February 2, 2026

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 February 2, 2026, at Lake Pleasant Town Hall, 2679 State Route 8, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108. 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: Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell, and Meg Parascandola
Budget Officer: Nancy Seifts
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guest: Andrew Weaver, and Shorty Hoffman
Absent: Neil McGovern

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag Followed by Prayer Led by Andrew Weaver

Resolution #21 to Approve the Minutes of January 20, 2026
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Be it resolved, that the minutes of January 20, 2026, be approved as presented.
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings:

-LaVarnway reported to the board that his crew has been plowing snow, working in and with cold weather, pushing snowbanks back, shelfing and cutting banks back.
-The windshield in the town's little Dodge 212 truck cracked during the cold weather. Town Board will see the repair costs in future bills. The insurance deductible was high, so LaVarnway did not claim this repair on auto insurance.
-Grooming has continued with plow trucks running well.
-Snowmobile trails are good now that they are caught up with grooming and holes are filled in.
-Three skids of bridge materials will be hauled into locations for trail work this summer.
-Minor repairs had to be done on dump trucks after the last storm. Filter housings broke due to cold weather.
-LaVarnway has been working with FEMA for the last five days. He has submitted 50 of 900 e-mails to FEMA and the requests have lessened. Pay rates are being collected at the County Treasurers' Office as per request.
-Requests about bids have gone to the town clerk for the Elm Lake Road Project.

-Tomorrow or Wednesday the new tandem dump truck will be delivered to Syracuse. It is completed but will be at the dealership for its final inspection.
Bain asked about the placement of the wing controls and LaVarnway explained to the room that controls will be placed on a pivot.
O'Connell asked about the supplies on trails and LaVarnway said they are for summer work on the Fawn Lake Trails. Gravel reroutes on trails have made the trails more accessible. Discussion was had about improvements to the trails making them more accessible and aesthetically pleasing.

Old Business –

1. **Nathan Littauer Contract –**

Bain explained that with McGovern out, they have not finished the contract with Nathan Littauer. They are working on some adjustments. One of them is the hours of operation, possibly moving hours of operation to 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. One early morning a week for blood drawings and allergy shots is requested. July and August hours will include Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
The Town would like to see Nathan Littauer's goal updated to employ two full-time MA's for each PC on staff.
The Town has been looking to purchase two bariatric chairs and fortunately there is a clinic closing that will be donating their bariatric chairs to the Speculator Primary care center in the second quarter of the year.
Braunius asked if they are working on more office staff and Bain said that they are advertising for a second person.
Bain informed the room that Carla is out this week, but Mary is trying to fill in when she is able.

2. **Museum Grant Building Committee –**

O'Connell presented that she was able to edit the bid packet after collecting feedback from the committee.
The maximum amount that can be allocated from the grant is $40,125.00, with 75% of total costs paid by the grant. The grantee has until February 15, 2026, to reallocate the funds if the town doesn't think that they will be able to use them all. O'Connell stated that the town will be maximizing the grant by splitting the roof and painting into two projects. If the grant is maximized, the town will need to cover $13,375.00 for its % of the cost of the projects.
The Committee's recommendation is to put both projects (roof and painting) out to bid, see what comes back and make decisions at that point.
O'Connell asked the board and clerk to set dates. It was decided that the invitation to bid will run in the Hamilton County News starting February 11, 2026, and go in two publications of the newspaper. Additionally, the ad will be posted on the NYS Contract Reporter website starting February 11, 2026, and bids will be received by 3:00 p.m. on Monday March 16, 2026, where bids will be opened that evening at 7:00 p.m. at the regularly scheduled town board meeting.
O'Connell will finalize the bid packet and get over to clerk Smith for formatting and publications.
Staged construction will be assigned after bids are awarded. Parascandola will notify Christine to let her know that the town intends to use all of the grant funds.

Resolution #22 Town Board to Approve Invitation to Bid for Museum Roof and Siding Painting.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

New Business:

1. **Adirondack Landfill Services –**

Bain reported that after twenty-five years, Geoffrey May has closed his doors. He has sent all organized information back to the town including maps, hard drive, keys for wells, copies of reports for all the years etc. Bain stated that everything is being kept in the supervisors office. She said that it will be sad to see him go and she will be looking for a new company to replace him. Braunius asked if he gave any recommendations for replacements and Bain said that he did not give any recommendations.

2. **NYS DEC Post Closure Monitoring –**

Bain reported that May did give her the person to contact in regards to Post Closure Monitoring. Bain called Divisions of Materials Management with DEC and spoke with them about how long the town will need to do this monitoring. The latest sampling from 2025 was the same as sampling from 2020. Bain asked when the town can stop sampling, they will get back to the town with how often the town has to continue with testing.

3. **BTI Pesticide Permit Application –**

Bain reviewed that the town had applied for this permit with NYS DEC that the town has to renew every five years. Wicks had applied for the permit and Bain received a letter from the APA saying that there are concerns with the BTI within wetlands and it's impact on organisms and the wetland environment. All wetland areas will need approval through the APA before a permit to apply the product in these areas can be approved. Discussion was had about what is considered wetlands and what is not in the town.

4. **Association of Towns Resolution –**

Resolution #23 Town Board to Approve the AOT Certificate of Designation for Meg Parascandola to Cast Votes on Behalf of the Town of Lake Pleasant at the Annual Business Session of the Association of Towns of the State of New York held during the February 17, 2026, Conference in NYC.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:

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

******See Attached******

Committee Reports:

Youth Recreation – Advertisement for youth recreation director was in the paper and no applications have come in. Ski lessons were rescheduled due to the bitter cold for the last two weeks. They will extend into March this year for make-up.
Website – Parascandola explained the reason for maintaining the .org domain that she got back from Civally. The reasoning is that CISA and DHS encourage the town to maintain the domain so that another company cannot register it and make a copycat site to hijack our existing website. Smith mentioned the increase in hits to the website due to storms and taxes. She told everyone to check out the town calendar on the website. The town historian has two events scheduled for this summer, one on June 30th and another on August 11th, both are hikes to Colonel Pecks grave.
O'Connell would like to see more on the community page.
VFIS – LaVarnway reported that he and Bain met with the fire department and the VFIS representative to get paperwork submitted. A new company for their investments has been found.

Resolution #24 Approve Audit of Abstract #5 dated January 29, 2026, Voucher #4438-4442, Amount $27,922.96. Abstract #6 dated January 29, 2026, Voucher #4443-4455, Amount $17,726.11.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Parascandola mentioned that the taxes are still being paid for Frontier on bills and the town should be tax exempt. Smith has called Frontier asking this question and has not gotten a response back. Bain will look into this.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

-Andy thanked the board for all that they do for the town.

Round table:
-Braunius appreciates the prayer opening.
-Braunius would like to make sure that all employees know how to shovel snow. LOL!
-Parascandola mentioned the fundraiser for snowflake lighting at Melody Lodge this Saturday February 7, 2026.
-Bain informed the board that she and Jeanette met and discussed the snowflake agreement between the Village, Town and Speculator Chamber of Commerce. Discussion about the expense of putting up the lights, maintenance and taking them down was had.

-O'Connell announced that the 25th Valentines Buffet dinner at LPCS will be on February 11th from 5:oo p.m.-7:00 p.m. in the LPCS gym. This is a fundraiser for the sixth and seventh graders.
-Lake Pleasant Firehall Pancake Breakfast will be on February 14th from 8:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.
-Lions Club Poker Run is on February 21st starting at nine different locations and ending at the Inn at Speculator at 3:00 p.m.
-Smith reminded all newly reelected officials that if they are planning to do time keeping for a new record of activity, they need to document their hours and turn them into her at the end of a three month period.
-Smith thanked the taxpayers for paying their taxes on time after the delay in the tax bills going out.
-LaVarnway mentioned that if the new truck shows up he will need a resolution to pay for it from the board. He doesn't expect the truck to be in before the next two weeks.
-Bain passed out a Battery Storage facility notice from the ADK Park Agency.

Town Board Discussed Putting a Freeze on any Lithium Battery Storage Facilities going up in Lake Pleasant.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: was had in the room and the board decided to table for further information and discussion.
Offered by: Braunius
*****Vote was not completed**

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 17, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** Parascandola
TO ADJOURN @ 7:56 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk