

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---DECEMBER 10, 2013 REGULAR MEETING---TOWNHALL---7:30 PM

Present: Councilmen Robert Eklund, Glen Noto & Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Connie Chase, Supervisor Robert Taylor, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Clerk Charlene Wells, Also: Ed George, Tom Riso, Sue Smith, Donald Smith, Joe Gregory, Richard Dennis

Supervisor Robert Taylor opened the monthly meeting at 7:30 PM. The spelling of Fickbohm will be corrected in the November minutes. A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 5/0 to accept the amended minutes for the November 12, 2013 regular meeting.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker advised that he has hired Gus Tafel as part-time, temporary help over the winter season. He is a self-employed carpenter and has his CDL permit. He received good references as a reliable, hard worker. Supt. Whitaker noted that if he works out well, he may have the potential for full time status when there is an opening. He also noted that there is good teamwork with the men.

Supt. Bill Whitaker advised that we may be able to get an engineer for road issues through Cornell University and their Local Roads Program. Councilman Edward Lentz noted that Scott Fickbohm and the Soil & Water office may also be able to offer us assistance. We may be able to get assistance from FEMA for hazard mitigation. He wants to have Geoff Scott look at several sites with him. A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Glen Noto and carried 5/0 to authorize the Hwy. Supt. to contact Cornell University and see if they have engineering help available and what it would cost and to also check with Scott Fickbohm at Soil & Water.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker noted that he thinks the Town should consider videotaping meetings so that the public can get the whole story, not just sections. He also noted that he should have approximately \$170,000.00 in CHIPS funds next year, with \$16,000.00 being rolled over from this year. The addition to the storage building is done and all equipment is under cover. We are waiting for the doors to be installed.

Ed George noted that he's noticed our snowplows are not all using their yellow flashing lights when they are operating. He feels it's a safety issue.

Contractor Richard Dennis questioned the Board if they were set on using the spray foam option for the Highway Garage roof. He advised that he could give us some other options if they would be interested. The Board advised that they would be interested in hearing his ideas. He will get his information together and will meet with the Hwy. Committee in January to review his ideas.

Supervisor Robert Taylor updated the Board on the damage to his office made by a car backing into it. AllState has contacted us that they are handling the claim. Supervisor Taylor noted that he asked Hwy. employee Lou Colburn, who did repairs when the backside of the building was hit and replaced the windows in the Town Hall to look at the damage and give him a preliminary estimate. His rough estimate was \$1050.00. He suggested that we could hire Lou Colburn as a town employee, separate from his highway duties, under a different category, which would save money. A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Edward Lentz and carried 5/0 to hire Lou Colburn, (under a job title to be determined) at \$16.00 per hour to fix the damage to the Town Hall & the Supervisor's office pending approval of the final estimate by AllState.

CPIC would like the Board to consider getting recycling containers for residents to use. Since the County controls recycling, we would have to sign a contract with them to get bins, which they would provide and pick up when full. We would need to have a secure site (possibly with cameras) as we would have to pay for the entire load as garbage if any garbage gets mixed in. We have been told in the past that our residents could utilize any of the County recycling bins that are set up at different towns throughout the County. Sue Smith noted that people have complained about garbage being thrown around town. Tom Riso noted that when he picks up roadside garbage most of it is garbage, not recyclables. Hartwick has a committee that oversees garbage, recyclables, white goods days, etc. They have a scrap metal bin, which helps fund their activities. Councilman Robert Eklund will contact Martha

Clarvoe and get information and will connect with CPIC Chairwoman Sue Smith before their January 29th meeting.

Supervisor Robert Taylor, who is on the Assoc. Of Towns Resolution Committee, noted that they are working on resolutions for mandate relief, keeping the CHIPS program, preserving & strengthening home rule, preserving local land use authority and returning the local aid for the STAR program. They decided not to have a resolution against the SAFE Act, because the Association felt the Governor would get upset and not work with them on the other issues.

Councilmen Glen Noto and Edward Lentz, who will be leaving the Town Board, were thanked for their service to the community over the years they have served.

The Public Service Commission sent notice of three informational sessions on the process regarding the AC Transmission Upgrade Proceeding. The four companies who are submitting proposals have web sites where their applications are posted. (BOUNDLESS-<http://www.leedspathwest.com/documents>, NAT-<http://www.nat-ny.com/>, NEXTERA-<http://www.neetny.com/content/regulatory.shtml> & NYTOS-<http://www.nytransco.com/nyto.htm>)

Notice was received of a conference April 22-24, 2014 in Blue Mountain Lake titled "Smart Management for Small Communities: Practical Resources for Governance".

The Board audited the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Edward Lentz and carried 5/0 to pay General Fund Bills #222 through #239 for a total of \$29,614.50 and Highway Fund Bills #170 through #190 for a total of \$23,127.03. Supervisor Taylor paid General Fund bills #219 through #221 and Highway Bills #191 & #192 for a total of \$50,180.31 with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to make the following appropriation changes to cover bills and balance accounts:

1. Increase DA5130.4 (Machinery Contractual) by \$30,200.00. Transfer from DA5142.4 (Snow Contractual).
2. Increase DA 5112.2 (Improvements) by \$5,100.00. Transfer from DA5130.2 (Machinery-Capital Outlay).
3. Increase A1220.4 (Supervisor Contractual) by \$300.00. Transfer from A1990.4 (Contingent).
4. Increase A1460.4 (Records Management) by \$274.00. Transfer from A1990.4 (Contingent).
5. Increase A1355.4 (Assessor Contractual) by \$35.00. Transfer from A1990.4 (Contingent).
6. Increase A1620.43 (Firehouse Contractual) by \$2031.00. Transfer from A1990.4 (Contingent).
7. Increase A5010.4 (Hwy. Supt. Contractual) by \$903.00. Transfer from A1990.4 (Contingent).
8. Increase A9010.8 (General Fund Retirement) by \$1469.00. Transfer from A1910.4 (Insurance).
9. Increase A1010.45 (CPIC) by \$4200.11. Transfer \$3990.00 from A8020.4 (Planning Contractual) and \$210.11 from A1990.4 (Contingent).
10. Increase A1620.44 (Firehouse Repairs) by \$16,405.00. Transfer from Unappropriated Funds.
11. Increase A5132.40 (Town Garage Repairs) by \$32,840.00. Transfer from Unappropriated Funds.

Since no more changes are anticipated before the end of the year, the Board decided not to hold a special end of year meeting. A motion was made by Glen Noto, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to authorize the Supervisor, Bookkeeper and Town Clerk to make any further appropriation changes if necessary to cover bills.

A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to authorize the Town Clerk to attend the NYS Town Clerk Association annual conference in Saratoga Springs on April 27th-30th, 2014.

It was brought up that property under the Marcy South line was not lowered in value during the recent revaluation. Supervisor Robert Taylor noted that previously it had been assessed at \$50.00 per acre. With the new revaluation, land was assessed by the total number of acres, not land characteristics. It was up to individuals to go in see Rich Maxwell if they disagreed with their assessments. If one parcel is changed, we could have to change a lot of them to keep things equitable. If we want to change the way that land is assessed, we will have to bring it up during our next revaluation.

A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to advertise for a public hearing on the 2014 Fire Protection Contract with the Garrattsville Fire Company on Tuesday, January 7th, 2014 at 7:30 PM. The 2014 Organizational Meeting was also scheduled for January 7th, 2014 at 7:30 PM. The regular monthly meeting will remain on January 14, 2014.

Councilman Robert Eklund advised that he contacted Nancy Patterini of Paige Group who is representing NAT in their bid for the power line upgrade. She noted that there are four companies proposing four routes. Councilman Eklund advised her that residents were never happy with the first one coming through, and that a second one could make it easier for even more in the future. She noted that they will plan on meeting with all Town Boards in their proposed route. They may be interested in exploring non-traditional settlements with the Towns and land owners involved. Maybe we could get help with broadband/cell service. If all the towns in the County that would be affected band together, perhaps we could get a better deal for the Town and land owners.

Councilman Glen Noto stated that when we were talking about giving raises to Town Board members he felt uncomfortable giving himself a raise, however he felt that all of the present members deserve it because of all the work they do, both in and out of meetings. He apologized for his family and work obligations that made him miss some meetings. He felt the Board operated with selflessness; no personal agenda and were cooperative and respectful. He thanked Supervisor Taylor and Clerk Wells for sharing their years of experience with all. He also thanked the residents who come to meetings and serve on committees and those who serve on the fire department. People who travel our roads have good comments about their conditions, with thanks going to the highway department. Overall, he felt that we are a very fortunate town. He congratulated Councilman Edward Lentz on moving on to be our County Representative as "our loss, the County's gain". He further congratulated Mr. Pegg & Mr. Gregory and hopes they find being a town board member as rewarding as he has.

Councilman Edward Lentz congratulated John Pegg on being elected as Councilman and suggested that the Association of Towns training for newly elected officials would be helpful.

Councilman Edward Lentz requested the Board consider adopting the resolution he drafted pertaining to the SAFE Act which the State adopted. It was noted that 54 counties and 265 cities, towns and villages have enacted resolutions against the SAFE Act. After further discussion, a motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Robert Taylor and carried 4/1 (Glen Noto-No) to adopt Resolution #04-13, as follows:

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of New Lisbon fully supports adoption of reasonable laws that would help prevent tragedies such as the Newtown massacre, and

Whereas, the NY Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013 ("SAFE Act") was passed hurriedly and contains several provisions that infringe upon the right of law abiding citizens to own and to use guns but that do little or nothing to prevent such tragedies or otherwise to enhance public safety,

Now, therefore, the Town Board of the Town of New Lisbon resolves to request the Governor and the NYS legislature to repeal the SAFE Act and to replace it with a law or laws that actually will enhance public safety without unnecessarily infringing upon the rights of lawful gun owners or to amend the SAFE Act to the same end.

Councilman Robert Eklund noted to the incoming Councilmen that they should start getting used to having to research issues that may affect the Town and that they have to be prepared to sometimes make decisions in the best interest of the Town, not just themselves.

The Business RoundTable only received 3 submissions in their Logo Contest. It was decided to reopen the contest in January and see if we can get some more ideas submitted.

With no further business, a motion was made by Glen Noto, seconded by Robert Taylor and carried 5/0 to adjourn at 9:07 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk