November 20, 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 November 20, 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
Nancy Seifts - budget officer
Guests: Eileen LaVarnway, Karen McComb (Library President), Debbie O'Rourke and Meg Parascandola

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #124 To approve the minutes of November 6, 2023
Offered by: Martz
2ND by: McGovern
Discussion: None
Be it resolved, that the minutes of November 6, 2023 be approved as presented
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz
Nays: None
Abstained: Bain, due to not being present at the November 6th meeting.

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway announced that he has received a letter of resignation from a Laborer leaving the town's employment. Today an individual came in to apply for a laborer position. He is looking for full time work year-round and can start as soon as needed. This individual is going through the steps at this time to be ready for this position if the board approves hiring.

Resolution #125 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board Approves the Hiring of a Laborer for the Current Laborer Vacancy by the Town Highway Superintendent.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz

Nays: None

Discussion about positions of mechanic and a seasonal employee were discussed by the board.

- LaVarnway let the board know that he has been informed about another snowmobile closure for the winter. Elm Lake Trail to Long Level Trail will be closed. There is a way around, but the mapping is a problem. McGovern mentioned that signs will need to reflect the changes. Braunius asked if there is a disclaimer on the maps stating that trails are subject to change due to logging in the areas. LaVarnway would like to speak to the Chamber of Commerce about maps showing trail changes.
- Loader is on Auctions International for up to $18,900.00 currently and trying to get above $25,000.00 which is what John Deer offered for it.
- The garage doors were fixed last week.
- Confirmation on the mini grant through Hamilton County Soil and Water for the new cutting edges came in.
  Product arrives tomorrow and the plan is to have on the plows before the next storm. This grant was through the Caring through Conservation mini grant. LaVarnway hopes this will be renewed each year. Bain assures that it will be.
- Tennis courts maps are at Town Hall on the table in the Supervisor's office. LaVarnway asks if they will be starting this project next year. If it will be started next year then LaVarnway wants to know if he should start the work of tearing down fences and taking up black top this year. The tennis grant is not an option due to the plans for pickleball with tennis courts. Discussion about what route to take with the two sports courts getting laid down went around the table. Bain explained that the town may not be able to renew their lease of the tennis courts at the courthouse in the spring due to the needs of the county who owns the land. She feels that the town should move forward with the Elm Lake plans for now to ensure that the town residents have courts for recreation in the future secured.
- O'Connell asked about the plans and how the courts will be laid out. Courts will be parallel to Elm Lake Rd.; Pine trees will come out and parking lot will be where pine trees are located. Garden will stay in place and snowmobile garage will be set back at the snowmobile trail. Trail will go between the community garden and the tennis courts. Court entrances will be at the roadside. LaVarnway would like to remove the trees, fences and prep the ground as soon as he gets approval, weather permitting.

Resolution #126 The Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board Moves to Have Town Highway Department Move Forward with Prepping the Elm Lake Tennis Court Site for Construction.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Martz
Discussion: Budgetary allowances and plans were discussed. The reasons why tennis grant cannot be applied for was explained again. To qualify for the grant the town would have to only construct tennis courts not tennis and pickleball courts. Lake Pleasant Central School was approached about tennis supplies for students and the school had bought pickleball gear. McGovern explained that the Tennis Association is supporting tennis only and offering the grant to promote only tennis.

Discussion about the two separate sports was had.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz
Nays: None

Old Business:

Resolution #127 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Adopt the 2024 Budget
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz
Nays: None

McGovern thanked Seifts and all that worked hard to get the budget finalized.
Bain thanked McGovern, LaVarnway and Seifts for all the time and last-minute meetings to finalize the budget that was filed at 1.62% tax cap. Budget was filed with the comptroller on November 14, 2023.

Short Term Rental –
Bain let everyone know that she has heard from property owners in the area that they were not aware of the STR Laws of the town.
Bain showed Martz's postcard of her campaign that Bain wants to use to send out a similar postcard to all residents to make them aware of the law.
McGovern asks that the funding come out of fees for STR.

Resolution #128 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve Bain Ordering STR Law Postcard Announcements to go out to All Town Residents
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Martz
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz
Nays: None

New Business:

1. **Chamber President Tracy Joy – tabled**

Resolution #129 to Rescind Resolution # 120 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board Approves Fund Transfer of $4,248.61 from A Fund Balance to A.1910.403 to General Liability – NY NYMIR to Pay the Annual Bill.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell

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

2. **Building and Codes Enforcement Contract (Williamson)** – Software for the code enforcer -December 1, 2023-November 30, 2024

Resolution #130 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve the Contract with Williamson for Building and Codes Enforcement Software.
Offered by: Martz
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Martz
Nays: None

On November 3rd Agriculture and Markets came and met with Bain and Frankie Page, owner of Adirondog Treats and Suits. Pecks will be retiring at the end of the year and Frankie Page will take their position as Dog Warden for the Town. Suggestions are that latches should be on top and bottom of the doors. Trim on top of fence so dogs cannot push out fence was also suggested. Bain reported that the meeting went well. New dog warden will be working with Agriculture and markets in the coming year.

Committee Reports:

Highway – Committee will be meeting about new hires in the coming weeks.

Youth Recreation - Nothing new to report.

Resolution #131 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #42 dated 11/7/2023, #3095-3095 in the amount of $36,811.91. Abstract #43 dated 11/15/2023, #3096-3097 in the amount of $30,080.00. Abstract #44 dated 11/16/2023, #3098-3120 in the amount of $22,198.09.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
- Nancy Seifts explained that several Arietta residents use the Lake Pleasant tennis courts. She asks for a reciprocal of Lake Pleasant residents getting to use the Fitness Center in Arietta. Bain will look into this by talking to the Supervisor of Arietta.
- McComb let all know that she is a fan of tennis courts. She thanked the board for their passing of the library budget and assures the board that the return to its residents will be a beneficial one.

Roundtable:

- Braunius reports that he has traveled to Wells and back up Rt. 30 and the lines are painted. New guard rails look nice.
- Braunius let all know that he received a letter from his Dr. that they will not accept Humana in the coming year. Health representatives through Marshall and Sterling have assured recipients that the practices will most likely accept continuing coverage in the coming year.
- Martz mentioned that events are this week in town such as the Holiday Stroll and Holiday Fair. She encourages all to shop at local and small businesses. County wide events are taking place.
- O'Connell announced that the library will do a presentation of Scrooge at LPCS Sunday Dec. 10th at 2:00 P.M.
- Dec. 18th will be Wreaths Across America Ceremony at 9 a.m. at LPCS with wreath placement to follow ceremony.
- LaVarnway stated that DOT said they would paint on Nov.14th, and they did. Thanks to the state for the new road.
- Smith explained the letters going to employees about an informational meeting with Arnie Morehouse, the town's health care representative, on Wednesday November 29th at 10:00 A.M. to go over the coming year's health care plan. AFLAC representative Christian Wardell will be present to go over AFLAC benefits for those who are interested. Humana recipients were sent a letter about their coverage staying the same with Humana through the town and for them to contact the Clerk's Office with any questions or concerns they may have.
- Bain went over the letter to employees about ROTH benefits that they are eligible to contribute to or not. This letter will need to be signed by employees so there is record of the offer.
- Transfer station schedule is available and at town hall. Starting in December the transfer station will be closed on Fridays.
- The new LPN started today at Speculator Primary Care and will work five days a week and is local.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday December 4, 2023, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2ND by:** Martz
To Adjourn @7:53 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk