May 18, 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 May 18, 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: Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell, and Meg Parascandola
Town Clerk: Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guests: Karen McComb, Eileen LaVarnway, and Shorty Hoffman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #87 to Approve the Minutes of May 4, 2026.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Parascandola
Discussion: None
Be it resolved, that the minutes of May 4, 2026, be approved.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain and Councilpersons – Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None
Abstained: McGovern

Highway and Buildings:

LaVarnway reported to the board:

-The culverts in town that went bad over the springtime thaw are being replaced on Gilmantown Rd. and Tamarack Rd. The Village of Speculator put steel plates over their sinking culverts on Gilmantown Rd.
-Mowing will start next week. One mower is being repaired in the garage right now. Parts are being removed from an old mower to get this one repaired.
-LaVarnway got a call last week about the new pick-up truck coming in and it is not ready yet.
-The new plow truck is back to Hendersons, LaVarnway talked to their shop foreman, and they are putting a new plow frame on to get the heights right. They will also put an extra beam across the frame. They said that it would be done last week and then ship the truck to Tracy Road for the rest of the repairs. LaVarnway is expecting to have the truck by the end of June for now. The warranty will start the day the town has the truck.

-LaVarnway filed phase 3 for the snowmobile grant that had to be done by the end of May and he was told that it is all good.
-The museum water has been turned on and there was one leak. Leak was fixed through the access wall. Village curb stop water was not functioning correctly so the village had to fix so that the town can turn the water on and off curbside. This avoids a meter going in and out. The Museum roof is complete except for a piece of trim. Contractor wants to strip paint one day and paint the next day. The board commented that the roof looks nice and they will be pleased when the rest is completed.

Old Business -

1. **BTI Report –** tabled

2. **Grant Policy Application Resolution –**

O'Connell and McGovern started out discussing the Policy with McGovern stating that anything that is to be applied for must go before the board as a rule. Discussion continued and the board decided to table the Grant application policy.

3. **Pathway Assessment and Clean-up Date –**

LaVarnway warned that the black flies were bad when he went down to access the pathways this morning. He gave his findings to the board explaining that the last section is 525 feet long and to repair it the town could close this section and use the upper area of the trail for access. The other option is to tear the old section apart and build a new one. All the supplies will approximately cost $19,500.00 to replace the last section of this docking that is twenty-three years old. Another suggestion is to put a set of six stairs from the back of the pathways down to the water. Rerouting to the stairs would limit handicap accessibility to the lower water area. O'Connell asked if floating docks would work in this location. LaVarnway explained the mechanics to the docking structures currently and how the repair/replacement options could be pros or cons. Parascandola mentioned that if it takes away from being accessible to handicap, it will qualify for a grant. Braunius asked if the entire 525 feet needs to be replaced at once and LaVarnway said that it can be done in sections over time. McComb asked what was remaining in the pathways fund and Bain said roughly $1,500 is left after replacing pieces and parts over the years. Repairing the docking to make it safe was discussed. Parascandola explained that the pathways were on the agenda to get a community clean up scheduled for the pathways that will hopefully lead to getting the community recharged about pathway needs. Discussion continued about the pathways and how improvements could be made, how to fund the project and over what time period in the room. It was agreed that the 525 feet of docking will need to be closed for repair/replacement.

Resolution #88 Town Board moved to Close the Last 525 Feet Section of Docking Down at the Pathways to Give Time for Funds to be Raised to Repair and or Replace the Docking.
Offered by: Bain
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain and Councilpersons –McGovern, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: Braunius

Bain stated that this will be a project for 2027.

New Business:

1. **Chamber Quarterly Report –**

Bain passed out the chamber first quarter report to the board and mentioned that they are doing a great job.
Chamber members meeting and cookout will be on Wednesday May 20th at 6:00 P.M. at Camp Fowler for $20 a person. For business members it includes one complementary attendee. Additional guests are $20 a person.
They are working on a survey for the Sarah Osborne award for community service.
Bain shared with the board the website report from ROOST from the chamber.

2. **Procurement Policy -**

Bain explained that the town procurement policy has not been updated since 2019. McGovern and Braunius volunteered to work on reviewing and revising the policy and bringing revision suggestions to the next board meeting.

3. **Program for Codes Department –**

Bain brought up that Steve would like to purchase a new program on codes collection books for $973.00 per year. This program would work with his Williamson Law program that he is currently using. It would help in the future for a new inspector to do testing and be recognized officially.
Bain will ask Page to do more research and get back to the board about this program that he would like to purchase.

Discussion about some shared services coming down from Hamilton County soon with legal and IT services was had.

4. **Supervisor Appointment –**

Bain has filed her retirement and resignation with the Town of Lake Pleasant and Hamilton County effective June 3, 2026. She is asking the town board to appoint Meggie Parascandola to the Supervisor position starting June 4, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

Resolution #89 Town Board Appoints Meggie Parascandola as Supervisor to Fill Term Vacated by Betsy Bain Effective June 4, 2026 – December 31, 2026.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Bain and Councilpersons –McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None
Abstained: Parascandola

Discussion about how to go about finding a community member to run on the town board was had at the table. Bain suggested to the board that they reach out to the community members to see who would be willing to fill in as a councilperson to replace Parascandola.

Committee Reports:

Recreation committee - Braunius will go down to the pathways tomorrow and assess them so that he can report his findings. McGovern thanked everyone for their well wishes on his last planned surgery.

Youth Recreation – O'Connell reported that two trips are planned in town and one, possibly two, out of town to minimize needs for transportation this summer. Golf lessons will be available. Swimming lessons are not available currently due to a lack of qualifications for the position.

Grants Committee – O'Connell reported that May 31st is the date the anchors will be set but LaVarnway said that work will be in the first week of June. O'Connell says that this will move everything back. LaVarnway said that his crew is ready when the contractors are ready to start work.
Parascandola reported that the T-Mobile grant should be announced by the end of June. If awarded to the town the town plans to purchase signs. O'Connell will reach out to soil and water about coconut blankets for the side of the tennis courts hill for erosion. Parking area will need to be configured to have drainage for water runoff. Extra grant funds after the courts are done on Elm Lake Rd. could go towards drainage LaVarnway explained. The drainage is planned to the right of the courts. Parking is planned for in front of the tennis/pickleball courts. Discussion about the failing hydrant was discussed and that the Village supplies the water, but the town pays the Village for the water to the gardens location.

Resolution #90 Approve Audit of Abstract #17 dated May 15, 2026, Voucher #4579-4602, Amount $21,381.17.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: Braunius asked what cemetery materials are and LaVarnway explained that it is the 2x12 boards that go around the burial site during burial so that people don't fall in around the top of the burial site at funerals.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
-McComb brought up the updates to the procurement policy and she would like to have the Supervisors meet with the procurement review committee to explain what she previously explained to the Supervisors.
-McComb was involved with the addition to the library where two state grants were acquired that enabled the town to build the library and she doesn't remember having to get permission from the town board to apply for the grant. She asked the board, moving forward for any structural changes to the library, does the library need to get permission from the town board and the board said yes

they do. Property grants have to be approved by the town board, and library supplies have to be passed by the library board only.

Round table:

- Braunius mentioned the flag poles, and he wants the board to keep in mind that they intended to place one in each cemetery a year.
- McGovern formally thanked Bain for her many years of service to the town and that Bain has been a hard-working Supervisor.
- O'Connell mentioned that the cemetery flags are out with the help from the LPCS sixth grade students and the veterans.
- Parascandola asked about the brush pit permits and if contractors are up to date with their permits for brush pit usage. Smith reported that three contractors have renewed their brush pit permits this year.
- Parascandola thanked Betsy and the board for the appointment to Supervisor, and their trust in her that she will work hard for the town. She looks forward to serving the town.
- Bain will start prepping Parascandola on her files.
- Smith informed the room that the garbage schedule is on the website, Charlie Johns, Lake Pleasant post office, Lane Emporium, and outside the Chamber.
- Smith thanked Seifts for covering her for the last two meetings while she was away at conferences. She thanked the board for sending her to conference.
- Smith asked the board what dog shelter they would like donations to go to when a dog shelter donation option goes on the dog license renewal forms. The board agreed that James Brennan Humaine Society should be the shelter.

Resolution #91 Town Board to Approve of James Brennan Humane Society Being the Shelter that Donations Will go to and to be Listed on Lake Pleasant Dog License Renewal Forms.
Offered by: Bain
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

-Smith also mentioned that at the NYSTCA conference the clerks approved of moving away from legals printed in newspapers to posting on newspaper websites only to save time and money to get public notices out.
-Bain reported that the Village basketball courts will be reserved as pickleball courts from 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. daily and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. They will not be playing during holiday weekends such as July 4th weekend, TWIGS craft fair or Family fun day.
-Bain said that a resident called her about not being able to play tennis again this year and Bain was able to work out a way for them to use local courts in the area.
-Lake Pleasant fire department has ordered 100 flags for the 250 anniversary and when they come in the fire department will post on their FB page and it will be first come first serve to get the flags.
-July fourth parade will be Saturday July 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with fireworks on Friday the 3rd.

-Bain mentioned that historian, Aaron Weaver, has placed the historic marker flags in the cemetery at revolutionary veteran's graves.
-Bain handed out the letter from COTW's about donating $10,000 a year to the town starting in January of 2027. ****See Attached ****
-Bain announced that today at the community gardens they had the third-grade students from LPCS plant their crops. This year kindergarten children got to plant sunflowers. Bain thanked June Bergholtz, Mina Swanson and Rabecca Smith for all they do at the community gardens with the school children.
-Top soil was delivered to the gardens from consolidated health and the gardens look nice.
-Bain showed the 250 anniversary flags that will go up at Town Hall and Bain asked if the board would like them on the clinic and Library.

Resolution #92 Town Board Approved of Purchasing Flags to go on Town Hall, Clinic and Library Buildings to Commemorate the Countries 250th Anniversary.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Parascandola
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Bain, Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Parascandola)
Nays: None

-Bain let the board know that there will be a webinar about the bed tax that she and Parascandola will participate in. This webinar is put on by the state for towns that would like to see the bed tax enforced in their towns.

Next Meeting: Monday June 1, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
***ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** McGovern
TO ADJOURN @ 8:24 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk