

**NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---JANUARY 9, 2018--7:00 PM---PUBLIC HEARING ON
2018 FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE**

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwomen Nancy Martin-Mathewson & Flo Loomis, Councilman John Pegg, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Residents: Lenny Melillo, Pete Chase, Tom Riso, Michaela Lasher, Robert Taylor, Stacey Kazacos, Barry & Sandra Braunius, Sue Smith, Donald Smith, Earl Smith Absent: Councilman Robert Eklund

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the Public Hearing on the 2018 Fire Protection Contract with the Garrattsville Fire Company at 7:00 PM. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker questioned how the FD liked their new truck. Lenny Melillo stated that overall they like it, but it's different getting used to something with all the electronics, gauges and the emission system. They are happy with the power it gets from a 460 hp motor. It carries 6000 gallons of water. Once this is paid off, they will be looking for a tanker. Lenny noted that they have a solid group of volunteers. The hardest to maintain will be the Emergency Squad with all of the State requirements. The Fire Department will continue to work with the Board on revising the contract for next year. They will give their 2017 last quarter report next month. With no further questions from the floor, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes /0 Nays to close the public hearing at 7:20 PM.

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---JANUARY 9, 2018

Present: same as above plus Councilman Robert Eklund

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:21 PM. He requested that the word "sections" be replaced with "sessions" in regards to the privilege of the floor in the January 2, 2018 minutes. A motion was made by Councilman John Pegg, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays (Councilman Eklund had not arrived yet) to accept the minutes for the December 12, 2017 regular monthly meeting as written and the January 2, 2018 Organizational meeting minutes as amended.

The Board discussed purchasing a 2018 Freightliner as was budgeted for and notice we received that there are more army trucks available in Puerto Rico. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker advised the Board that he would like to purchase a tractor to pull the broom and rake. He has been using his own personal tractor to pull them. Our little backhoe is getting older and needs a \$4000.00 brake job. He has found a Case International tractor, 65 HP through an outfit called NJPA for \$36,779.00 He would get it with turf tires and it has both 2 wheel and 4 wheel drive capabilities. He estimated it would cost about \$1500.00 to retrofit our broom to be able to use with the new tractor. He would propose to use CHIPS funds to purchase the tractor and if we purchased it now he could get it in for reimbursement in June 2018.

Supervisor Edward Lentz and Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson have met with Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker and started drafting a Highway Dept. Goal List. We will verify that we have all of our equipment covered with Gates-Cole. We have about 65 miles of roads. There are about 9 culverts that the Hwy. Supt. wants to still replace. Our bridges are okay for now. CHIPS funds are used for projects with a ten year life span. The main current goals with equipment are to get a new 2018 Freightliner Truck with plow, repair & sell the 1994 International truck, keep the 1997 International as a backup plow truck and get a new tractor. We need to get better lights in the Highway garage. We should be getting some fleet management software for the Highway Dept. to keep records of usage, repairs, etc. We should look at the pros and cons of leasing versus purchasing. Supervisor Edward Lentz thought we should try to get our CHIPS reimbursement earlier in the year. There will be no new roads

paved. This year the Hwy. Supt. intends to resurface Gilbert Lake Road (2.27 miles) at an estimated cost of \$104,000.00 under the CHIPS program. Pegg Road would be next on the list if money is available or next year. He has culverts on Gilbert Lake Road, Gardnertown Road and Card Road that he plans on replacing. This is just a preliminary start of a Highway Plan with the goal of having the necessary data available to make better and planned decisions.

Discussion went back to purchasing a tractor. Councilman Robert Eklund commented that we should have known about this at budget time. Supt. Bill Whitaker responded that he had planned on using CHIPS funds for the purchase and therefore didn't ask for budget funds. It was noted that the hwy. supt. shouldn't have to use his own tractor. By going with the NJPA organization we may not have to get bids. The Board requested other prices of tractors to know that we're getting a good deal.

Discussion went back to the army trucks. There are 4 available in Puerto Rico. They are 2009 Freightliners, all-wheel drive with 152 to 4000 miles. The cost would be \$8,311.00 plus \$2,000.00 shipping fee for each. Any army truck we get must be in use within one year and kept for at least 18 months. Supt. Whitaker noted that because they don't meet emission standards only municipalities could run them without upgrading the emissions. We haven't outfitted the last army truck we got. Supt. Whitaker advised that if we just went with a plow & sander it would cost about \$66,000.00. Councilman John Pegg noted that the photo Supt. Whitaker had showed an army truck with just a plow, but Supt. Whitaker noted that he prefers to have a sander on all plow trucks. The new 2018 Freightliner would cost us about \$205,000.00 for the complete package with plow & dump box. He presently uses the army water truck when needing water to help stabilize material and when brooming and it's dry.

Lenny Melillo commented that he would rather see us purchase a new truck that can do everything and has a warranty rather than spend \$80,000.00 and only have a plow truck. He felt the army trucks were just band aids. Councilwoman Flo Loomis added that after all of the talk over the last few months, there seems to be a need to get a new truck. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson agreed that our fleet needs updating. She was leery about buying army trucks from Puerto Rico after all of the water issues they had last year. Supt. Bill Whitaker added that the 2018 Freightliner would be just like the Town of Burlington has and they like theirs and are planning on getting another one. The last army truck could possibly be used to trailer equipment. After further discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays/ 1 Abstention (Councilman Robert Eklund) to purchase a 2018 Freightliner truck with plow, dump box, etc. as was specified by Mohawk Valley Freightliner based on an Onondaga County contract for a cost of approximately \$205,000.00.

The Board will discuss next month ideas for using what vehicles we have and the estimated costs involved. Councilman Robert Eklund had requested overtime figures for the last quarter of last year. Each man had 36.5 hours, (146 total hours) for a cost of \$3880.32. Between the four men they used 24 sick hours, during the 3 month period, which Supt. Whitaker noted was mostly doctor appointments.

Supt. Bill Whitaker noted that they already have chunks of frozen sand which is not normal for this early in the season. He is very concerned about this since there is a lot of winter left. The Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway money was put on hold until next month since we need to decide how the CHIPS funds will be spent in 2018.

The floor was open to the public. Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde advised that she has sent out the Ag land renewals and asked farmers to update their information with her. She is also

working on the enhanced star renewals. Michaela Lasher commented that she appreciates all of the highway workers and felt our town roads are taken care of the best.

Lenny Melillo commented that after putting money down on the truck we could stretch the payments out and get two trucks. He felt that we have a lot of years to catch up on and having two new trucks would save us a lot of repair costs. He noted that the army truck we haven't outfitted yet could be labeled a recovery vehicle since it has a winch. Stacey Kazacos noted that when Tim Hunt from Cazenovia gave his presentation, he advised that we should only keep trucks for seven years because after that the resale value goes down and the repair costs go up. Sandra Braunius supported Lenny's position of purchasing new trucks.

Lenny Melillo noted thanks to Town Clerk Charlene Wells for sticking with the Town all of these years and for all of the extra work that she does. A motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to thank Town Clerk Charlene Wells for the superb job she has done during this transition and for stepping in to help wherever needed.

County Representative Meg Kennedy advised that she is on the Solid Waste /Environmental Concerns, Human Services, Intergovernmental Affairs and Administration Committees this year. She is also working with the Soil & Water Board and Tourism. The application is available online for the Community Events Grant for 2018. She also noted that the IGA has funds for the Hwy. Asset Management program which maybe would interest us. She noted that the County has approved leasing 12 new plow trucks so maybe we can get some information on that from the County. She further noted that Tim Johnston, Otsego Electric CEO came in and talked with the County Board about their broadband project. Meg also submitted information on a Rural Law Initiative at the Albany Law School which is funded by a grant to help with legal assistance to small businesses.

Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso advised that he has been working with the assessor and they will be adding about \$500,000.00 in assessments. He had questions about the RFP for the building repairs we did for the Town Hall & Highway Garage. We have not received back the additional information requested from Richard Dennis on estimated material costs. Supervisor Lentz will contact him.

Robert Taylor asked for approval to attend the Assoc. of Towns conference in NYC on Feb.18-21, 2018. He will present 2 hours of training on information he learns to the rest of the Planning Board. Supervisor Edward Lentz advised that he would also like to attend and would pay for half of his expense since he can get some credit for attorney training from the classes. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to authorize Robert Taylor, at an estimated cost of \$1500.00 and Edward Lentz, at an estimated cost of \$750.00 to attend the Association of Towns Annual Conference in NYC on February 18-21, 2018.

Supervisor Edward Lentz advised that he is appointing Cindy Hall as Bookkeeper (or Supervisor's Secretary). Retired Bookkeeper Doris Schlee is willing to help do training. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to pay Doris Schlee \$20.00 per hour as a Consultant during the transition period. Supervisor Edward Lentz further advised that he has appointed Nancy Martin-Mathewson as his Deputy Supervisor.

The 2017 end of year Fund Balances were \$215,749.00 in General Fund and \$250,503.00 in Highway Fund. We should determine how much we want to have saved in reserve and make plans for using the remainder.

Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson will perform the audit of the Supervisor's office, Councilwoman Flo Loomis will audit the Town Clerk/Collector's office and Councilman Robert Eklund will audit the Justice office.

A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to approve the 2018 Fire Protection contact with the Garrattsville Fire Company for \$125,350.00 and to authorize the Supervisor to sign on behalf of the Town.

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pay General Fund bills #1 through #16 for a total of \$6,468.13 and Highway Fund bills #1 through #16 for a total of \$18,627.95. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

Dean Marble has requested an extension of his subdivision approval (#4-17) because of a medical emergency with his attorney he was unable to get his new deed filed by the deadline. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to approve an extension of the subdivision approval for Subdivision #04-17 for Dean Marble on tax map #207.00-1-23.00 until March 12, 2018.

The assessor received word that our cold war veteran's exemption was expiring and research has found that instead of the exemption being only allowed for ten years it can now go on indefinitely as long as the veteran remains qualified. A local law allowing for this amendment to our Cold War Veterans Exemption Local Law #3 of 2008 was reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 PM on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 on proposed Local Law # 1 of 2018 to amend Local Law #3 of 2008 to allow the cold war veteran's exemption to be ongoing instead of expiring after ten years.

The Official Undertaking of Municipal Officers was signed by those who handle money for the Town.

It had been reported last September that our insurance carrier, after inspecting our buildings, had increased their values and would be billing us for the increase. Supervisor Edward Lentz had checked with Gates-Cole and found out that the change in coverage had never been done. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to increase coverage on the Town Hall from \$440,811.00 to \$559,475.00, on the Highway Garage from \$219,000.00 to \$586,528.00 and on the Hwy. Storage Building from \$100,000.00 to \$256,919.00 effective immediately. The Board was all in favor of drafting an RFP for proposals for our insurance package due in the spring.

We had previously received a letter from our insurance carrier HCC about their concerns with our playground after their inspection of it. They recommended that we stain the playset, get more gravel and remove the benches. They requested a response by November 2017, but none has been sent. After further discussion of the playground, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to have the Town Clerk send them a letter advising that it is our intent to address the issues with the playground in the spring.

It was discussed that if our Town Hall is considered to be an emergency shelter, we should have the water tested. Lenny Melillo noted that Barney & Sons do the firehouse and are qualified to do the test. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to have Barney & Sons do a water test of the

Town Hall water. It was further discussed that we never got an AED for the Town Hall as was previously approved. After we check with the Red Cross to see if any grants or help is available, a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to approve allowing the Fire Department to order an AED for the Town Hall.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to adjourn at 10:00 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk