July 7, 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 July 7, 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: Karen McComb (Library President), Eileen LaVarnway, Nancy Seifts (Budget Officer), Chris Ambrose, Paul Allen, and Shorty Hoffman.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #90 To approve the minutes of June 16, 2025.
Offered by: McGovern for **Discussion**
2ND by: Braunius
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway Report:

- Pathways were brushed and leaf blown. Damage was found in in the form of mud graffiti on the signs and dock. Two employees were sent down to wash the mud off of the signs and dock. Braunius asked if cameras could be installed if this keeps happening and the board agreed.
-Large debris in the brush pit was found and Camp of the Woods was contacted to remove the illegal dumping's. They promptly removed the load of debris that was illegally dumped.
-Another illegal dumping was from a non-resident that was found down state by law enforcement and told to remove the illegal dumping. The Town brush pit is for taxpayers of lake pleasant and permit holding contractors only.
-The museum siding was finished today. Sewer can now be hooked up. Water can be hooked up after a water pit is put in for $1,300.00. LaVarnway will set up a tax-free account with Fergison and get the water pit ordered.
-Started digging rocks out of Page St. just past Moffitt beach.

-Next Wednesday the road will get ground up and August 12-14th will be paving days. Another company will be doing the paving and the County and surrounding towns will be assisting with the project.
-A flagpole was ordered for Airdville cemetery and the light has come in. Braunius expects the flag pole to come in by this Thursday.
- The culvert in Perkins Clearing has come into Indian Lake and is ready to install. LaVarnway needs to have the board move funds to replace the culvert that is being installed. Board had given approval for funds in the aggregate line DB.5110.0400 General Repairs to go into line DB.5110.0404 Culvert and miscellaneous.

Resolution #91 Town Board Approves LaVarnway Purchasing a Zero Turn Lawn Mower from Bobcat and having funds moved from line A.7140.0405 to line A.7140.0200. Town Board also Approves movement of funds from line DB.5110.0400 to go into line DB.5110.0404 to purchase a New Culvert.
Offered by: McGovern
Whereas, $7,357.38 will come out of line A.7140.0405 Parks and Recreation Groomer Parts and go into line A.7140.0200 Parks and Recreation Equipment to purchase a new zero turn lawnmower from Bobcat.
Whereas, $5,000.00 will come out of line DB.5110.0400, general repairs aggregate and go into line DB.5110.0404 culvert and miscellaneous.
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: Efficiency of the zero-turn compared to the current mower tractor and areas that need to be mowed was had at the table.
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Old Business:

1. **Tennis Courts –** Parascandola gave a recap starting with July 31st when application F2024 was submitted to The Office of Parks and Recreation and Historic Preservation to replace the existing tennis courts on Elm Lake Rd. with four pickleball courts and two tennis courts. On December 30 the town received a letter stating that it was awarded the grant. On March forth the town received notice of request for a survey of the property, a copy of the deed, the opinion of municipal council, a board resolution and the APA JIF. It took four weeks to gather this data. On April 7th all forms were submitted to the state for the grant and the town waited. Last week an e-mail was received stating that the grant was awarded to the Town of Lake Pleasant. State site is down and waiting for it to go back up. LaVarnway has been working with Engineer Jim Reis to put together a bid packet for the project.
   Discussion about how we must be patient and wait for the state to release the funds and the bid packet to come together was had in the room. LaVarnway asked if he can start work before the grant contract is signed and Parascandola explained that no the work has to wait

for the contract to be signed. Parascandola is willing to answer any questions the public may have.

2. **Museum Grant –** Parascandola asked Smith about bids coming in and Smith let the table know that no bids have come in but 17 bid packets have gone out to date. LaVarnway informed the room that another contractor contacted him today and will be contacting the clerk for a bid packet.

Bain informed the room that on the last bulk pick up day the highway department went above and beyond to pick up the large pile of garbage on Page Street and dispose of the large load that was illegally on the road side for months. Discussion continued about illegal trash pile ups before dates to put garbage out and fining those that do not abide by the rules was had in the room.

3. **Crowdstrike –**
   Bain explained that the falcon sensor has been installed on the clerk computers and the buildings/codes inspector's computer. Bain thanked Craig Pederson for installing the falcon on these computers.

4. **New Computers –**

Parascandola explained that previously the board had approved $1,000 for the Supervisors new computer and $2,000 for the Clerks new computer. Dell was contacted about state contractor pricing. Smith is to meet with the Dell Representative tomorrow via video chat to discuss pricing of needed electronic equipment. Parascandola would like to reallocate the funds to split funds evenly.

Resolution #92 Town Board Approved to split the cost of the funds for the computers to $1,500.00 each for clerk and Supervisor computers.

Offered by: O'Connell

2nd by: Parascandola

Adopted by the following votes:

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

Nays: None

Bain asked who would be doing the purchasing and Parascandola is to contact the Dell representative.

Bain explained that we need an IT technician that will be able to work with town hall and the current installs. The current IT technician has not been in contact with town hall and the current IT needs of the town hall. McGovern feels that it is time to switch IT technicians and move forward.

O'Connell would like to know what the options are. Parascandola wanted to know if this service should continue on as a contracted service or can it be an employee. Parascandola expressed that with volunteers coming in to help with IT we need a contract for services signed.

Bain **tabled** for now to look into options.

New Business:

1. **Route 8 Taxpayer Speed Limit Reduction Request –** Bain read a petition (letter of request) from new resident Bruce Simpson asking the town to consider his petition to reduce the speed limit from 55 MPH to 40 MPH on Route 8 from golf course to down across the bridge.
   Opened for discussion:
   Offered by: O'Connell
   2nd by: Braunius **to discuss:** Braunius would like to see the speed limit reduced from 55 to 40 between Town line at Oxbow Inn to Page Street at Camp Store.
   O'Connell agrees that this stating that these are bad spots but unless it is enforced then the problem will continue. Parascandola is in support of the speed limit reduction as well. She expressed that the end of Page Street is a bad intersection with the activity in this area. McGovern explained that when Mezzano was in office, they paid to have a survey done to make the road safer for pedestrians. The four-way traffic at Page St. and Route 8 was discussed as a heavy traffic area. O'Connell asked about this going on the election ballots for the public to decide. Braunius stated that he has lived on Route 8 for fifty years and due to speed, log trucks and noise level of tractor trailers he would like to see the speed limit reduced.
   Discussion about commercial vs. residential along the state highway going west of the village was had at the table.
   O'Connell asked about the speed limit on unposted roads.
   Bain stated that the speed limit cannot be changed because of one person and before making changes the sheriff's office should be contacted to enforce the current speed laws. Discussion about noise from motorcycles and jake brakes was had in the room.
   O'Connell moved to table for time to ask questions and get answers.

Resolution #93 Town Supervisor to Contact Law Enforcement Agencies, State Police and Sheriff's Office, to ask for Stricter Enforcement of the Current Speed Limits.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following votes:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Braunius stated that he will go to the sheriff's department to discuss the jake brakes and the noise level.
LaVarnway stated that the modified exhaust is above the noise ordinance and that is the problem.
Discussion continued in the room.

Resolution #94 Fund Expenditure for Museum Project
Offered by: McGovern
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 fund an expenditure, and

Therefore, be it resolved, that account number A.1620.0408 – Buildings, Museum Project, be funded in the amount of $4,050.26 with the following transfer:

FROM: A.2705.0100 – Gifts & Donations, Museum	$2,460.00
FROM: General Restricted Fund Balance	$1,590.26

Be it further resolved, that the bookkeeper is authorized to make said transfer and any further museum donations shall be credited to the aforementioned expenditure for the remainder of 2025.

2nd by: Braunius

Adopted by the following votes:

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

Nays: None

2. **Lake Pleasant Clinic Flooring –**

   Bain explained that the clinic waiting room and office are in need of new flooring. Years ago the operatory floors were replaced with wood and estimates being collected for the same flooring.

   Funds will come out CM fund and not out of the town budget. O'Connell asked Bain to thank the unanimous donors.

Committee Reports:

- **Cemetery Committee –** Braunius mentioned that the flag pole is on order and expected in by Thursday.
- **HWY Committee** – McGovern asked the highway department to keep up the good work.
- **Website –** No new updates
- **Building Committee –** Parascandola reported that phase 1 of the tennis courts contract has been approved. LaVarnway would like to have a buildings committee meeting.
- **Youth Recreation** – O'Connell mentioned getting the youth recreation schedule on the town website. O'Connell mentioned a program for veterans that are visually impaired. July 17th is the Bubble man program at the farmer's market. August 1st will be an inflatable planetarium at the school.
- **Health Insurance Committee** -Smith let the board know that rates for next year are starting to come in.

Resolution #95 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #21 dated 06/27/2025, 4102-4106 in the Amount of $31,594.05. Abstract #22 dated 07/03/2025, 4107-4133 in the Amount of $40,537.64.

Offered by: Braunius

2nd by: Parascandola

Discussion: O'Connell asked about all the red writing on the bills and LaVarnway and Smith explained them.

Adopted by the following votes:

Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)

Nays: None

Public Comment:
- McComb mentioned that there has been some damage to the pathways due to e-bikes that are not supposed to be on the pathways. McComb commented on speed limits stating that she was not happy in the past with people flying down Elm Lake Rd., where the speed limit of 25 MPH. She sent a letter to law enforcement who did come to enforce the speed on Elm Lake Rd. and because of this she saw improvement. She mentioned the how fast you are going digital signs and how many there are available in the County. It is her opinion that more of them should be available in the Lake Pleasant area.
Seifts mentioned that she was at the public beach, and she was happy to see the lifeguards and she complements the village for their selection in capable lifeguards.
-Hoffman mentioned that the phone at the museum is not working. Bain will look into this to find out why the phone is not working. Hoffman also mentioned in regards to speed limits that Rt 30 and Rt 8 are considered scenic byways. He also mentioned that we should have more cross walks for pedestrians in town.
LaVarnway mentioned another option for speed alerts is the smiley/sad face signs that can be installed for speed control.
-Allen mentioned that he and Parascandola chatted about IT and he suggests looking into how the County utilizes IT and proposes working together with the County for a managed service provider. Bain explained that the County has hired a new IT technician in training to service the County. Allen also mentioned signage posting for speed limit changes.
-Ambrose mentioned that there is a big use of the brush pit by the residents and it is an asset to local residents.

Roundtable:
-Braunius gave a kudos to the Fourth of July Parade Committee.
-McGovern mentioned a great parade and the expense of a Saturday parade event that was pulled together. Great job to all.
-Parascandola mentioned the 80th Anniversary of the Lake Pleasant Fire Department.
-Parascandola went over the New York Bricks Grant application that is specific for community centers. This grant can be used to fund the acquisition, design, construction, major renovation and equipping a community center along with other related capital costs. Eligible applicants can be awarded grants from two hundred and fifty thousand to fifteen million dollars. Grantees must demonstrate a twenty present match towards the program. The states priority is to provide funds to create new community centers statewide and achieve an overall allocation of at least fifty million dollars in Bricks awards to underserved communities. This will be a highly competitive grant. Funds would be for a new community center or rehab of an existing building to turn it into a community center, not both. There was a webinar on July 25th that outlined the grant and the Application is due on August 15,2025. Parascandola stated that applying for a second grant in case the town doesn't get the original phase two grant would be wise.

Resolution #96 Town Board to Discuss Applying for the New York Bricks Grant.
Motion to discuss **Offered by:** Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: O'Connell would like to have this information available to all and she would like to see more community services in the town outside of the Village. McGovern mentioned that he has tried to get a community center started over the years but it got shot down. McGovern stated

that if we get into the millions there will need to be some dedicated funding in preparation. Land accusation and building would need to be laid out.
Decision was made for Parascandola and O'Connell to meet with Alison Gaddy to discuss further details of this grant.
No Action taken at this time on this resolution.

- O'Connell mentioned that she got calls about the garbage not being picked up on Thursday and why the schedule said normal. Bain explained that this was an error on the schedule and flyers were available about this error with the correction along with an alert on the website and on the face book page.
- O'Connell asked for the Lake Management plan to go on the agenda for next meeting.
- Smith reported that a HWY employee took his neighbors garbage to the transfer station on his day off on Thursday.
- Stamps are going up .5 this month and Bain and Smith looked at the budget and purchased stamps with the current budget before they go up in cost.
- Smith let the board know that brush pit permit renewals went out to contractors and one has already been renewed.
- Bain, LaVarnway and Insurance agent, Steve Sawn met to go over the Towns Insurance policy in preparation for 2026. They are now waiting to hear back from appraisal company that came in to appraise the buildings a couple of weeks ago.
- Judge Smith had put in a request to reallocate funds for the AC split and not buy a sign, this request was granted and the court will not be purchasing a sign.
- Bain read an e-mail from LPSA and she wants to clarify that the town board is <u>not</u> trying to eliminate the budget for supporting the lake monitors. That was a rumor. Monitors have been asked to list the boats they inspect each day for better data collection and visibility of the town board to report to the public.
- Bain heard from Jessica Damphier, who is in charge of the monthly food drive at Wells school, who reported that twenty families came down from Lake Pleasant to the food drive last month. The next food drive is scheduled for July 24, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. until the food is all picked up.
- Bain congratulated the Village for their award of the NYS EDS County Infrastructure grant that was announced last week. Bain thanks the County for assisting the Village with the grant application and applying for the funds. This is a million-dollar grant with five hundred thousand for municipal water and sewer, and the other five hundred thousand will get committed by available funds from LBI Developer LLC, to ten new housing units in the Village.
- Page sent out a letter to a resident that has turned his residence into a short-term rental but has not registered with the town.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday July 21, 2025, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Braunius **2ND by:** Parascandola
To Adjourn @ 8:57 P.M.
All in Favor
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk