April 6, 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 April 6, 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
Guests: Karen McComb, Shorty Hoffman, and Matthew Seifts.
Absent: Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #63 to Approve the Minutes of March 16, 2026, Regular Meeting and March 25, 2026, Special Board Meeting.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: None
Be it resolved, that the minutes of March 16, 2026, and March 25, 2026, be approved.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None
Abstained: Supervisor Bain

Highway and Buildings:

- Bain gave Lavarnway's report in his absence.
- Highway crew was cleaning up brush and blowdowns on sides of roads because it was too wet to do road sweeping. They plan to sweep roads once the roads are dry.
- A mechanical team has been working on the groomers, doing maintenance and putting them away for the upcoming 26/27 season.
- The town has been given an option to purchase a well-maintained used groomer from the Town of Inlet. It is a 2015 listed for $120,000. Existing groomer reserve fund will more than cover the funds needed for this new/used groomer. LaVarnway would like to sell the 1999 groomer that is starting to require additional maintenance. Once sold, funds from 1999 groomer can be put into the general fund and not the groomer reserve fund. These funds can go towards the museum project that was not budgeted for which is just under $18,000.

Bain asked for a motion to discuss:

Resolution #64 Town Board to Discuss the Sale of Existing 1999 groomer and Purchase of Gently Used Groomer from Town of Inlet.
Motion to discuss:
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: McGovern explained that the profit on resale can be put to good use with the museum. Matt stated that the current town groomer is twenty-six years old. O'Connell would like a report on what machines the town has, how many miles are on them and how much was spent on manpower repairs and grooming this past season.
Bain and O'Connell came up with the idea of sending out a survey to local businesses to collect data on snowmobiling patrons to the area. O'Connell suggests that real estate businesses in the area should be consulted for data. Parascandola mentioned that ROOST, in the past, published data that showed a discount in the county taxes based on the sales tax that Hamilton County receives. She thinks that if a survey is done then it should include other recreational activities to compare what is spent on recreational programs, not just snowmobiling. O'Connell would like to see what services are used by the taxpayers. Braunius brought up quantification of what is spent on snowmobiling maintenance with the return from snowmobiling to the town and businesses. Braunius said that he would like to see the town spend more money on other recreational activities like the pathways.
Discussion continued about the reserve fund and budget.

Resolution #65 Town Board to Approve Purchasing the Inlet Used 2015 Groomer for $120,000.00.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Old Business –

The new truck that is almost three years old arrived at town hall on Thursday April 2nd.

New Business:

1. **Solid Waste Dump Fee Increase –**
   Bain explained that the landfill contracted increase is $1.00/ton for 2026, so the County has raised their fee to $1.00/ton to match. LaVarnway is asking the town board to increase the current $75.00/ton for construction and demolition charged to Lake Pleasant residents to $80.00/ton starting with the April tickets for C&D.

Resolution #66 Town Board to Increase the Construction and Demolition Fees to $80.00 per Ton Starting with April C&D Tickets.
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. **Town Credit Card –**
   Bain explained that the town is having trouble with the Bank of America credit card late fees getting charged when there are three weeks between meetings in a short month. Smith reached out to NBT bank (the towns official bank) after getting a recommendation from the county to look into Elan cards through NBT bank. This information was passed onto the board for review.

Resolution #67 Town Board to Approve of Switching Credit Card Companies for Town Credit Cards from Bank of America to Elan.

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

3. **New Truck Resolution-**

Resolution #68 Town Board to Approve the Truck Reserve Funds Payment for the 2025 Western Star 49X.

Offered by: Braunius
Whereas, the Town Board authorized the Highway Superintendent to order a 2025 Western Star 49X, using Truck Reserve funds, for which a down-payment was remitted in 2024, and
Whereas, the aforementioned truck has been delivered and inspected by the Highway Superintendent, for which payment of the balance is due in the amount of $148,690.00, be it
Resolved, that account number DA.5130.0201 – Machinery, Truck Reserve be increased by $78,690.00 from the Truck Reserve Fund Balance, and be it further
Resolved, that payment be issued to Tracey Road Equipment in the amount of $148,690.00 from account number DA.5130.0201 – Machinery, Truck Reserve and the bookkeeper be so authorized.
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Discussion about payment for the truck and what needs to be done for the truck to be road ready was had at the table.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery Committee – Braunius would like to have the flag back up in Airdville Cemetery. O'Connell will be going into the cemeteries this Friday at 12:00 p.m. starting in Higgins Bay cemetery to clean up wreaths in all the cemeteries. Wreaths will be stacked up in a location where the towns can pick up and dispose of the wreaths.

Youth Recreation – O'Connell reported that the ski season fell short with seven out of the eight lessons due to cold weather. Hamilton County Personnel called to let the committee know that the state has approved of the new youth recreation coordinator description. The committee plans to do their second interview early next week.

Grants Committee – Parascandola reported that she submitted the T-mobile grant application for $50,000. T-mobile says they will issue the results by June 26, 2026. This grant if awarded will go to upgrade pathway signs. Parascandola thanks everyone that submitted letters of recommendation.
Award letters are out to bid winners of the museum and Elm Lake Road Project. Contracts are being drawn up for the contractors to sign from the town.
Parascandola asked if parks and recreation, and buildings committee wants to take part in contract writing or if the grants committee should do themselves.
Parascandola spoke to Reis who will look over the scope of work. Wednesday O'Connell and Parascandola will meet and get contract drafts out to the board.

Website- Parascandola mentioned that she and Smith discussed having the town budget more forward facing on the website for easier access to the public.

Parascandola informed that she and Steve Page will be going over the Junk storage law and taking it to the attorney for review and clarification tomorrow. If the planning board needs to be involved, then that will be the next step.
Parascandola mentioned a community event to help clean up the pathways. Bain agreed it would be a nice community day event to plan out. Discussion went around the room about a cleanup/maintenance day. It was decided that the recreation committee can plan for the pathway's cleanup day when LaVarnway gets back.

Resolution #69 Approve Audit of Abstract #11 dated April 6, 2026, Voucher #4515-4531, Amount $185,891.93.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion:
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:

-Bain announced that Karen McComb was nominated as senior of the year.
-McComb thanked the board. She said that she feels that committees she has worked on have been successful due to the people that have worked on them. She would like to see more of the new folks stepping up to participate.
-Matt Seifts thanked the town board with two thumbs up for the new groomer. It has been costly to keep the older machine going and this was a great opportunity to buy a well-cared-for machine from a town that Lake Pleasant has done business with in the past. He asks the board to consider starting the ordering process for the next new truck as it will be years in the making. He explained that the next truck in line for replacement is the 214 that is a 2017 Western star model. He mentioned snow mobile trails and tax revenue. Seifts has seen aerial photos showing snowmobile trails onto the lakes from private residents accessing trail systems via the lakes.
-McComb asks why there are three entities grooming snowmobile trails with the town and two snowmobile clubs. Bain explained that the clubs are volunteers that groom specific trials.
-Seifts mentioned that the larger grooming machines cut back on the manpower and time it takes to groom the trails. Discussion about grooming the trails was had in the room.
-Braunius clarified snowmobile registrations and how the funds trickle down.
-Hoffman mentioned that the local government is not in business to make money but to assist the residents and their recreation and commerce by investments.

Round table:

- Braunius mentioned that the transfer station was closed on Saturday April 4th.
- Braunius stopped at the upcoming new Barber shop that will be opening this coming Saturday in the Lane Emporium in Speculator and talked to the business owner.
- Braunius said that he was asked by a resident if a bench could go up in the Airdville Cemetery near the flag. There is a bench in the back of the cemetery that the town can move closer to the flag. Bain will bring it to Lavarnways attention.
- McGovern thanked Don for bringing an apple pie.
- Parascandola mentioned that a taxpayer came into town hall today to inform her about the Hamilton County Birding Festival where the proposed new bird trail in Lake Pleasant can be included if approved.
- Parascandola brought up the merger of Verizon and Frontier and there is a $15 discount to customers that have both services. Bain will call about the town saving $15 with this offer through Frontier.
- Parascandola informed the board about NYOT having a two-day finance school coming up in Albany for $250.00. Parascandola is willing to go.

Resolution #70 Town Board Approves Sending Parascandola to the Town Day NYOT Finance Conference.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Bain
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons - McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

-Parascandola reminded all that the school budget voting will be on May 19, 2026.
-Smith reported that she is turning over the taxes to the Hamilton County Treasurers office on Wednesday April 8th and if anyone comes to pay taxes at this point, they have to be directed up to the Treasurers office to make payment.
-Smith found a key on the pathways this week and asked Seifts to post it on the town facebook page. It will be at town hall for pick up if owner is found.
-Bain spoke to Don Wicksell about this year's venison for vets. She is asking for names of Veterans or persons in need that may want venison. They need a list of recipients before April 15th.
- Bain is still waiting to hear from Mike Scott from NYSDEC Division of Materials on the post-closure changes the town requested. She has also contacted Caitlin Stewart from Soil and Water with Mike to discuss any training they will need to take over the testing for Lake Pleasant.
-Bain announced that the town has received the last rent check from Verizon Wireless for the salt shed cell tower rent. This was a five-year contract for $2,400.00 each year.

Next Meeting: Monday April 20, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** Parascandola
TO ADJOURN @8:09 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk