March 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 Monday March 2, 2026, at the 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: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell, and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Budget Officer: Nancy Seifts
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guest: Shorty Hoffman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #35 to Approve the Minutes of February 17, 2026
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: McGovern
Be it resolved, that the minutes of February 17, 2026, be approved as presented.
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None
Abstained: Parascandola

Highway and Buildings:

- LaVarnway reported that the HWY Crew has been plowing snow, gooming is going well with good reviews on trails.
- The new tandem truck is not in but should be due in Syracuse any day now.
- He signed off on $20,900.28 for FEMA CAT Z for everything except the bridge project. There will be more clerical work done on the CAT Z for the bridge project.

Resolution #36 Requesting and authorizing the County Highway Superintendent to Post Weight Restrictions on Town Roads For the Year 2026.
Offered by: McGovern
Whereas, Vehicle and Traffic Law Article 41, Section 1660 gives authority to the Town Board to post weight limits on Town Roads when the Board deems it necessary to protect roads from harm during spring break up, and

Whereas, Vehicle and Traffic Law Article 40, Section 1650 gives authority to the county superintendent of highways to post weight limits on County Roads when the superintendent deems it necessary to protect County roads from harm during spring break up, and
Whereas, the Town would need to place an ad in the local newspaper notifying the public of such postings, and
Whereas, the County Superintendent places a legal ad in the local newspaper notifying the public of such posting on County highways, and
Whereas, the Town roads are typically posted for the same duration as the County roads, and
Whereas, the Town Board and Town Highway Superintendent believes that it would be in the interest of the Town if the County Superintendent post weight restrictions on the Town roads in conjunction with the County Roads during spring breakup, be it
Resolved, the Town Board of the Town of **Lake Pleasant** hereby requests and authorizes the County Superintendent of Highways to post weight restrictions on Town roads within the Town of **Lake Pleasant** when he deems necessary for the calendar year 2026.

2nd by: O'Connell

Discussion: LaVarnway explained that the posting could be as early as March 15th. Both the town and county need to post a legal ad about the weight restrictions on the roads. LaVarnway gave an example of an incident that happened last year where heavy trucks went to start a job and he had to get law enforcement to come by and enforce the law on the restrictions.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Old Business –

1. **Elm Lake Road Park Enhancement Project Phase 1 Bid Opening –**
   Supervisor Bain reported that bids were duly advertised on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026, for the Elm Lake Road Park Enhancement Project Phase 1 in the Hamilton County News and the New York State Contract Reporter. Bids had to be turned into town hall by today, March 2, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Five bids were received from the following:

	Time	Name of Bidder	Address	Bidding on	Amount
1.	7:06 PM	Chenango, Contracting Inc.	29 Arbutus Rd. Johnson City, NY 13790	2. Lining and court acrylic	$36,750
2.	7:09 PM	Seal Pro	22 North Lane Lake George, NY 12845	1. Court construction a. Sub base b. Paving 2. Court Coating	$303,000 $54,000 $249,000 $53,200

3. 7:12 PM	**Seal Pro**	**22 North Lane Lake George, NY 12845**	**2. Court coating**	**$53,200**
4. 7:13 PM	**Brothertowne Paving & Excavation, LLC**	**P.O. Box 294 Deansboro, NY 13328**	**1. Court construction 2. Court coating**	**$94,500 $51,736**
5. 7:15 PM	**Stephen Miller General Contractors, Inc.**	**P.O. Box 291 Mayfield, NY 12117-0291**	**1. Court Construction 3. Fencing**	**$116,473 $73,224**

Bain and LaVarnway explained that the buildings committee will get together to go over the bids in detail. Grant final number is:$254,000 at 20%

Resolution #37 Town Board to Move the Bids to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for Review.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Buildings Committee to meet this Thursday at 3:15 PM to review and discuss the bids.

Office NYS DEC Post Closure Monitoring –
Bain did hear back about the post closure monitoring at the transfer station. She has been working with Mike Scott who will send the town an application to request this monitoring be done every other year instead of every year. LaVarnway will have to check the site every year and document if there is any erosion around the well, test well caps, mow around wells and make sure it is maintained. Bain asked about companies to hire and was told that a new company would be costly to the town. Mr. Scott will send Bain the information on other companies in the area that the town can work with for monitoring needs. Bain did speak to soil and water at the County about the testing to see if they could help the town with this testing. Bain will keep the board posted on what she hears back.

Nathan Littauer Primary Care Contract –
Bain reported that Nathan Littauer has made the changes that were asked of them initially. They are working on having two practitioners on staff three to four days a week.

Resolution #38 Town Board to Approve of the Nathan Littauer Primary Care Contract.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: They have not opened up at 6:00 a.m. as in the past. The clinic has been opening at 7:00 a.m. Nathan Littauer is working on opening earlier, one day a week for those that would like to get allergy shots and bloodwork done at 6:00 a.m.

Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Resolution #39 Town Board to Discuss Letter from Resident of RO System that is Asking the Town to Pay for Damages.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: Bain shared a letter from the resident with the board and asked the board how they felt about this request. Bain said that she was not aware of this new pump that was put into this system. O'Connell stated that the resident purchased a new pump without speaking to the town. Parascandola stated that the resident did not ask the town if they should keep the pump plugged in or not, they did not ask the town instead they made decisions on their own. Braunius stated that the water system did not fail, it just kept pumping water. McGovern stated that it is a terrible idea for the town to reimburse them. They should check on their property, turn the water off when not home, or have someone look after the property when they are not home. The entire board agreed with McGovern

Resolution # 40 Town Board Moved to Not Pay Any Expenses for Damage and Bills at RO System Resident that Had Pipes Burst During Cold Weather This Winter.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

MVP HRA Employee Issue –
Smith explained to the board that an employee recently received a medical bill for services that were rendered in the summer of 2025. This employee had $425.00 left in their HRA account at the end of 2025. She asked the board to approve the coverage of the $425.00 from remaining HRA funds for this individual to go towards the late bill.

Resolution #41 Town Board to Approve 2025 Funding for Employees Medical Bill in the Amount of $425.00 that was the Remaining Amount on the Employees HRA Card at the end of 2025.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

New Business:

Resolution #42 Town Board to Discuss the Updated Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town of Lake Pleasant and the Lake Pleasant Library.
Offered by: Braunius for Discussion:
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: Town Buildings and Grounds Committee and Library Board went over the MOU from the past so that revisions could be made and all parts were covered. There were small changes made.

Resolution #43 Town Board to Approve Updated Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town of Lake Pleasant and the Lake Pleasant Library.
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

Resolution # 44 Town Board to Approve Creating and Funding Expense Account line A.1620.0410 – Buildings, Library Cleaning Contractual
Offered by: McGovern
Whereas, funds from A.1620.0401 – Buildings, Cleaning Contractual will go into new line A.1620.0410 in the amount of $3,045.50
Whereas, this new line will fund the library building cleaning budget line.
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Lake Pleasant Boat Launch –
Bain explained that there was a meeting on February 12, 2026 with NYS DEC John DeSantis- Forester 1, Land and Forest Region 5, Rob Fiorentino from the Division of Fisheries and manages all tailored boat launches, Soil and Water department Caitlin Stewart and Katie WhitKovits and Lenny, Matt and Eric Dorr- owners of The Lake Pleasant Marina, Jeannette Barrett – Mayor of Speculator, Hamilton County Sheriff, Karl Abrams, Meg Parascandola and Betsy Bain in attendance. The marina will be closing their public boat launch for 2026.
Soil and water had a very good presentation looking at private and state lands where a boat launch on Lake Pleasant could possibly go in to allow public access to Lake Pleasant. It could take years to put a boat launch in on state lands.
Tunney Park was suggested and a survey was recommended to see if it could be a possibility. A survey letter from the village will go out to the public on what their needs/wants will be.
Discussion went around the room about where a new boat launch could possibly go in to allow public access to the lake.

McGovern stated that it is not the town's responsibility to provide a public boat launch, it is for the private sector.

Committee Reports:

Buildings – Committee meeting at 3:15 p.m. on Thursday 3/5/26 at Town Hall.
Highway – Committee meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday 3/5/26 at Town Hall.
Website- Parascandola informed the board that updates have been made by the committee. One of them is the short-term rental list found under buildings and codes as well as on the tourism page. Smith asks all departments to look over their existing forms and data on their website pages to make sure they are up to date. She will need to get all forms for pages and upload them into the new document builder for easier distribution on the town's website to ensure that all information is up to date on the website.
Youth Recreation – O'Connell reported that the committee is working on a ½ day activity for youth recreation on the March 18th Superintendents Conference Day. Parascandola informed the room that the committee has received two people showing interest in the youth coordinator position. The committee will be moving forward on interviewing next.

Resolution #45 Approve Audit of Abstract #8 dated February 26, 2026, Voucher #4477-4481, Amount $32,129.01. Abstract #9 dated February 27, 2026, Voucher #4482-4493, Amount $16,793.47.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: O'Connell had a question about the copy machine bill wanting explanation on the contact vs. usage. Smith explained that there is a monthly contract fee and then the town is charged for usage/copies made. Parascandola said that she still sees taxes being charged on the frontier bills. Smith has not heard back from Frontier after she requested taxes be removed and e-mailed tax exemption letter and Towns W9 to Frontier. She e-mailed a follow up to the request and has not gotten a response.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

- Hoffman said that a boat launch problem with that end of the lake (Tunney Park) is that boat launches have to be so far away from public swimming areas.
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Round table:

-Parascandola announced that she attended the NYAOT conference and annual meeting and training on February 14th-17th at the New York Marriott Marquis in NYC. She gave a review stating that AOT amended their bylaws, updated their meeting dates and times, they will no longer mail notices but will e-mail notices for meetings. NYAOT amended the dates of their elections to align with their meetings. AOT Annual Conference will be moved from February to March with it falling on the same date as the St. Patrick's Day Parade in NYC next year. They

passed 14 resolutions at the Meeting. Highlights are: 1. Modernize public notices not to be required to post in local newspapers but on websites to save municipalities the costs. 2. Preserve and support home rule. 3. Support highway, bridge and transportation funding. 4. To support town services by authorizing new local revenue resources. 5. Establish a centralized state grant clearing house for local government. 6. Support ways to reduce municipal health benefit costs. There was discussion of consortium pros and cons for municipalities.
-Parascandola went over ROOST's report showing that 25% of all business is by tourism in Hamilton County. 75% of business is local business.
-While at the Conference Parascandola picked up information on New York State birding trails. These birding trails are attracting tourism as well as dark skies in New York State with it now at a 10.8-billion-dollar industry. Parascandola would like to see Lake Pleasant designate a birding trail in town.

Resolution #45 Lake Pleasant Town Board to Discuss Designating Perkins Clearing as a Listed Trail for Bird Watching.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: McGovern
Discussion: LaVarnway asked what this would entail and was told that it would fall on the highway department to post a sign and maintain the trails for this purpose. Parascandola read off that: 1. Trails should provide visitors with a positive recreation experience in association with New York State. Perkins Clearing is a good site for this. 2. Be a productive birding site that will provide visitors with a reasonable level of success. Perkins clearing provides this. 3. Be open to the public. Perkins Clearing is open to the public. 4. Have an appropriate level of amenities and/or conservation elements. Perkins Clearing has campsites, roads, out houses etc. 5. Be easy to get to and welcoming to beginning bird enthusiasts of all ages, identities, and backgrounds. Perkins Clearing can be driven through, ADA compliance, parking is available. DEC will provide a sign. Nominations are received quarterly.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell, and Parascandola)
Nays: None

-Town Clerk Smith asked the Town Board to approve of her attending the annual Town Clerks Association Conference for 2026.

Resolution #46 Town Board to Approve the Town Clerk Attending the 44th Annual NYSTCA Conference Held at the Crown Plaza - Desmond in Albany from April 19th – 22nd, 2026.
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

-LaVarnway reported that a couple of weeks ago he got ahold of the alarm company that the town decided to move to and they expressed to him that they are extremely busy doing repairs and that they would get ahold of him in the next week. LaVarnway has not heard from them so he will be calling them.
-Bain reported that Hamilton County has completed and submitted the towns final financial reports for 2025 for the town and consolidated health district.
- Bain asked the board if any of them had ideas for the $2,000.00 Soil and Water mini grant. O'Connell would like the town to apply for grant funding for topsoil for the garden club. Bain said that there are funds in the consolidated health budget that can go towards topsoil for the garden club. Parascandola asked if the town could apply for grant funds to go towards tennis/pickleball landscaping. Bain suggested something for the pathways. O'Connell asked if anyone had consulted with Dave McComb about what might be needed on the pathways. It was decided to move these suggestions to the grants committee for a decision and applying.
-Bain let the room know that the town received a nice thank you from a resident who donated $ to the town to go towards dog shelter needs.
-Bain informed everyone that Soil and Water has their Tree/Shrub sale is going on now. List of plants can be found on the table at town hall.
-LaVarnway explained what Operation Song is about. It is an event that will be at Lanzi's on the Lake in Mayfield from 4-7 p.m. on 3/14/26 to honor veterans with song writing and music. For more information go to operationsong.org or come into town hall for the flyer.
-Bain announced that the town received the $10,000 swims grant check from New York State Department of State Swims Grant that the town applied for and has turned it over to the Village.

Next Meeting: Monday March 16, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** Parascandola
TO ADJOURN @ P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk