September 2, 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 September 2, 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
Councilmen: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent - Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Nancy Seifts (Budget Officer), and Shorty Hoffman.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Resolution #117 To approve the minutes of August 18, 2025.**
**Offered by:** Braunius for **Discussion**
**2ND by**: McGovern
**Discussion**: None
**Adopted by the following votes:**
**Ayes:** All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
**Nays:** None

**Highway Report:**

- LaVarnway reported that work on DEC road in Perkins Clearing is going well with DEC satisfied with the work that the town has done on this project. This past Thursday DEC held a public meeting at LPCS where they informed the public about the new hiking and snowmobile trails they are working on. Discussion was had at the table about topics discussed at the meeting and public input that DEC is looking for on these new trails and their recreational uses. Braunius asked if they had plans to get the trails off of local roads and LaVarnway said that there was not discussion in this direction. He did say that they had discussion on bicycle trails and the desire to develop the bike trail loop from Oak Mt. to Elm Lake trail. The unknown is what the logging industry will do to these areas in the future. Parascandola mentioned that they are open to public comment until September 16th for anyone who wants to comment.
-The towns old pick-up chassis for recycling is listed on Auctions International and going for over $1,000 to date. Listing will be up for another two weeks.
-Before the Labor Day holiday there was vandalism on the pathway to a section of dock.

-Tennis court/pickleball project is on the move with fill going down to grade. Black top will be removed from the surface, gravel added, and base built up. Bain asked about the wood chips/water retention socks that the Soil and Water came up with to use for erosion. LaVarnway reported that they are working well as an erosion barrier. Residents can purchase them from Hamilton County Soil and Water.

1. **Elm Lake Road Project Grant –**
   Parascandola let the board know that the town received a letter from NYS Parks and Recreation and Historic Preservation dated August 14, 2025, regretfully informing the town that it has not been selected to receive funding. This year they had received 203 eligible applications through consolidated funding requesting over $131,000,000 with only $10,000,000 for distribution. Not all eligible projects were able to be funded. This does not preclude the town for applying for future grants. O'Connell said that the town can try again next year.

2. **Museum Bid Process –**
   Monday September 22, 2025, by 2:00 p.m., bid packets have to be into Town Hall with a special meeting held at 4:00 p.m., at Town Hall to open the bids. To date 14 bid packets have been requested via e-mail.

3. **D.R.A.G. Lease Agreement –**
   Bain informed the board about a letter from Paul Allen on behalf of the DRAG lease agreement.
   Parascandola and Bain met with Allen and then called AOT to discuss lease options to the snowmobile organization. AOT explained the NYS Comptroller does not recommend a town be in business as a landlord. They don't suggest leasing town owned property for many reasons, including a lease could restrict the public to the property. The NYS Comptroller suggests either subdividing and selling a portion of the property or concession of the property.

**Resolution #118 Town Board to Discuss Sale, Lease or Concession of Land to D.R.A.G.**
**Offered by:** Parascandola
**2nd by:** McGovern
**Discussion**: Parascandola explained the AOT recommendation on municipal owned land and discussion continued. McGovern would like to see the town move for a concession of the property moving forward. Braunius is all for the concession as well because it doesn't affect the current or future grants. O'Connell is in favor of the concession as well. Discussion continued resulting in Bain suggesting that they have a meeting with D.R.A.G about what a concession will involve since D.R.A.G representatives were unable to come to this meeting with the board.
**Adopted by the following votes:**
**Ayes:** All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)

**Nays:** None

**New Business:**

1. **Youth Recreation Director Job Description –** O'Connell explained that the program has been going through reorganization. She reviewed the changes with the board.
   Looking at eight activities a year plus ski and boarding. The committee would like to support dance, pottery, hockey, and basketball. Superintendent's days would be required of the Youth Director to work these days. They are looking at moving away from a salary position and move to $25/hour. This position would be a noncompetitive civil service position. Activities in the job description fit those for the Town of Lake Pleasant.
   Annual report will be given to the town so some record keeping will need to be done.
   Ad will go in the paper for someone to start as of January 1st, 2026.

**Resolution #119 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to approve the Youth Recreation Director Job Description.**
**Offered by:** McGovern
**2nd by:** Parascandola
**Adopted by the following votes:**
**Ayes:** All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
**Nays:** None

Bain went over the lawn care contract from Foleys Lawn Care & Gardening, Inc.

**Resolution #120 Town Board Approves Foleys Lawn Care Contract Estimate of $1,632.39 for 2026 Flower Bed Maintenance.**
**Offered by:** Braunius **for discussion**
**2nd by:** O'Connell
**Discussion:** Comments were that Foleys Lawn Care is doing a great job.
**Adopted by the following votes:**
**Ayes:** All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell)
**Nays:** None
**Abstained:** Parascandola

**Committee Reports:**

- **Cemetery Committee –** Flag raising ceremony scheduled for September 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Airdville Cemetery.
- **Website –** Parascandola went over the computers and mentioned that programs are being put on the new devices. She mentioned that in the AOT magazine it is suggested to hire an IT not have volunteer IT support so that professional services can be met. Smith gave an update on what she and Pederson have accomplished thus far with organizing and migrating files from old desk top to new devices. Microsoft 365 has had a hold up with the invoice coming to the town including taxes that need to be removed. The clerk program has been difficult to migrate but is slowly getting accomplished.

- **Building Committee –** O'Connell and LaVarnway reviewed the security quotes that have been collected.

**Resolution #121 Motion to pay Bills: Abstract #28 dated 08/27/2025, 4192-4196 in the amount of $26,942.80. Abstract #29 dated 08/29/2025, 4197-4223 in the amount of $223,837.80. Voucher for Justice account Abstract #30 dated 09/02/2025, 4224-4224 in the amount of $105.57.**
**Offered by:** O'Connell
**2nd by**: Braunius
**Discussion:** O'Connell asked the dumpster that was purchased and if it was reimbursed. It was reimbursed. She also asked about the boat monitoring not listing the boats that were inspected and where they were sent. O'Connell would like to go back to the reports and see how many invasives are found. She asked where they are with the budget and Bain said they are $6,000 over budget. Discussion about the water levels and natural fauna and flora in the lakes was had.
Smith explained that deposit slips ordered from Deluxe came out of Judge Visscher's justice account that needs to be reimbursed out of the court supply line.
**Adopted by the following votes:**
**Ayes:** All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
**Nays:** None

**Public Comment:**
- Seifts mentioned that she will get budget sheets out to the department heads this week.
-Hoffman commented that Hinkley is not getting electricity from the dam with water down.

**Roundtable:**

**-**Braunius is pleased with the flag raising ceremony plans. He mentioned that a civic center in town would be a plus for the community.
-McGovern asked LaVarnway if paving was finished and LaVarnway said that it is and the county will be helping with the shoulders next.
-Parascandola mentioned that the chamber could consider making veterans banners that don't require lights.
-Parascandola went over the inaugural flag raising ceremony on September 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Airdville Cemetery followed by refreshments at the Adirondack Veterans building.
-O'Connell would like to see the South Shore Cemetery fence fixed.
-Bain mentioned that at the annual Consolidated Health meeting the budget was approved and filed with Barry Baker at Hamilton County today.

**Next meeting: Our next meeting will be on Monday September 15, 2025, at 7PM at the Lake Pleasant Library**
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Braunius **2ND by:** Parascandola
**To Adjourn @8:12 P.M.**
**All in Favor**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk