June 16, 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 June 16, 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, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent: Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Sandy LaVarnway (Hamilton County's Senior of the Year), Denise Duckett, Ed Soares, John Granath, Rabecca Smith, Barbara Pedersen, Craig Pedersen, Judy Lavigne, Denise Page, Chris Ambrose, Ron Uva, Scott Zoller, Paul Allen, Tim Witten, and Shorty Hoffman.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #85 To approve the minutes of June 2, 2025.
Offered by: Braunius for **Discussion**
2ND by: O'Connell
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Sandy LaVarnway thanked the town board and the town for nominating her for Hamilton County Senior of the year. The Office of the Aging held a dinner at the Desmond in Albany in honor of the seniors of the year. Sandy is one of 900,000 senior volunteers that contribute 474 million hours in community service that is an estimated value of 13.2 billion dollars of savings in the state of New York. She showed the room her pin and certificate that she received at the dinner. Sandy was a 4H leader when her children were young. She is a member of TWIGS, Friends of the Library since they began and is currently serving as President. She is also a member of the historical society and wants everyone to expect a historical display on the float she is working on for the Fourth of July parade.
There was a round of applause for Ms. LaVarnway in the room.

Highway Report:

- LaVarnway reported that the crew continues to mow in Perkins Clearing and town roadsides.
-An insurance appraisal was done last week of all the town buildings. No word back about the appraisal to date.

-The museum back-room walls are almost done and the bathroom is being installed. A new metal roof is on the back room and the siding is not put on yet. The doors and windows are in and a vanity was picked up today. Moving back in will be as soon as next week.

Old Business:

1. **Museum Grant –** Parascandola reported that the legal to bid for replacing the roof and painting the exterior of the building will go into the paper on Wednesday. Contractors will be able to pick up bid packets as early as Thursday June 19th.

2. **Crowdstrike –**
   Bain reported that she and Smith did a kick off meeting with Shannon Stout and Bill Langlast last week and the next step is to have an IT tech get onboard on June 25th with Bain and Smith about the software. Bain explained that Craig Pedersen who was in the office helping the clerk with computer needs has volunteered to help with the Crowdstrike, as he has worked with them in the past. Pedersen explained to the board how Crowdstrike uses a small program called the falcon sensor to screen out any bad before data goes to the office computers. They are keeping a record of everything that is going to and from the computers. He reassures the board that installation will be easy but he is concerned about how the office system is connected and what the settings are in house. Bain explained that Pedersen will be working with her and the clerk to get the falcon sensor installed through Crowdstrike on June 25th.

3. **New Computers –**
   Bain explained that Pedersen and Smith discussed what computer package would be best for the clerk's office. Smith explained that a request was sent back to the Dell sales representative for a quote on another computer and accessories, but the representative was on vacation last week and has not gotten back yet. Pedersen explained that the all-in-one quote is fancier than what the office needs and a price quote for a simpler laptop with docking station would work nicely.

   Discussion about needs and pricing for new computers was had at the table.

4. **Airdville Cemetery Flagpole –**
   Braunius explained that when land for upper Airdville was donated to the town, a memorial garden area was drawn up with room for a flagpole. He reviewed the three proposals that he had received for a flagpole, each within the budgeted amount for a pole and flag with internal halyard and lighted by a solar light. One company is offering free shipping that has them as the best buy.

Resolution #86 Town Board Approves the Purchase of a Flagpole from for the Airdville Cemetery Priced at $2,444.00 with internal halyard and solar lighting and 3X5 nylon US Flag from HD Flagpoles.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: Cemetery committee to meet and discuss placement. Braunius will order the Made in USA flag and pole.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

New Business:

Resolution #87 Town Board Authorizing Payment to Kingsboro Lumber Company for Museum Project.
Offered by: Parascandola
Whereas, the Town of Lake Pleasant has received donations for the Museum Project, and
Whereas, donations close to a Restricted Fund Balance each year and will be used to create and fund an expenditure to make payment, and
Therefore, be it resolved, that account number A.1620.0408 – Buildings, Museum Project, be created and funded from the General Restricted Fund Balance in the amount of $5,179.74, and
Be it further resolved, that the bookkeeper is authorized to make said transfer and remit payment to Kingsboro Lumber Company.
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes- (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons- Parascandola, McGovern, Braunius and O'Connell
Nays: None

1. **Buildings Cleaner Salary –**
   Bain would like to have the town give a pay raise to the town buildings cleaner who is providing her own insurance at $400 a year. She has been doing a great job and Bain would like to move her pay up by $3/hr.

Resolution #88 Town Board to Increase the Town Building Cleaning Hourly Rate from $20/hr. to $23/hr.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: McGovern explained that this line is under budget and a mid-year raise will not affect the budget. O'Connell stated that the pay rate should be increased to $23/hour.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

2. **National Grid Holiday Lighting –** Bain would like to table for now because she is waiting for pricing to come in. McGovern and Bain went onto explain to the room that there is pricing for installation of the lighted snowflakes to the electric poles in town.

Committee Reports:

- **Cemetery Committee –** Braunius let the board know that the cemetery committee will be having a meeting.
- **HWY Committee** – McGovern would like the HWY Committee to have a meeting about scheduling of contract work in Perkins Clearing.
- **Website –** Parascandola reviewed that Microsoft 365 can be subscribed once the new computer systems are purchased.
- **Building Committee –** Parascandola reported that phase 1 of the tennis courts contract is still under review as of today. Once it is approved, under the guidelines of the contract, bids can be accepted, awarded and construction can begin.
- **Youth Recreation** – Arietta and Lake Pleasant youth recreation committees meet and swim lessons will not be available this coming season due to the age of lifeguards available. They are not old enough to teach swimming lessons. Two programs will come in this summer, and they are The Bubble Man and a portable planetarium. Two trips out of town are planned and one is a trip to water safari. There has been a shift to do events during school superintendent days so there is somewhere for children to go when parents are working and school is out.

Resolution # 89 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #19 dated 05/23/2025, 4073-4077 in the Amount of $26,918.19. Abstract #20 dated 06/13/2025, 4078-4101 in the Amount of $26,081.82.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
- John Granath thanked the board for allowing him to speak on behalf of the pickleball community. He explained that when they lost the ability to play at the courthouse, they lost a portion of their 80+ team. He explained that he has been a resident for many years and started playing pickleball at the county courts 7 years ago. Granath asked when construction will begin on Elm Lake Rd. Parascandola explained that there is no timeline at this time. The contract is under review and when it is available to sign then the work can go up to bid. The grantees and sub grantees have to give the go ahead for the building to begin. Granath asked what the start date is and Parascandola stated that there is no way to predict this.
McGovern explained that we are working with state funds, and they will not give the funds until they are ready to give the funds out. Parascandola explained that any work done prior to signing the contract will not be covered. Bain explained that phases one and two are state grants not Federal. LaVarnway informed the room that he has stockpiled the fill for the project but

realistically getting a contractor to pave this year will be difficult. Parascandola explained that phase 2 has an application in but the town doesn't expect feedback on it until October.
Bain explained that the County is undergoing renovations and an addition to the County building. Due to this the County closed the courts and may keep them closed for the next two years due to multiple renovations. There was also a large trial at the County recently that required more parking. So, for the safety of the public the tennis courts are closed.
Granath asked Bain how the town is involved with the County building and Bain explained that every town supervisor makes up the County board of Supervisors, who make all the decisions for the County.
Braunius explained that the town leased the courts from the County for $1 a year until they were going to need to be resurfaced and they wanted the town to pay for these costs. Bain let the room know that the board had to decide to resurface the rented County courts or re-do the town's own Elm Lake Road tennis courts. Because of this the town decided not to renew the lease with the County courts and gave the County the fencing around the courts.
Granath thanked the town for getting the village courts set up for pickleball and Bain explained that the Village allowed them to play on the basketball courts not the Town of Lake Pleasant. Discussion continued about other locations where pickleball can be played in surrounding municipalities.
Uva asked about the sport of tennis for the future and O'Connell and Parascandola explained that there will be two tennis courts in the plans that the town has mapped out.
Rabecca Smith asked about the location of the addition at the County.
Smith asked about the situation of no place to play tennis/pickleball and the timeline. Parascandola explained that the town applied for the grant 1 ½ years ago and had to shut down the Elm Lake Rd. courts due to safety reasons.
Zoller asked about use of the County courts until the construction begins. Bain said that they are closed.
Bain mentioned that the newspaper has been publishing the County meeting minutes and she wants the public to read them to find out what is happening on County level.
Parascandola offers to keep in touch with John Granath about any updates as they evolve so that the pickleball club will be informed about how things are moving forward. O'Connell will communicate with Ron Uva about tennis.
McGovern praised Parascandola, O'Connell and Jim Reis for all they have done thus far to plan for the new tennis/pickleball courts and park project.
Granath thanked his group for coming to discuss their concerns. Bain thanked everyone for coming to discuss what is happening in the town with the recreation courts.

Roundtable:
-McGovern mentioned the Lions Club Raffel tickets for the two E-Bikes. The parade will be on Saturday July 5th this year.
-Parascandola thanked the TWIGS volunteers for the bike rack that was installed. She praised everyone coming tonight and she is thankful for the Perks opening and the Inn at Speculator busy and the community thriving.
-O'Connell mentioned school getting out and she wants everyone to look out for the children this summer.
-LaVarnway mentioned that bulk PU is this Wednesday June 18th.
Bain announced the following:

Veterans Appreciation Day will be Saturday June 28th from 10:00 – 5:00 at the Adirondack Experience in Blue Mountain Lake.
-Bain reviewed that tires, TV's etc. can not get put into the regular household garbage. Bain wants everyone to know that sending these items with regular garbage hurts everyone in the County when the County gets charged for the illegal disposal of these items.
-Speculator Primary Care will be open for summer hours starting on July 5th with Saturday hours from 9-5 and Sunday from 11-7. These hours are not for routine care, walk in needs only. They will be at the farmers market to give out information about the clinic this summer.
-Granath asked how he can support the clinic and McGovern responded by donating to Nathan Littauer or TWIGS. McGovern explained that it is not urgent care but a primary care with some walk in hours. The more the clinic is used the more funds the clinic receives.
Bain went over an e-mail she received from Jeannette Barrett about the school children visiting the Makomis fire tower and taking a walk on the nature trail. She thanked the town for involving the children in the community.
Swims grant receipts and vouchers are being collected from the Village.
Chamber events:
Speculator Sprouts- Kids growing healthy will be June 19th – September 4th designated for children ages thirteen and under.
Bear and Wine will be Sat. Sept. 20th, 2025 and the Chamber is looking for sponsors.
-Sandy LaVarnway mentioned that the library is full of books in the Friends of the Library shed and she is asking for assistance with moving books.

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

*****ON A MOTION BY**: Braunius **2ND by:** Parascandola
To Adjourn @ 8:24 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk