

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---DECEMBER 12, 2017---7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Timothy Miller, Councilmen John Pegg & Robert Eklund, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Attorney Martin Tillapaugh, Bookkeeper Doris Schlee, Justice Bruce Moskos, Residents Edward George, Stacey Kazacos, Michaela Lasher, Susan Smith, Lenny Melillo, Tom Riso, Roberta Moskos, Sandra & Barry Braunius, Bob Schenfeld

Absent: Councilman Joseph Gregory, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy

Supervisor Timothy Miller opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Recognition of service plaques were presented to Bookkeeper Doris Schlee who is retiring after 13 years of service and Justice Bruce Moskos who has served for 36 years. Also, Court Clerk Dora Cooke will be leaving after serving 6 years.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to accept the minutes for the November 14, 2017 regular meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker was absent due to the weather and sent word that they are busy just trying to keep all of the trucks going.

Edward George asked the Town Board to see if there was some legal means that could be found or enacted to make the owners of animals in the hamlet of Garrattsville keep their animals under control. They have a variety of animals that are always running loose. Councilman Robert Eklund wondered if our Dog Control Officer could or would want to become an Animal Control Officer, but that would cost us more. Attorney Martin Tillapaugh advised that we could pass a local law to require all animals be penned. We can also check with the NYS Dept. Of Ag & Markets to see if there are any laws on the books for this issue.

Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso noted that he had been working with the Assessor to catch up things that had been missed over the year. Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde has advised that the Cold War Veteran's Exemption will be expiring and we will have to pass a local law to extend it by March 1st, 2018. Supervisor Timothy Miller noted that Otsego Electric is expanding their broadband project which will include New Lisbon residents.

The Board met prior to the meeting to review the bills. Discussion was held on bills pertaining to the 2009 Freightliner and 2008 Volvo. A motion was made by Councilman John Pegg, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to pay General Fund bills #208 through #219 for a total of \$3,461.61 and Highway Fund bills #193 through #210 for a total of \$21,446.72. General Fund bills #201 through #207 and Highway Fund bill #211 for a total of \$35,376.19 were paid with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to make the following appropriation changes to cover bills: 1. Increase DA 5130.4 Machinery Contractual by \$9000.00. Transfer from DA 5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual. 2. Increase General Fund Retirement A9010.8 by \$2,419.00. Transfer from Contingent Account #A1990.4.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to schedule the 2018 Organizational meeting for Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to schedule a public hearing on the 2018 Fire Protection Contract with the Garrattsville Fire Company for 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 to be followed by the regular monthly meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to authorize Supervisor-Elect Edward Lentz and Councilwoman-Elect Nancy Mathewson to attend the Association of Towns new officials training in Albany in January 2018.

A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to authorize Town Clerk Charlene Wells to attend the 2018 NYSTCA annual conference in Albany in April 2018.

We received the lease agreement for the EMS communications tower to be placed on the highway garage property from the Otsego County Attorney. Attorney Martin Tillapaugh advised that aside from a few sentences that didn't make any sense to him, the overall lease was okay. We would not get any money from leasing the site to the County, but we would get 25% of any sub lease. After further review, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to approve the lease agreement with Otsego County for the site on town property for a County EMS Communications Tower.

The Board has reviewed the playground inspection report. The main items we need to do are staining the playset and get a few loads of pea gravel to get the surfacing material up to where it should be. Several items can't be done because we can't get new parts for the playset. Many of the items are simple quick fixes. The Board will discuss further when we get closer to spring and perhaps set up a community work day.

We had one response to our request for proposals for repairs to the Town Hall and Highway Garage. Richard Dennis of Double D Contracting submitted labor costs for the Town Hall repairs of \$3,551.00 and \$5,963.00 for the Hwy. Garage repairs. In the 2018 budget we have \$5,000.00 budgeted for town hall repairs and \$18,000.00 budgeted for Hwy. Garage repairs. Since we had stated we would pay directly for materials, no material costs were included in the proposal. The Board discussed that they would like to know an estimated cost of materials to know what the total cost of the repairs would be. Also, if we don't have enough money to do all the repairs Councilwoman Flo Loomis thought we should know which projects should be completed first. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Supervisor Timothy Miller and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to hire Double D Contracting, at the rate of \$67.00 per hour to work on the repairs at the Town Hall and Hwy. Garage, with the stipulation that he first submit an estimated cost of materials so we can figure the total cost of the projects and to prioritize the projects for in the event we decide that we don't have enough funds to do all of the repairs.

Discussion was held on establishing a "Spoils Policy". Clerk Charlene Wells noted that she emailed other towns and no one responded that they had a written policy. The Board agreed that our policy should be simple. It was agreed that our "Spoils Policy" would be that any taxpayer may contact the Highway Department if they are interested in obtaining "spoils" from when the Town Hwy. Dept. is doing roadwork and they will be added to the list of available dumping sites. The individual that is closest to the work site will get the spoils dropped off. The Town will not be responsible for spreading out the spoils.

We received two applications for the position of Court Clerk for 2018. Both have been approved by the County Personnel Office. Only one has court clerk experience. Justice-elect Bill Burdick has met with her and would be happy to have a trained clerk to work with. After review of the applications, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to offer the Court Clerk position beginning 1/1/18 to Katharine Davis. We have not received any applications for the Bookkeeper position. After corresponding with the County Personnel office, we may have to change the title of the position to Supervisor's Secretary to avoid the applicants having to take a civil service test.

Lenny Melillo noted that the County did inspections of both the upper and lower firehouses and everything passed. They have purchased a door to replace the side door of the upper firehouse and will get it installed themselves. Their last quarter report will be given in January.

With no further business, a motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to adjourn at 8:25 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk

