October 5, 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 October 5, 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, and Kathy O'Connell
Town Clerk- Stephanie Smith
Highway Superintendent – Randy LaVarnway
Deputy Clerk – Jenna Manley
Guests- Linda Walters, Jeff Walters, Karen McComb, Eileen LaVarnway, Chris Ambrose, Jim Swanson, Mina Swanson, Nancy Carr, Shorty Hoffman, John Granath, Dale Coners, Ron Coners, Tim Witten, Ron Schober, and Nadine Schober.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Resolution #170 to Approve the Minutes of September 21, 2026.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: None
Be it resolved, that the minutes of September 21, 2026, be approved.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Highway and Buildings –
LaVarnway gave the highway report:
-The State of NY paid the town 30% owed for grooming in 2025/2026. LaVarnway explained to the board the percentages of what the snowmobile clubs, town, and state contribute to maintaining the snowmobile trail systems.
-The town highway department has been paving under shared services with Hamilton County in Inlet.
-Golf Course Rd. paving will be completed and shoulders on all roads will get done all at once by Hamilton County DPW.
-Work in Perkins Clearing is almost half done. NY State bought all the culverts. Gravel is being hauled in from an outside contractor.
-Pickleball and tennis nets are up with barriers in place. Sand bags will go on them to hold them down.
-LaVarnway listed the town pickup truck on Auctions International, and it closed out on Friday.

-The pickup truck went for $3,550.00 and the groomer went for $18,100.00. LaVarnway asked the board to sell them for these prices.

Resolution #171 Town Board to Sell 2013 Chevy 2500 HD Pickup Truck and 1999 Piston Bully Groomer on Auctions International.
Offered by : McGovern
Whereas, the 2013 Chevy 2500 HD Pickup Truck will be sold for $3,550.00 and,
Whereas, the 1999 Piston Bully Groomer will be sold for $18,100.00.
2nd by: O'Connell
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

-The outlets for the automatic door openers at the library were installed on Friday. Door openers have not come in yet. Once in, the contractor doing the install can have the doors installed.
-The last bulk pick up trash day for the town this year will be on Wednesday, October 21, 2026. LaVarnway reminded the room that bulk trash should not go out until the day before pickup.

Old Business –

1. **Route 8 Speed Limit –**

Parascandola reviewed that a few months ago the town discussed the speed limit between the county buildings and Page St. Since that discussion the Supervisor has received five letters of concern about the speed limit in that corridor. In October of 2025 the town submitted twenty-three signatures on a petition to the county DPW for a state assessment of the speed limit. The process takes about two years and the town is now a year into the process. The town board can submit a letter of support on the state doing an evaluation of the speed in hopes of getting it reduced.

Resolution #172 Town Board to Submit a Letter in Support of an Evaluation for a Speed Reduction of 55 MPH to 40 MPH on State Route 8 in the Corridor Between South Shore Rd. and Page Street.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: Braunius for **Discussion:**
Braunius would like the reduction to go through the whole town from the town line bordering Arietta through the Town of Lake Pleasant. O'Connell is fine with Page St. through Golf Course Rd. reduction but not the whole town. LaVarnway suggests that the town ask for smaller sections at a time for speed reductions. Parascandola brought up the desire to have the speed counters installed in town.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Motion to have the Town Board Submit a Letter in Support of an Evaluation for a Speed Reduction from 55 MPH to 40 MPH on State Route 8 from South Shore Rd. to the Town of Lake Pleasant/Arietta Line.
Offered by: Braunius

2nd for Discussion by: McGovern
Discussion:
O'Connell asked if the public could give feedback. When granted, Witten said that it will slow travel down. His experience is that speed has not been cited as the cause of the accidents, other conditions have. Braunius asked what the reason would be not to reduce the speed in this corridor and the response was aggravated driving, caused by driving on long reduced speed stretches. Coners stated that if speed is reduced it will slow down drivers that are normally going over the speed limit.
Ayes: Braunius
Nays: O'Connell, McGovern and Parascandola
Motion Did Not Carry

2. **Community Court Rules –**

Parascandola asked the board if they all had a chance to review the Community Court Rules. O'Connell reviewed that a list of rules and etiquette have been drawn up. Discussion on hours of open courts was discussed. Noise is a concern. The Village of Speculator noise ordinance requires no loud noises before 7:00 a.m. Evening closing hours was discussed and the board decided that open court hours will be 8:00 a.m. – fifteen minutes after sunset.
The town will not be supplying garbage receptacles. All patrons to the courts are to be respectful of the neighbors.
LaVarnway asked about cameras and benches. Cameras are going in this year and benches next year.
Carr praised the town recreation committee for their good work on the rules and regulations for the town courts. She asked if the town would provide a squeegee and broom for water removal and LaVarnway said that it can be provided and hung on hooks attached to the fencing. Granath asked if a leaf blower to blow off leaves before play was allowed and LaVarnway approved. Swanson asked who enforces the rules and Parascandola responded that the town hall or Sheriff's office can be contacted depending upon the nature of the rule breaking.

Resolution #173 Town Board to Approve of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Community Courts on Elm Lake Rd. Drawn up by the Recreation Committee.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: O'Connell
Discussion: Swanson asked about the morning time being too early. Parascandola explained that if early hours disturb residents, the town board will revisit the opening time.
Whereas, drafted rules are to include opening 8:00 a.m. to fifteen minutes after sunset from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. Squeegee and broom provided by the town. Cary in and Cary out. Children age ten and over can play unsupervised.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

3. **Cemetery Rules and Regulations –**

Parascandola asked for feedback from the board on this proposed revision to the rules and regulations.

Resolution #174 Town Board to Approve of the Revised Rules and Regulations Governing the Lake Pleasant Cemeteries.
Offered by: Braunius
2nd by: McGovern
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Parascandola reminded the board that there is a six-month moratorium on cemetery reservations in effect at this time.

4. **Social Media Policy –**

Parascandola reviewed for the room that the town has had a facebook page that was established over fifteen years ago that now needs to be handed over and regulated by the town offices. Social media that the town government utilizes for the town, is considered a legal record of the town and must be regulated properly. The website committee has been developing a policy to fit the towns needs for regulating social media platforms that the town utilizes.

Resolution #175 Town Board to Approve of the Social Media Policy Provided by the Website Committee.
Offered by: O'Connell
2nd by: McGovern
Discussion: The town's social media posts will be for information only and not conversational. O'Connell asked if public would be able to post or comment and Parascandola explained that they will only be allowed to comment or post at the towns discretion. Only town officials designated to post on the sites will be making posts.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

New Business –

1. **Preliminary Budget Review –**

Parascandola thanked everyone for working early on the 2027 budget. Work will continue from now until the deadline in November. At this time the budget is around 4% and needs to get under the 2% tax levy.

Resolution #176 Town Board to Accept the Tentative Budget to Work on Developing the Preliminary Budget.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: McGovern

Discussion: MVP health insurance is leaving the north country so the health insurance committee will be working with Marshall and Sterling to find the best option moving forward. Health Insurance is a large part of the town's budget. McGovern reassured the room that the town will work to find the best for its employees moving forward.
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Resolution #177 Town Board to Set the Public Hearing for the Tentative Budget for Monday November 2, 2026, at the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:00 P.M.
Offered by: Parascandola
2nd by: Braunius
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola and (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

2. **Indoor Lighting for Museum –**

Parascandola received a request from a community member about updating lighting in the museum.
McComb explained that the lighting in the back room of the museum is inadequate lighting and she would like the buildings committee to assess the lighting. McComb to schedule a meeting with the buildings committee to look at the room that has inadequate lighting. The Historical Society will provide the funding to replace the lighting.

3. **Speculator Region Chamber Quarterly Report –**

Parascandola reviewed the Speculator Chamber of Commerce 3rd Quarterly Report: July1-September 30, 2026, and gave the highlights.
Holiday stroll will be at LPCS this year on the Friday after Thanksgiving. They will partner with youth recreation for horse rides.
They are working on snowmobile maps. The Chamber thanks the town for their partnership and support. They included a financial report.
LaVarnway mentioned the snowmobile maps and the trail that needs to be approved for the 2026/2027 season. O'Connell asked if there will be any logging restrictions in the coming season. LaVarnway explained that logging will be restricted at the north end of Perkins Clearing only this coming season. This is seven miles of road that will get plowed. All of the tree farm and the south end of Perkins will be open this coming season.

Resolution #178 Town Board to Approve of Fawn Lake Road Section Being Used as a Snowmobile trail to Connect the Fawn Lake Trail to the Oxbow Lake Trail for the 2026/2027 Snowmobile Season.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Ayes: Supervisor Parascandola, Councilmen - McGovern and Braunius
Nays: O'Connell

Committee Reports:
Buildings Committee – LaVarnway and O'Connell are still evaluating the phone lines.
Health Insurance Committee – Meeting Wednesday October 7, 2026, with health insurance representative, Arnie Morehouse to discuss 2027 health insurance plans.
Youth Recreation Committee- Parascandola and O'Connell met with O'Brian about ski lessons for the 2027 ski season.
Grants Committee –
Parascandola recently requested the third payment for the Elm Lake Rd. Community Courts Project.
Close out meeting will be on Thurs Oct. 8th for the courts grant. On Friday Oct. 16th there will be a meeting on comprehensive planning grants.

Resolution #179 Approve Audit of Abstract #36 dated September 25, 2026, Voucher #4812-4818, Amount $82,632.03. Abstract #37 dated October 2, 2026, Voucher #4819-4833, Amount $131,119.76.
Offered by: McGovern
2nd by: Braunius
Discussion: None
Adopted by the following vote:
Ayes: All (Supervisor Parascandola, (Councilpersons – McGovern, Braunius, and O'Connell)
Nays: None

Public Comment:
- McComb thanked the town for off-road parking at the courts and she commented on how nice the museum looks. Parascandola thanked the historical society for what they have done to the interior of the museum.
Granath asked if a ceremonial game can be played at the ribbon cutting. O'Connell said the youth grades 4-8th have been invited to play on grand opening day.
Ron Schober thanked the board for their thoroughness. Parascandola thanked all that are at the meeting tonight. The board likes to have the public engaged in conversation about the community. Swanson stated that the community has grown, and the speed limit reduction is important. He would like to see representatives contacted on the topic to see if they can speed the process along. Parascandola mentioned reaching out to Heather Scribner and Mark Walczyk. Nadine Schober mentioned all the foot traffic that uses the busy road. Discussion continued about the road and foot traffic.

Round table:
-McGovern mentioned how wonderful the Applefest and Bear and Wine went.
-Smith mentioned that the board will see a reduction in the postage for next year's budget. Town hall offices have been conservative with postage and e-mailing where they are able. Smith will use this year's remaining budget to get ahead on postage costs for next year and has reduced the funding in the town mailing budget lines.
- O'Connell announced that the Historical Society will be hosting their annual Cemetery Tour on Saturday October 10, 2026 starting at 7:00 P.M.

-Parascandola praised June Bergholtz for her work and commitment to the community gardens. Corn and pumpkins were grown. Students made salsa with green tomatoes, and they are making tomato sauce.
-Parascandola mentioned that the occupancy tax has been sent to Senator Mark Walczyk's office by the Village Mayor, Jeannette Barrett, on behalf of The Town of Lake Pleasant and The Village of Speculator.
-The Community Courts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on Wednesday October 7th at 1:30 P.M.
-Hamilton County Community Workshop will be tomorrow in Long Lake. Hamilton County is the recipient of a grant for economy on rural communities with the initial focus on Indian Lake and Long Lake and Inlet. They feel that it will be a benefit for the southern part of the county as well. Parascandola will go up to take notes.

Next Meeting: Monday October 19, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. @ the Lake Pleasant Town Hall
*****ON A MOTION BY**: Braunius **2nd by:** O'Connell
TO ADJOURN @ 8:22 P.M.
ALL IN FAVOR
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Smith, Town Clerk