December 1, 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 December 1, 2025, at the Lake Pleasant Library, 2864 State Route 8, Lake Pleasant, 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
Councilpersons: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell, and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guest: Karen McComb (Library President), and Shorty Hoffman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #160 to Approve the Minutes of November 17, 2025
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: McGovern
Be it resolved, that the minutes of November 17, 2025, be approved as presented.
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings:

-LaVarnway gave an update on where he is at with the FEMA claim. He contacted FEMA's Albany office; then he received an e-mail requesting more information in order to find out why the town's claim was pulled. The town cannot file an argument at this time because FEMA has not given a reason why the paperwork was pulled. FEMA is supposed to give the town $26,000 and currently $51,000 is available to the town for any managerial fees. Managerial fees must be submitted to FEMA for the six years that this has been going on. This includes every independent phone call about the disaster and repairs. Discussion went around the table about data collection and working with FEMA to get reimbursement.
-The plow truck that was ordered three years ago should be fabricated and delivered sometime this month to the town. LaVarnway will be asking the board at a future board meeting to pay for the truck.
-The town received funds of $2,000 from Hamilton County Soil and Water for the grant that was accepted back in May/June and was used to purchase spring loaded cut edges for the plow trucks.

- A check came in for Perkins Clearing Road work this week. Surpluss from this will go to pay down the backhoe and loader loans.
-Updated quote for replacement of the 210 truck will be coming to the board to order in 2026. Braunius asked about the door panel measurements. LaVarnway explained that the company delivered the wrong size but ended up taking a return.

Old Business –

1. **Employee Health Insurance –**

Bain mentioned that the board had tabled the employee health insurance for 2026 so that the board had all the comparison information to review.
LaVarnway explained that prescriptions are covered at 100% after the deductible with the plan that Marshall and Sterling is recommending. The current plan had the employees paying the copays after they met the deductible. The Bronze plan will cost the town less yet give the employees better coverage and they will be able to go to the medical practice of their choice. O'Connell thanked LaVarnway for explaining the differences in the current plan and the recommended plan for 2026 from Marshall and Sterling.

Resolution #161 Town of Lake Pleasant Town Board to Approve Recommendation from Health Insurance Committee to Switch Health Care Plan for Town Employees from the MVP EPO HDHP Silver 8 (HSA) "Exchange Certified Plan" National Network to MVP EPO HDHP Bronze 11 "Exchange Certified Plan" with MVP Insurance for 2026 with HRA Continuing Collectively.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

2. **Review Chamber Updated Contract –**

Bain let the board know that the Speculator Region Chamber of Commerce would like one revision, not to be open on Sundays.

Resolution #162 Town Board Approves the Speculator Regional Chamber of Commerce Proposed Contract.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: Braunius and McGovern felt that they tried to be open on Sundays and it did not work for the volunteers, so they agreed that the Chamber should be closed on Sundays. O'Connell asked about the budget for the chamber changing and there is no change in the budget.
Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

New Business:

1. **Adirondack Architectural Heritage Donation –**

Resolution # 163 Town Board to Donate $200 to the Adirondack Architectural Heritage.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Not to continue after 2026. Discuss after 2026.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Committee Reports:

Cemetery- Braunius let the board know that he had complaints about the flag in Airdville coming down so soon. LaVarnway explained that the cemeteries had to be closed for winter and the agreement was that the flag would come down when the cemetery closes for winter.
Highway – McGovern was pleased to see the DEC check come in for the work done in Perkins Clearing for the state.

Resolution #164 Approve Audit of Abstract #38 dated November 25, 2025, Voucher #4337-4341, Amount $27,416.69. Abstract #39 dated November 26, 2025, Voucher #4342-4356, amount $22,951.75.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

- McComb asked to have the library on the agenda for the next meeting.

Round table:

- McGovern gave kudos to the Speculator Regional Chamber of Commerce, volunteers, particularly Tracy Joy on the Holiday Stroll. He thought the change went well with the horse drawn carriage, a success provided by Tracy Joy. They could have used more heaters. He commented on the new participants such as Howard Hannah real estate hosting an open house with wine and cheese plus children's activities.

- Bain heard from vendors and patrons that this event would be nice if held at the school in the winter because the vendors were cold. McComb said that it was not comfortable for the shoppers due to the cold. Discussion about asking the school for use of the school building was had at the table.
- Kathy announced that the Wreaths Across America Ceremony will be held at LPCS on December 15, 2025, starting at 9:00 A.M. with placement to follow.
- Smith announced that the clerk's office is still looking to fill the deputy clerk's position. The job cannot be remote. She asked for anyone interested in the position to please come speak to her and pick up a job application.
- Clerks' office will be closed from December 10th through December 12th.
- LaVarnway reminded everyone that it is illegal to plow across the roads due to safety reasons. Plowing scenarios were discussed at the table.

Resolution #165 Town Board to go into Executive Session to Discuss a Possible Contract Lease Agreement at 7:47 P.M.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Resolution #166 Town Board Came out of Executive Session at 8:07 P.M. with no action taken.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Next Meeting: Monday December 15, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Library
***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** Parascandola
TO ADJOURN @ 8:08 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk