September 3, 2024

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 September 3, 2024, 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: Don Braunius, Katherine O'Connell and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent: Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Nancy Seifts (Budget Officer), Katie Smith (Town Justice), Shorty Hoffman,
Absent: Neil McGovern

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #119 To Approve the Minutes of August 19, 2024.
Offered by: Braunius
2ND by: Parascandola
Discussion – none
Be it resolved, that the minutes of August 19, 2024 be approved as presented.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway Report:

LaVarnway let the board know that National Grid held a seminar at DOT in Wells, NY for the towns and emergency services on why electrical lines are not to be touched. He remarked on how informative this safety meeting was for all that attended.
-Mowing, ditching and paving are jobs the highway crew has been busy with this past week.
- The insurance company is asking for more itemization for the health center roof repair.
-LaVarnway asked the board for permission to move funds to pay for the Westernstar truck.

Resolution #120 Town Board to Approve Moving Funds from DA Reserve fund to Expenditure Line DA.5130.0201, Capital Reserve – Truck, in the amount of $118,838.12 to pay for the 2025 Western Star Truck Chassis.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)

Nays: None

The truck is currently with Henderson in Watertown, NY. It will be January or February, March at the latest before the truck is built. If other trucks don't come in it may be ready earlier and in service, this winter.
Braunius asked LaVarnway about progress on Fawn Lake snowmobile trail. Albany DEC has said No to new trails at this time but will reconsider later. The only option will be from Sagandaga Lake to Oxbow Trail. Discussion about maps getting updated and produced along with trail reroutes on these maps was had. O'Connell asked about road damage and LaVarnway said that there is no damage to the road from snowmobile traffic. The board agreed that there is a need to determine who is having the maps made. Bain to contact the Speculator Chamber of Commerce and Hamilton County Tourism Office about map updating and production.

Old Business:

1. **Museum Grant –** Meg Parascandola updated the board on the project stating that bids will be accepted until Sept 16, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. and will be read aloud at the town board meeting that evening at 7:00 P.M. She will follow up with the Adirondack Heritage Foundation to see if there are any updates on the review.

2. **Court JCAP Grant –** Judge Smith presented the grant application rules to the board for approval to improve the courtroom by applying for the JCAP grant. She explained that the grant is for court purposes in the town's court room and not infrastructure. Other courts have already applied, and Judge Smith would like to get permission from the town board to apply for this grant so that the town court can move forward with the application. O'Connell explained that she tabled this at the last meeting because she preferred to have a list of items that the court was in need of and didn't want to approve the applying for a grant without a wish list of things the court was asking for. Discussion about other possible needs and if they would qualify for the grant was had after the list was shared with the board.
   Braunius made the motion to resubmit the original motion.

Resolution #121 The Town Board of the Town of Lake Pleasant Authorizes the Lake Pleasant Town Court to Apply for a JCAP Grant in the 2024-2025 Grant Cycle up to $30,000.00.
Offered by: Braunius
Whereas, funding awarded will go towards upgrades to the town's courtroom for furnishings, storage needs and equipment.
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

3. **Alarm System** –O'Connell wasn't able to get into the towns web e-mail, so she wasn't able to do any further research.

4. **RO Systems** – Bain explained that JC Parslow took apart the spare RO system at Town Hall to put together what an RO system resident needed, and all is going well. He will be putting together a list of parts that will need to be on hand at Town Hall.

5. **Retirees Insurance Meeting** – Smith informed the board that on August 20, 2024, there was a meeting at town hall with town retiree insurance recipients and Arnold Morehouse from Marshall and Sterling. She shared with the board the feedback from retirees that was collected on a questionnaire. Some retirees are happy with Humana and others are afraid that their providers will soon no longer accept Humana. This leaves them feeling insecure with the current health insurance if they will have to seek new providers elsewhere. Bain pointed out that at the meeting, Morehouse explained how a carrier such as Hartford, is secondary to Medicare insurance that would allow the individuals to go wherever they choose to get coverage. Smith went over the six comparisons of available insurance options with the board finding that most other options are double in cost with this year's rates. Currently Marshall and Sterling is waiting for the 2025 rates to come out. Braunius mentioned having informational insurance meetings at the library for more meeting space in the future. All agreed that this was a good idea.

New Business:

Resolution #122 Town Board to Agree to the Hold Harmless Indemnification Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Hamilton County and the Lake Pleasant Library.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee – Seifts reported that department heads have been given their budget sheets to fill out and return back to her by Oct. 1st. Bain asked the fire department for a 2024/2025 contract to review for the budget. She has asked them for a breakdown of their budget to keep at Town Hall. Bain and Seifts will be meeting to go over the general budget for 2025 soon.

Safety Committee – Smith let the board know that the Town has been awarded a grant through PERMA for much needed new safety gear. In two to three weeks the town will receive $2,600.00 in safety gear which includes whistles, air horns, Class 11 vests, Hard hats, Stop/Slow Paddles, 28- in. cones with stripes, safety signs and pocket guides.

Highway Committee – Planning to meet the end of September.

Website Committee – Parascandola reported that she contacted Hamilton County's Soil and Water Department Head, Caitlin Stewart for web platforms she suggests the Town look into. Stewart recommended Go Daddy, and Parascandola will contact them for pricing to share at the next town board meeting.

Youth Recreation- O'Connell reported that youth recreation is planning an outing for Columbus Day when the students are out of school. There will be another outing in the fall. Parascandola mentioned that in regard to community partnerships, Youth Recreation and HFM Prevention Council and the Four Rivers Alliance will be taking over trailblazers which may allow for a partnership with the Town's Youth Recreation.

Cemetery Committee – Braunius is working on the flagpole and getting pricing.

Resolution #123 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #35 dated: 08/23/2024, #3637-3651 in the amount of $27,188.18. Abstract #36 dated: 08/30/2024, #3652-3661 in the amount of $10,024.41.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
None

Roundtable:

- O'Connell mentioned that school buses start transporting students on Thursday so be aware of them.
- Smith let the board know that the clerk's office will be closed this coming Friday September 6, 2024, when the clerks are attending a Tri-County meeting/training in Lake Luzerne with clerks and The State Comptroller's Office.
- On September 4, 2024, at 3:00 P.M. there will be a pre-bid conference at the project site for contractors with Lake Pleasant Department Project Representatives present.
- On September 27, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., digital towpath will hold their annual meeting via zoom or in person in East Syracuse for any town officials that would like to attend.
- LaVarnway let all know that the FEMA final payment is delayed. FEMA is saying we don't need an extension but there is a hold up with the check being issued to the town.
- Bain announced, the Winter Snowflake Social will be on Oct. 2nd at the Indian Lake library and on Oct.3rd at the Lake Pleasant library with first come first serve for seniors and kids winter equipment, put on by Hamilton County.
- Warren county office of the aging will be having a senior picnic on Tuesday September 24th in Warren County. There will be a bus run down from Wells to Warren County and back.
- At the new SVAC garage, spray foam is going in. An EMT class is coming up with over ten students signed up to date. Piseco ambulance is now housed at SVAC and emergency personnel are training on how to use any equipment new to them.
- Hamilton County Soil and Water still have grant funds left to award.

- Hamilton County Soil and Water has purchased equipment to process wood chips for erosion control within the County.
- LaVarnway ordered a new fax/scanner for Town Hall last week.
- The town's dog warden, Steve Rajca, was trained by Aga Markets last week. AGA Markets will be back in three months for an inspection.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday September 16, 2024, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

Resolution #124 Town Board to Move to Executive Session for Discussions Relating to Proposed, Pending or Current Litigation.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Parascandola

Resolution #125 Town Board Came out of Executive Session With no Action Taken and Returned to Regular Session at 8:30 P.M.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

***ON A MOTION BY**: Braunius 2ND **by:** Parascandola
To Adjourn @8:32 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk