July 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 July 6, 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 - Meg Parascandola
Councilpersons- Neil McGovern, Don Braunius, Kathy O'Connell and Lisa Johnson
Budget Officer- Nancy Seifts
Town Clerk- Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Guests- Eileen LaVarnway, Chris Ambrose, and Karen McComb

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #114 to Approve the Minutes of June 15, 2026.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: None
Be it resolved, that the minutes of June 15, 2026, be approved.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings:
LaVarnway reported to the board:
- FEMA Preliminary draft appeal was filed for approval along with documentation of BAN interest and non-interest-bearing checking account.
-A grant was awarded to the HWY Department for safety gear and supplies. This award, valued at over $2,500, is funded through the PERMA Return of Member Equity (RoME) program as part of their ongoing intervention safety initiative.
- LaVarnway reviewed with the board, that the town was awarded 4,450 PERMA Points in a grant that must be submitted in 2026. This grant will cover the cost of four truck radios, four antennas, and four portable 2 way radios with programming included from Northway Communications LLC. LaVarnway has received an estimate from a second company for the high band radios. Hamilton County is on high band, and the town is trying to move to this frequency so all field work can have clear communication channels.

Resolution #115 Town Board Approves of Highway Superintendent, LaVarnway Purchasing High Band Radios.

Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)

-LaVarnway asked for a Cemetery meeting scheduled for Tuesday July 7th at 9:00 a.m.
- Fire alarm systems are CHIPS eligible on structures housing highway department equipment. LaVarnway presented an estimate to the board from Chimera Integrations for new fire alarms in the pole barn.

Resolution #116 Town Board to Approve of Chimera Integrations Contract for $13,910.00 to Purchase Fire Alarms Using CHIPS Funds for the Pole Barn.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Johnson
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

-LaVarnway is not planning to pave Page Street this year due to the increase in black top costs.
-A new lawn mower was budgeted for $8,000 for 2026. LaVarnway would like to buy the Alamo brand from Capital Tractor Inc. He would like to have a portion of paving funds go towards a new mower for the town. Town Board went over the budget lines for this and agreed that funding for the new mower could come out of the paving line. Not to use any CHIPS funding.

Resolution #117 Town Board Approves of Highway Department Purchasing Mower from Capitol Tractor, Inc. and Budget Line Transfer of Funds for the Purchase of the Mower.
Offered by: Braunius
Whereas, $24,777.99 is to be transferred from line DB.5112.0200 to line DB.5130.0200 for the purchase of one Alamo Votex mower.
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

-Stumps were dropped off in the brush pit. LaVarnway asked one of the violators he recognized to pick up their stumps and they did. The sheriff's department is looking into a local address for the other individual that illegally dumped in the brush pit. A stump grinding company will be coming up to grind up brush soon. Parascandola asked about loading chips for businesses and residents and this can be scheduled with the HWY department.

-LaVarnway asked that texts do not go out late at night unless there is an emergency after he received a late-night text about the garbage schedule.

-During the July fourth Holiday the trash schedule was not followed and residents put out garbage on Thursday when it was not scheduled for pick up. Discussion went around the room. The next garbage schedule change due to a Holiday is Labor Day.

Old Business –

1. **Procurement Policy -**

McGovern and Braunius are working on updating the procurement policy. Johnson is willing to help with the procurement policy if needed.

2. **New Computers-**
   Parascandola informed the board that two new computers were purchased for the HWY Department and Codes Enforcement offices for $3,845.60. The last computer purchase for the HWY Department was ten years ago.

3. **Solar Moratorium –**
   On August 4, 2025, the town passed a moratorium on solar fields, and the one-year time frame is approaching.

Resolution #118 Town of Lake Pleasant Discussed Forming a Law on Solar Farms.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Parascandola would like board members to work on the law. Discussion went around the table. O'Connell asked if she could contact NYAOT to see if there is a consortium of people working on solar laws. Parascandola said that she can contact them at any time. O'Connell and McGovern will work on the solar moratorium and law. No action taken.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

4. **DEC – Lake Pleasant Boat Launch –**
   Parascandola informed the board about the completed DEC site visit in Lake Pleasant for a boat launch. The site was not considered as a tailored boat launch site due to multiple insufficiencies.

Motion to discuss:
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: McGovern
Discussion: The board discussed the proposed sites for a boat launch in the area. McGovern asked if there has been any strong public input on this. O'Connell stated that Camp Maryland has expressed concerns about how they will get boats on and off of the lake. Discussion continued about positive and negative opinions from the community on there not being public access on Lake Pleasant in the future.
No action taken:
Adopted by the following vote:

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

5. **Construction and Demolition Fees –**
   Parascandola explained that the town is billed $78/ton by Hamilton County for solid waste and C&D's are billed out from the town at $80/ton to recover some costs.

Resolution #119 Town Board to Discuss C&D Fees.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: Parascandola explained the costs in 2025 for C&D to the town and to the County. She asked the board if they would like to increase the fee to further subsidize the cost of billing for C&D's. Discussion went around the table about the increase in administrative fees and what increase is reasonable to cover these costs to make the C&D billing worth the time spent on billing for it.

Resolution #120 Town Board to Increase C&D Billing to $85/ton Starting with July C&D Billing.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

6. **Fawn Lake Trail Notice of Claim -**

Parascandola updated on the notice of claim, stating that the claim is being handled by Kevin Lannin with Wright Public Entity has been investigating the claim and the 50 H hearing has been scheduled for July 24, 2026.

New Business –

1. **Social Media –**

Parascandola was recently approached about the town's social media presence. The town does not currently have a social media policy and Parascandola has asked the Website Committee to work on a policy.

Resolution #121 Town Board to Discuss Social Media.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Johnson
Discussion: Johnson would like the town to develop a plan. She brought to the table some framework information to share. Discussion was had at the table about what the town board would like on a social media site for their residents. McGovern would like notices going out yet no

comments allowed. The history of the current town Facebook page was discussed. The website Committee will develop a policy draft for the board to review moving forward.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

2. **Speed Limit –**

Parascandola reviewed that on October 30, 2025, Bain sent a petition with twenty-three signatures on it to Tracy Eldredge at Hamilton County DPW. The petition to reduce the speed limit on State Route 8 between Golf Course Rd and Page Street was sent to the state. Parascandola followed up to be told that it could take a couple of years for the state to respond and complete a speed study.

Resolution #122 Town Board to Discuss Speed Limit Reductions in Town.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Braunius would like to see the speed limit reduced through town. McGovern stated that in areas of commerce and residents there should be lower speed limits. LaVarnway said that he is not in favor of speed limit reductions on Route 8. He feels that drivers need to be cautious and follow rules of the road. Speed limit reductions will not make people more cautious. Discussion continued around the table.
No action taken
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

3. **Resolution #123 Town Board Authorizes the Transfer of Funds to MVP Select Care Account.**

Offered by: McGovern
Whereas, the Town of Lake Pleasant has established an HRA account for employee health care needs, and
Whereas, due to the rising cost of health care, account number A.9060.0801 – Health Insurance, Deductible, was insufficiently budgeted in 2026 and
Whereas, it is the desire of the Town Board to increase funding for the MVP Select Care account in the amount of $20,000.00, therefore, be it
Resolved, the sum of $20,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund Balance to A.9060.0801 – Health Insurance, Deductible, and the bookkeeper be so authorized.
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

4. **Tennis and Pickleball Court Policy/Rules –**

Resolution #124 Town Board to Discuss Tennis and Pickleball Court Policy and Rules
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Parascandola went over parkland guidelines to change fees. Prior written approval from the state must be given. The recreational facility must be open to the public. It cannot be restricted to non-taxpayers. Municipal land cannot be leased, exchanged or sold. Parascandola summarized what research she has gathered from other municipalities that own and operate tennis/pickleball courts. The recreational committee will need to discuss what the municipality can do within the Town of Lake Pleasants means. O'Connell suggested getting a group of interested people from different angels to come together and make suggestions. Discussion continued and ended with Recreation Committee to work on policy for the courts.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

5. **Route 8 Culvert Notice of Claim –**
   Parascandola announced that on June 17th a notice of claim was issued to the Town of Lake Pleasant on behalf of James Reynolds and Amy Higgins as administrators of the Cara Higgins estate located at 2840 State Route 8, Speculator, NY, claiming that a culvert under the road has caused damage to their property. Wright Public Entity is reviewing the claim for the town through the town's insurance company.

6. **Transfer station**

Parascandola informed the board that on June 23rd at a County meeting, Tracy Eldredge announced that he would like to employ all of the workers who maintain the transfer stations. Currently the Town of Lake Pleasant and the Town of Indian Lake have transfer stations that are staffed by town employees in addition to county employees. Tracy had suggested a sliding scale of tipping fees in addition to the existing sliding scale and salary.

Resolution #125 Town Board Made a Motion to Discuss the Transfer Station Personnel and Tipping Fees
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: The county has approached the town to take the position. For over twenty years the town has staffed an employee at the transfer station. Parascandola advocated for the town stating that it would be punitive for the town to pay a fee to subsidize other towns at the expense of the Town of Lake Pleasant.
Braunius mentioned that the town of Lake Pleasant already pays higher fees than other municipalities for tipping fees. The town paid the higher fee due to its proximity to the transfer station. Johnson explained some history of employment at the transfer station. Now is the time to make changes toward having the transfer station operations done to today's standards of practice. Discussion continued around the table. Parascandola has met with the County Attorney about best practices moving forward. No action taken.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)

Nays: None

7. **Speculator Chamber of Commerce Report –**

Parascandola mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce has provided the town with their second quarterly report and voucher for payment. She asked if the board had any questions on the report. No questions and no action taken.

Committee Reports:

Highway Committee- Committee to schedule a meeting.

Buildings Committee – Committee to meet at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday July 7th.

Youth Recreation Committee – O'Connell reported that the summer recreation schedule went out to all students. On July 16, 2026 the Mega Bubble Man Productions will be at the farmer's market. There is a trip to Howe Caverns on July 22,2026, reservations due by July 9th. Enchanted Forest Water Safari trip is scheduled with transportation and a farmers' market with pottery making event is scheduled.

Cemetery Committee- Committee to meet at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday July 7th.

Website committee -Committee meeting to be scheduled.

Grants Committee – Parascandola announced that reimbursement of $56,250.00 was received by the town from NY Parks and Recreation for the Elm Lake Rd. Project. Final documentation and photos were submitted to ADK Architectural Heritage of the museum. They are working to close out the grant, by contract they have sixty days to do so. CFA consolidated funding application closes on July 31st. O'Connell and Parascandola have discussed submitting an application through NYS Parks and Recreation for the Pathways. Drawings must be submitted and a contractor's estimate is desired. Netting for the courts was not covered by the grant. Parascandola is working on getting estimates on play netting and safety netting.

Resolution #126 Approve Audit of Abstract #24 dated June 26, 2026, Voucher #4658-4662, Amount $30,021.18, Abstract #25 dated June 30, 2026, Voucher #4663-4665, Amount $2,781.17, Abstract #26 dated July 2, 2026, Voucher #4666-4690, Amount $61,982.30.

Offered by: McGovern

2nd by: Johnson

Discussion: O'Connell asked about the purified water late fees. LaVarnway has it on automatic payment moving forward. O'Connell asked about Lavarnway's shoes in the bill pay. The handbook allows up to $200 for employees to purchase safety shoes. Discussion went around the table about the handbook policy. Recommended to move this to Hwy committee for review of the policy.

Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: All (Supervisor Parascandola, (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)

Nays: None

Public Comment:

-Ambrose stated that he represents Lake Pleasant and the board is doing a great job.

Round table:
-McGovern praised the parade committee for doing an excellent job on the Fourth of July Parade.
-Braunius commented that the two-nights of celebrations was a good idea.
-Braunius would like to order the flag for the Fish Mountain Cemetery from the same company that the town purchased the Airdville Cemetery flag last year. The Cemetery Committee has picked out a spot in Fish Mountain Cemetery for the flag to be erected. Costs were discussed in relation to the budgeted amount. The board would like the same size flag ordered as the one ordered for Airdville Cemetery with internal halyard.
-Tennis courts look good, says Braunius.
-Smith reported that her new part time deputy clerk for the summer is working out well and has jumped into tasks. She has already helped with organizing. Another application has come in for the deputy position and Smith will be calling to schedule an interview soon. The current part time deputy is only available for another seven weeks.
-The clerks office has been selling more fishing licenses this season than in the past several years. Braunius asked if the town profits from these sales and Smith let him know that there is minimal profit to the town for licensing.
-Historical society will host an open house on August 1st from10:00 – 12:00 p.m. to see the work that has been done.
-Johnson appreciates the board for appointing her to serve the town and she hopes to make it onto the ballot.
-Parascandola informed that the Hamilton County Republican Committee has a meeting on July 13th to have Johnson on the Ballet in November.
-Parascandola mentioned that the county has rules for the transfer station and black bags are not allowed but clear and opaque are allowed. Permissible of Fulton County.
-Senior garage sale is August 1st and they are accepting donations.
-James Reis is retiring and O'Connell suggests the town present him with a plaque for his dedication to the town and volunteer work on town capital projects.
-Parascandola mentioned that the senior food drop will continue and they are using the pavilion while the fire house is undergoing renovations.
-Parascandola announced that there is a group of community members meeting on Wednesday July 22, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the pavilion to review historic information on the pathways and to identify its current needs and any future expansion.

Resolution #127 Town Board Entered Executive Session at 9:18 for a matter under #6 and of Town Law under Medical Financial, Credit or Employment History of a Particular Person or Corporation or Relating to Appointment, Promotion, Demotion, Discipline or Removal.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None
Resolution #128 Town Board Left Executive Session at 9:50 with No Action Taken

Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: Johnson
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, O'Connell and Johnson)
Nays: None

Next Meeting: Monday July 20, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Don Braunius **2nd by:** Johnson
TO ADJOURN @ 9:51 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk