November 7, 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 November 7, 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. Public hearing for 2023 budget held during this meeting.

The following were present:
Deputy Supervisor: Neil McGovern
Councilpersons: Kathy O'Connell, RaChelle Martz and Don Braunius
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Karen McComb (library President), Nancy Seifts (budget officer), Eileen LaVarnway, William Osborne, Chris Ambrose and Lisa Joncaheere
Absent: Supervisor Betsy Bain

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #115 to approve the minutes of October 17, 2022
Offered by: Kathy O'Connell **2nd by:** RaChelle Martz
Be it resolved, that the minutes of October 17, 2022 be approved as presented
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings:

LaVarnway reported the following to the board:

- Paving of the Library parking lot went well. Bills have been submitted to the insurance company. Bills came in higher than the estimate which was expected. Waiting for word back.
- Museum trees have been taken down between the Museum and Germain properties. This job was done jointly by the town and Patrick Vedder. LaVarnway thanked Mr. Vedder and his employee for their help with this work.
- Two thirds of plow trucks are ready for winter. Inspections of plow trucks was completed today.
- Garbage truck has passed inspection yet needs more brake work done.
- Shrubs and bushes at the library have been moved from the front of the building to the back for winter. O'Connell reported that they have been root pruned.
- There are lights at the library that are in need of changing.

- Snowmobile trails in town go onto other townships lands so that is why the milage seems less than what was originally figured. When trails cross town line the milage is not counted for the town.
- Received the voucher from the state for snowmobile trails and it is up $6,000.00 even though it is a mile short. We were at 57 miles and now down to 56 miles.
- Three employees that will be doing grooming and trail cutting took the chain saw safety course last week. They are now qualified to work on state and Lyme Timber lands. Soon they will require CPR and first aid certification bi-annually.
- Circulator pump at the health center quit. Maintenance guy from RBM heating and air conditioning took apart and couldn't find any issues. Locks will be going on thermostats.
- Bus garage hasn't been kept up on its inspections which are to be done every year. Inspector came out and inspected this week and it passed.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Deputy Supervisor McGovern declared the public hearing open at 7:13 P.M.
Following distribution of the preliminary 2023 budget to the town board members on October 28, 2022, notice of said Public Hearing was duly published in the Hamilton County Newspaper on October 26, 2022 and again on November 2,2022, with same being posted on same date at the Town Hall Shadow Box.

Old Business:

1. **Budget Officer –**
   Nancy Seifts thanked all the department heads for working hard to trim the budget back to 1.07% increase over last years budget. Budget is within NYS tax cap. McGovern reported that there were several increases with any budget lines for fuel, pavement, heating expenses and certain contracts that are unavoidable. Overall this is the best town budget so far with only a 1% increase. The budget adoption will be at a special meeting on Thursday November 17th at town hall at 5:00 P.M. McGovern announced that the public hearing will go on for a half hour more if anyone had anything to say about it.

McComb addressed the board as a tax payer, thanking the board for working so hard on the budget and keeping the budget where it is. She thanked the board for working for the people in the community. Secondly McComb as the Library board President wanted to thank the board for supporting the library budget. She thanked the library board and Sherry Matthews for working so hard this year with fundraising and donations. Raffle ticket will be drawn on Black Friday. McGovern thanked the library board and McComb for what they do to raise money for the library.

2. **Cemetery Committee –** Meeting was held on October 24, 2022 with O'Connell, LaVarnway and Smith present. Changes were made and pointed out to the board. Points are #4 Minors whose parents reserved them burial plots must come in and reserve plots

in their names at age eighteen. #8 full body plots that are turned into cremation plots can hold up to eight cremations in one burial plot. #9 No Holiday or Sunday burials are permitted due to staffing issues. #11 costs for disinterment's have increased. #18 cremation stones can be no higher than six inches in elevation. #14 solar lights and decorations must be no higher than 14" from ground level.

Resolution # 116 Lake Pleasant Town Board Accepts the Cemetery Committee's Revisions to Cemetery Rules and Regulations.
Offered by: Kathy O'Connell
Whereas, Revisions done by the cemetery committee on October 24, 2022 to the Town of Lake Pleasants Cemetery Rules and Regulations be accepted and effective starting November 8, 2022.
2nd by: Don Braunius
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

New Business:

1. **Planning Board Appointment –**

McGovern thanked Joan Braunius for serving on the planning committee for many years. Joan has submitted her resignation and Bain has reached out to former planning board member Barbara Tracy to see if she is able to return to the planning board. Barbara is willing to sit on the committee.

Resolution # 117 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Appoint Barbara Tracy on the Planning Board Member.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
2nd by: Kathy O'Connell
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

2. **Health Insurance Report -** Smith reported to the board that on October 19th she , Bain, McGovern and Seifts met with Megan Nelligan CDL representative to go over 2023 insurance plan options. Best option was MVP's current plan that is a 9.87% increase from last years same plan. Prime Pay can stay the same for HRA coverage but there are other options that Megan did not have with her.
   On October 20th Bain, McGovern and Smith met with Arnold Morehouse from Marshall and Sterling Employees Benefits Inc. where he also compared several health coverage plans with the outcome much the same, MVP current coverage for employees and retirees is the best for coverage and cost. If plan was to change to an HMO employees would have no coverage out of New York and referrals would be needed to see specialists. There will still be a 9.87% increase for MVP renewing for 2023 but Mr. Morehouse suggested switching HRA from Prime Pay to an HRA under MVP where the town will pay less upfront at the beginning of the year. Health Insurance Committee decided that

retirees will stay with Humana and employees will stay with MVP and MVP, HRA coverage. MVP plan and HRA will not cover eye or dental.
McGovern went on to explain how the HRA cards work for employees and that the health committee decided to move from CDL to Marshall and Sterling so that the town has the opportunity of a bigger company looking out for their best interests when it comes to health care for town employees and their families.

Resolution # 118 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve Recommendation From Health Insurance Committee to Move Towns Health Insurance From CDL Associates Insurance Agency LLC. To Marshall & Sterling Employee Benefits Inc.
Offered by: Neil McGovern
Whereas, CDL Associates Insurance Agency LLC. will be replaced with Marshall & Sterling Employee Benefits Inc.
Whereas, under Marshall & Sterling Employee Benefits Inc., the town will continue into 2023 with renewal of MVP EPO Gold 2 HDHP and Humana.
Whereas, under Marshall & Sterling Employee Benefits Inc., HRA will move from Prime Pay to MVP collectively with MVP insurance.
Adopted by the following vote:
2nd by: Don Braunius
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

Resolution #119 Amendment to Resolution #102 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board Approved The Purchase of The Peterbilt For The New Garbage Truck
Offered by: Don Braunius
Whereas, the Lake Pleasant Town Board agrees to order a new Peterbilt garbage truck for a cost increase of $5,000.00. This brings the original cost of $197,143.00 to a total of $202,143.00.
Resolved, Funds to cover total cost of garbage truck will be covered by the American Rescue money and the garbage truck reserve fund account. The balance will be financed through a BAN.
2nd by: RaChelle Martz
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

Resolution #120 Amendment to Resolution #107 Transfer of Funds from Lines DA1990.400 and DA Fund Balance to Line DA.1910.400 to Cover NYMIR Yearly Bill. To: Transfer of Funds from Lines A.1990.400 and A Fund Balance to Line A.1910.403 to Cover NYMIR Yearly Bill.
Offered by: Neil McGovern

Whereas, funds in the amount of $850.00 will be moved from line A.1990.403 and the balance of $4,052.01 moved from fund line A fund balance for a total of $4,902.01 to line A.1910.403
Whereas, this transfer of funds will allow line A.1910.400 to have sufficient funds to cover the yearly NYMIR bill.

2nd by: Don Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

Resolution #121 for The Town of Lake Pleasant to Fund Expense line A7140.400.
Offered by: RaChelle Martz
Whereas, Town of Lake Pleasant is increasing expense line A.7140.400 by $38,784.00.
Whereas, expense line A7140.400 will be offset by increased revenue of $38,784.00 in account A.2680 Insurance Revenue.
Whereas, these changes are for repaving of parking lot at the Lake Pleasant public Library and Health Center.
2nd by: Kathy O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

Committee Reports:

Youth Recreation – Martz let the board know that the committee met with Laura O'Brian to continue to work on ski program. Papers to go out to youth this week to see how many will be participating in the ski program. The committee is also in the process of writing up a bill for Arietta for summer recreation program. Home school children have been reached out to as well. McGovern thanked the committee for their work.

Short Term Rental Committee – O'Connell reported that the first meeting went well and the next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow 11/8/22 at 4:00. They will be reaching out to zoning/code enforcement etc. for education.
Lack of housing opportunities in Hamilton County was mentioned and discussed.

Budget Committee – McGovern mentioned that line for town officials to take continuing education classes is not available and that in the future it would be beneficial to have a line in 2024 budget for new council members to use for classes.

William Osborne congratulated the board with its 1.07% increase on the budget for 2023. He hopes that the board has forecasted increases for the next year budget.
Mr. Osborne also mentioned that there are two pieces of affordability when it comes to housing 1. Cost of housing 2. Ability of individual to pay for that housing

Hamilton County has lowest pay in any county in the area. Osborne wants to make sure our town employees are well compensated. They are doing a great job.
McGovern went over points of the budget where employees get a 5% raise and elected officials are getting 4%. Braunius found it remarkable how the budget committee made a budget like they did even with the increase to health care at 10%.

With all persons desiring to be heard, Deputy Supervisor McGovern closed the public hearing at 7:53.

Resolution #122 to close public hearing on 2023 preliminary budget.
Offered by: Kathy O'Connell
2nd by: RaChelle Martz
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Councilpersons – McGovern, Martz, O'Connell and Braunius)
Nays: None

Resolution #123 Approve Audit of Abstract #33, October 27, 2022
Voucher #2396-2398 Amount $2,935.21, Abstract #34, November 1, 2022 Voucher #2399-2399 Amount $7,000.00, Abstract #35, November 3, 2022 Voucher # 2392-2428 Amount $60,807.28.
Offered by: Don Braunius
2nd by: Kathy O'Connell
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 (Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, Martz and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

McComb announced that the Holiday Stroll will take place on November 25, 2022 from 2-6 p.m. with the library being one of the main venues. This year the event will be indoors. She mentioned that 133 people attended the trunk or treat with every child getting to pick out a book on their way out. It was fun for all.

Round table:

- O'Connell let everyone know that the Lake Pleasant sixth graders will be doing the Wreaths across America this year if anyone is interested in sponsoring a wreath call the school. Ceremony will be held with date to be announced. Goal is a wreath for every Veteran.
- Martz informed the board that Hamilton County Public Health is doing a coat and costume drive. Donations can be sent to local school nurses. Collections are from 11/1/2022-1/1/2023.

- Braunius asked LaVarnway about recyclables with LaVarnway responding that cans, plastic and paper can go in one bag, glass goes in a separate bag and caps do not have to be removed.
- McGovern reminded all that election day is tomorrow with our candidate for Judge over to the far right and three initiatives on the back.
- McGovern announced that the town board will meet on November 17, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. at town hall for the adoption of the 2023 budget. The public is welcome to attend.

Next Meeting: Monday November 21, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M. @ Lake Pleasant Library
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** RaChelle Martz
TO ADJOURN @ 8:10 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk