May 19, 2025

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 May 19, 2025, 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, Kathy O'Connell and Meg Parascandola
Highway Superintendent: Randy LaVarnway
Budget Officer: Nancy Seifts
Guests: Chris Ambrose, Mary Caldwell (Chamber Director), Tracy Joy (Chamber President), Shorty Hoffman, Karen McComb (Library President) and, Paul Allen.
Absent: Councilman Don Braunius and Town Clerk Stephanie Smith

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #69 To approve the minutes of May 5, 2025.
Offered by: O'Connell **for Discussion**
2ND by: Parascandola
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Speculator Region Chamber of Commerce Report - Caldwell gave the report from January – April 15, 2025, to the board. This year updated snowmobile maps were available. The Winter Wonderland Ball was a successful fundraiser, raising funds to cover eight new snowflakes to display for next year. Discussion on who will be responsible for maintaining and placement of snowflake displays was discussed. This will all be decided on once the snowflakes arrive. Aging flower barrels were discussed, and it was decided that the barrels can be turned over to businesses that purchased them or if not salvageable, they are to be disposed of. Providing ice skates at the pavilion was a new success this year. Parascandola asked for clarification on a payroll expense line. Caldwell explained the data in this line.
Parascandola asked Caldwell about the grant that was awarded to the Chamber from the Adirondack Foundation. Caldwell explained that the grantor awarded $3,900.00 to the Chamber through the Building Resiliency Through Farmers Markets and Visitor Centers. The Chamber will be using the funds to improve the local farmer's market.
Caldwell announced that there will be a job fair tomorrow, May 20th, at Melody Lodge from 4-6 p.m.

This year the farmers market will include a children's program called Speculator Sprouts, focused on healthy eating and getting children involved in the farmers' market. The Chamber has some new members that are getting involved.
McGovern thanked Joy for the work that has been done to improve King of the Frosties building in the Village and he asked about Melody Lodge opening. Joy explained that they need of a new septic system at this time so opening has delayed.
Bain thanked the Chamber President and Director for coming to the meeting.

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway reported that the chips money came in at $9,000.00 more to the Town of Lake Pleasant.
- Page Street from Moffett's beach to up over the hill is scheduled to be grinded down and completely redone. A top is scheduled to go on the other section of Page Street. The end of Pletcher Road from the intersection to the end of blacktop will get repaired. The town will need to spend $216,221.48 to do the repairs and paving. Some of the funds will come from the town and the rest from the state of NY. Another eight to ten thousand dollars will need to be spent on culverts with these road repairs. Bain explained about Soil and water using the Town's chips to bag up for erosion use.
-The garage door was replaced on Friday. Old parts and old door panels have been kept for future needs.
-LaVarnway has an applicant for a part time/temporary work position who has his CDL license and LaVarnway is looking for a garbage truck driver. This individual can start working on June 10th through Columbus Day, working Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Wednesday pick up days. There are no benefits for this part time job and pay will start at $27/hr.

Resolution #70 Town Board to Hire Kevin Aird for Part Time Highway Department Position from June 10, 2025 – October 13, 2025 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday pick up days and Thursdays for $27/hour.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

- The windows and a door have been ordered for the museum back room. The board agreed on forest green for the roofing. Electrical wires were reconnected last Thursday. Bill McGuire will inspect the electrical work, then National Grid will be contacted to have the power turned back on at the museum.
- LaVarnway suggests installing a water and sewer meter pit at the museum. The board agrees.

Resolution #71 Town Board Gives Permission for the Town Highway Superintendent to Submit a Quote to DEC in the Amount of $47,130.00 for Maintenance to be completed by October 31, 2025.

Offered by: McGovern

Whereas, there is maintenance needed in the Perkins Clearing Conservation Easement tract, on Jessup River Road; and

Whereas, the Town of Lake Pleasant Highway Department submitted a quote to NYSDEC for the amount of $47,130.00 for maintenance to be completed by October 31, 2025; and

Whereas, the Highway Superintendent is asking the Lake Pleasant Town Board for approval to complete such work at the quoted amount.

2nd by: Parascandola for discussion

Discussion: O'Connell asked if the work isn't done by October 31st, will the Town be stuck or can the town carry work over to the next year. LaVarnway stated that the town is contracted as a replacement and the town gets paid for work performed.

Now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED** with a **MOTION** made by Councilman McGovern and **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Parascandola that the Town of Lake Pleasant Highway Superintendent has permission to quote and complete such work.

Ayes: All - Supervisor Bain, Council persons (McGovern, O'Connell and Parascandola)

Nays: None

Resolution #72 Town Board Approves Highway Superintendent LaVarnway to Purchase a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Regular Cab Work Truck.

Offered by: Parascandola

Whereas, Funds in the amount of $50,000.00 are to be withdrawn from SR 8160.0200 and $289.43 from line SR 1990.0400, to pay the balance of $50,289.43 for the new Chevrolet Silverado purchased from Mangino Chevrolet.

2nd by: McGovern

Adopted by the following votes:

Ayes: (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – Parascandola, McGovern and O'Connell)

Nays: None

-LaVarnway mentioned that there was a bear that got into the clinic garbage and made a mess in the neighbor's yards. Clinic employees cleaned up the mess and the town employees picked up the garbage.

-Bain informed the board that the museum phone will be reconnected this coming Wednesday.

Old Business:

1. **Community Garden Report –**
   Tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. Bain and Community Garden Members will be meeting with students from LPCS to rake out and plant plants in the school plots. June Bergholtz has been working hard to get the gardens ready for the season.

2. **BTI Report** – Bain reported that it has been a waiting game with the weather. If the rain stops then applicators can get back to applying the product.

3. **County Tennis Courts –** Bain announced that the Hamilton County tennis courts will be closed this year due to the septic project**.** Lake Pleasant Central School has agreed to allow the pickleball club to play in the gym starting on July 7th on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wells Town Board has agreed to open their pickleball courts to Lake Pleasant for the season and are willing to work out a schedule with the club.

Bain mentioned that she and Seifts checked the budget for funds for a flagpole to go in Airdville Cemetery and she will get in touch with Braunius about new quotes and ordering the flagpole.

New Business:

1. **Microsoft 365 –**
   Bain explained that she and Smith have looked into business plans for the town offices and are looking to purchase the basic plan. Cost would be $6/user/month for two users to start for a total of $144 a year.

Resolution #73 Town Board to Approve Purchasing Microsoft 365 Basic Business Account for $6/month/user.
Offered by: Parascandola for discussion
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Parascandola stated that this will be best with all accounts for the town under one tax exempt account with cloud storage and backup.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – Parascandola, McGovern and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Bain mentioned that the town clerk's office computer has been budgeted for a new computer, and she asked the board if they approve.

Resolution #74 Town Board Approves Purchase of New Computer for the Town Clerks Office.
Offered by: O'Connell for discussion
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: O'Connell stated that the purchase is not to go over the budgeted amount.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – Parascandola, McGovern and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Committee Reports:

- **Website –** Parascandola reported that the website is 95% complete. She encouraged everyone to check out the historian's site. The calendar will be limited to municipal events due to the .gov domain. Community pages will have links to community events and promote local businesses. Parascandola had asked Paul Allen to give a recommendation on a new laptop for the Supervisor, and he has given a recommendation.
- **Building Committee –** The town is currently in a holding pattern for the museum grant application waiting for word on approval or not. Phase one of the tennis courts' paperwork is in and awaiting the word about what will be required of the town to start. Phase two paperwork has been submitted and will not hear for a few more months about whether it will be awarded or not.

  LaVarnway would like to have a buildings committee meeting to go over how the AC/Minisplit was installed. It was decided that they will meet on Friday at 7:30 a.m.
- **Youth Recreation** – O'Connell let everyone know that the committee and director will get together next week with Arietta to work on programs for the summer locally and out of town. There will be swimming lessons, golf lessons and two activities locally and two away.

Resolution #75 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #17 dated 05/15/2025, 4035-4052 in the Amount of $63,764.69.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: O'Connell would like the library personnel to sign receipts.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
- McComb asked if the town could provide her with the dollar amount of donations received from mailings the Historical Society paid for. She is wanting to find out if the mailings were effective in raising funds. Bain let McComb know that she would send her the data from donation collection.
- Hoffman let LaVarnway know that a 10–15-gallon hot water tank will work in the museum.
- Allen mentioned the residential debris piles on Page Street that need to be cleaned up. Bain will talk to the building/code's inspector.

Roundtable:
- Parascandola asks everyone to keep an eye on the community calendar stating that there is a lot going on at this time of the year. It will be an exciting summer.
- O'Connell mentioned that TWIGS is requesting to place the old wooden bike rack that was at the library, rehomed to the Elm Lake Rd. courts site. She asked the rest of the board if they approve of this relocation. They all agreed with the rehome site.
- LaVarnway let the board know that he is going to list the old recycling truck on Auctions International and he will let the board know when it sells.
- Bain announced the following:

- The next regional food drive will be on June 6, 2025, at the Wells Central School starting at 11:00 a.m.
- Hamilton County Public Health will be hosting a rabies clinic on June 16, 2025, at the Wells Ambulance Building from 1-3 p.m.
- Bicycle helmet distribution and education will be put on by Hamilton County Public Health with several dates and locations, please see flyer. They will be at the Speculator ball field gazebo on June 10th from 12-1 p.m.
- Tick prevention with free kits provided by Hamilton County Public Health will be at the Lake Pleasant Library on June 17th from 10:30-12 p.m. and the Campstore on July 8th from 12-2:00 p.m.
- Bain announced that Matt Seifts attended this year's PERMA Conference this past week and the town received a PERMA award for twenty-five years of continuous loyal support of the PERMA workers compensation program. This award will be displayed at Town Hall.
- Bain read off a thank you letter from the Pretty Good Band and Mountain Arts Consortium.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday June 2, 2025, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library

***ON A MOTION BY**: Parascandola **2ND by:** O'Connell
To Adjourn @ 8:14 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk