

## **NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---SEPTEMBER 8, 2015---7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE**

Present: Supervisor Robert Taylor, Councilwoman Connie Chase, Councilmen Joseph Gregory, John Pegg and Robert Eklund, Clerk Charlene Wells, Residents Tom Riso, Edward George, Sue Smith, Donald Smith, Barry Braunius, Tim Miller, Florence Loomis Absent: Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker

Supervisor Robert Taylor opened the meeting at 7:29 PM. A motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by John Pegg and carried 5/0 to accept the minutes for the August 11, 2015 regular monthly meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker was absent but advised that they would hopefully be paving next week. The 2009 pickup needs major repairs as the oil pan has rusted out, but no further info is known at this time.

Supervisor Robert Taylor commended the Garrattsville Fire Company on all the work they do to put on their annual barbecue. He requested approval to attend the 2016 Assoc. of Towns annual conference. A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 4/1 (Joseph Gregory against) to approve the Supervisor's attendance at the 2016 Assoc. of Towns annual conference. Supervisor Taylor suggested things we might want to look at doing include reviewing our Comprehensive Plan, looking into solar energy, and establishing a historic district. He advised that he received a survey on what we had done with the Reconnaissance Level Historic Resources Survey that was completed in July 2013. He asked if anyone was interested in looking into establishing a historic district. Councilman Robert Eklund said he will ask Stacia Norman what was involved in forming a historic district since she helped do this in Morris. Barry Braunius will get in touch with Ken Stabler who does solar work.

Attorney Martin Tillapaugh is still reviewing the draft of our employee handbook. He is still waiting for the campground case to proceed. The campground has not had an appraisal done yet. We received a draft local law from Attorney Martin Tillapaugh to override the budget tax cap. It would only be good for this year if adopted. We are only allowed a .73% increase this year. After further discussion, a motion was made Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 4/1 (Joseph Gregory against) to hold a Public Hearing on proposed Local Law #1 of 2015, a law authorizing a real property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c, on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

We received notice from Suburban Propane that they had checked our propane tank and found that it needed to be replaced. Supervisor Robert Taylor will contact them to set up a time. There is no cost to replace the tank. Councilman Joseph Gregory thought we could save money by buying our own propane tank. We currently pay Suburban Propane a \$50.00 fee per year for their tank. He will look into the cost of buying our own tank.

Karen Sullivan of the Otsego County Planning Dept. sent notice that the County is looking into forming a Regional Renewable Energy Program through the MEGA program. They are looking to see what towns would be interested in joining in with them. The Board was interested in getting more information on this so the Clerk will respond back. NYMIR is sponsoring a workshop on Boiler & Electrical System Maintenance in Oneonta on September 24, 2015. We received notice of a public hearing on the NYS Beginning Farmers Fund Grant Program to be held in Albany on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Grants fund up to 50% of approved projects. Painted Goat Farm on Middlesdorf Road is being recommended for a grant of \$29,121.00 for expansion of their milking house and a milking system.

Supervisor Robert Taylor advised that it was okay with the County Code Enforcement Office for us to move the fuel tank inside the town hall. A motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by John Pegg and carried 5/0 to have the Supervisor contact Reese-Marshall to move the fuel tank to inside as they proposed for \$275.00.

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to pay General Fund Bills #150 through #153 for a total of \$607.68 and Highway Fund bills #145 through #158 for a total of \$13,016.60. Supervisor Taylor paid General Fund bills #144 through #149 and Highway Fund bill #159 for a total of \$5,916.42 with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

Richard Eldridge's term on the Board of Review expires 9/30/15. A motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to reappoint Richard Eldridge to a new five year term on the New Lisbon Board of Assessment Review effective 10/1/15.

A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to schedule a special meeting on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:30 PM for the presentation of the 2016 Tentative Budget and a workshop on the budget.

Councilman Robert Eklund questioned if Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker had selected a new highway employee to replace Victor Lasher who retired August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Supervisor Robert Taylor responded that he knew that there were at least five applications for the position, but he didn't think Supt. Whitaker had selected anyone yet. A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to invite Victor Lasher to the next meeting for the Board to present him with a certificate of thanks for his 36 years of service to the Town.

Lenny Melillo has offered to remove & replace the bad pole on the backstop for \$150.00. A motion was made by Robert Eklund, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 5/0 to authorize Lenny Melillo to do the backstop repairs for \$150.00. Clerk Charlene Wells advised that she will use remaining Recreation Committee funds to pay the \$150.00 bill.

Justice Bruce Moskos has asked for Board approval to apply for items through the Justice Court Grant Program. He would like to enhance the security cameras, put carpet in the conference room and apply for a new desk. After discussing the issue, a motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to authorize the Justice to apply through the Justice Court Grant Program for a new desk and enhanced security cameras after explaining to the Board what he planned on enhancing, but they did not want carpet put in the conference room as the upkeep would be more of an expense for the Town than the tile floors.

Edward George commented that the Town Board should consider looking at not filling the position in the highway dept. left vacant by Victor Lasher's retirement. The Board discussed the issue but did not make any decision on the issue at this time.

Supervisor Robert Taylor noted that he joined the Senior Citizen Group on their trip to the Erie Canal. He said it was a pleasant outing and thanked Cathy Riso for setting up the excursion.

With no further business, a motion was made by Robert Eklund, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 5/0 to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk