherine O'Connell

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

Next Meeting: Organizational Meeting on Tuesday January 3, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M. @ Lake Pleasant Library

*****ON A MOTION BY: Don Braunius 2nd by: Neil McGovern**
TO ADJOURN @ 8:31 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk