

**NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---FEBRUARY 11, 2014**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---7:30 PM—TOWN HALL**

Present: Supervisor Robert Taylor, Councilwoman Connie Chase, Councilmen Joseph Gregory, John Pegg and Robert Eklund, Clerk Charlene Wells, Co. Rep. Ed Lentz, Edward George, Brian Ryther, Donald Smith, Tom Riso  
Absent: Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker

Supervisor Robert Taylor opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Joseph Gregory, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 5/0 to accept the minutes for the January 14, 2014 regular monthly meeting as written.

Supervisor Robert Taylor noted that the highway dept. has been dealing with sickness on top of the winter weather. Edward George noted that he was concerned about the Town's liability when a neighbor was using his personal equipment to plow a town road. Supervisor Taylor advised that it would not be the town's liability since he is not a town employee and it's not town equipment.

Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> is going to be Maple Tour Day in the town again. The Fire Department will hold a pancake breakfast. Brian Ryther requested the Town consider paying for the advertising cards like were used last year. They cost \$109.08 for 250 through Chris Lott at Eveningwith Designs. Brian will also be doing radio advertising using the Butternut Valley Golf & Recreation time slot. Councilman Robert Eklund suggested that Brian maybe able to get a free radio interview. He noted that he didn't want to set a precedent by having the Town help fund this activity. Supervisor Robert Taylor noted that the Board would look at any future activity as a separate issue. Councilman Joseph Gregory wanted the advertising cards to say more that the Fire Dept. was the beneficiary before he would support it. Brian Ryther agreed to change the wording on the advertising cards to promote the Garrattsville Fire Company more. After further discussion, a motion was made by Robert Eklund, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 5/0 to support the 2014 Maple Tour Day on March 9<sup>th</sup> by paying \$109.08 to Chris Lott for printing the advertising cards.

County Rep. Edward Lentz noted that the new EMS radio system will be operational in two years. They are still debating on how much help they will give to each fire dept. to upgrade to the new system. The County Board did not vote to give raises to management based on the lower than expected sales tax figures. Brooks Barbecue wants to expand their operation, but they have to deal with a sewage problem with the NYSDEC and will be getting monetary help from the County. In regards to FOCUS being selected to purchase the Manor, Co. Rep. Lentz advised that he talked to four of the people involved with the vote and they all felt that FOCUS was the better choice based on their tour of the site. They felt that FOCUS kept the residents busy and happy and that the choice was based on quality of care, not money. The County Board will have to set aside the money from the sale of the manor to pay the bonds issued for the construction of the Manor as they come due, as they cannot be paid off in one lump sum. The two grants the County has received to upgrade Broadband coverage will only benefit a few thousand households in the County. They will have to review and see what areas are left and go on from there to find more ways to bring broadband to all residents. RFPs have been sent out for taking over the MOSA sites in the County. The County has requested quotes from consulting companies to figure how much funding they should ask for in filing for intervenor status with the proposed transmission line upgrade. OCCA is working with Solarize NY. The County is looking at a grant to develop an 8-10 acre site to set up a solar system to generate electricity which would be sold and give the County a discount on their electric cost.

The highway committee met and reviewed the proposal from Rich Dennis for the hwy. garage roof. They decided they are going to go look at places where Upstate Sprayfoam has done the roof coating to get more input.

Supervisor Robert Taylor reported that four of the seven town supervisors that would be affected by a new powerline along the Marcy South route met with NAT representatives Nancy Paterini and Neil Chapman. It is highly doubtful that we would be able to stop a new line since the state is pushing for it. NAT is interested in working with towns and would be willing to provide incentives. Supervisor Taylor is going to talk to Attorney Tillapaugh about filing for intervenor status.

Attorney Martin Tillapaugh has tried to reach a deal with Yogi Bear Campground about their complaint against their assessment. They want it cut in about half. Attorney Tillapaugh suggested we would go to 75% of their assessment, but they wouldn't accept. A court date has been set for November. We will have to get an appraisal done.

Steve Lawton has set up a backup in a cloud for the Supervisor's computer data. It will run during the night. Supervisor Taylor noted that we made an oversight during the Organizational meeting by not increasing the salary for the MEO position. It is at \$12.00 and he would like to increase it to \$12.25. A motion was made by Connie Chase and seconded by Robert Taylor to increase the pay for MEO effective 1-1-14 to \$12.25 per hour. Connie Chase, Robert Taylor and John Pegg voted YES, Joseph Gregory voted NO and Robert Eklund abstained from voting, therefore the motion carried 3/1.

A letter was read from Mildred Douglas concerning the lack of lighting outside the Town Hall in the back. She feels it is a safety issue when people leave meetings at night. We do have two lights on the rear side that come on with a timer. The timer is not working and Stan Leonard has been contacted to fix it. The Board would also like to see if Stan has any other options that would provide additional light on the rear of the building for the Board to review. The outside light by the door may be left on when people leave meetings until the lighting issue is solved.

A note was received from Lyle "Butch" Jones thanking the Board for the 2013 In Review insert that was sent out with tax bills. He appreciated the update of what the Town is doing. Several emails have also been received in favor of receiving the update.

A motion was made by Robert Eklund, seconded by Joseph Gregory and carried 5/0 to pay General Fund bills #26 through #40 (and \$109.08 to Chris Lott for the maple day cards) for a total of \$89,327.82 and Highway fund bills #22 through #43 for a total of \$29,707.11. Supervisor Taylor paid general fund bills #21 through #25 and highway fund bill #44 for a total of \$14,188.31 with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's December 2013 and January 2014 monthly reports were submitted to the Board.

We have been a member of CLASS (NY Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System) for many years. We don't have much money with them now because of low interest rates. They sent a notice of changes to the existing agreement. The amended agreement will bring their investment policy into conformity with all NYS General Municipal Law public funds investment guidelines, streamline steps for certain amendments by empowering the Governing Board to amend certain operational aspects of the Agreement with 30 days' notice to participants and to allow for the potential creation of other investment options as market conditions change or improve over time. In order to remain a participant in CLASS we must approve and accept these changes. After further discussion, a motion was made by Robert Eklund, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 4/0 (Joseph Gregory-abstained) to accept the amendment dated March 14, 2014 to the CLASS agreement and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the amendment acceptance.

Councilman Gregory completed the audit of the Justice office, but the Supervisor's and Clerk's audits were not completed. They will be done by the next meeting and then the Board will review all of them.

Councilman Eklund noted that he had received an email advising that there is a movement started in the Hudson Valley to oppose all power line upgrades. Barb Monroe is holding another meeting next Tuesday on the power line upgrade issue. Her only agenda seems to be to get people to know of the possible addition to the Marcy-South corridor and rally people against it.

With no further business, a motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to adjourn at 8:25 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk