

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---JULY 11, 2017---7:30PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Councilmen John Pegg, Joseph Gregory & Robert Eklund, Supervisor Timothy Miller, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Clerk Charlene Wells, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Residents Barry & Sandra Braunius, Donald Smith, Edward George, Melissa Doyle, Nick Lasher, Nancy Mathewson, Pete Chase, Lenny Melillo, Stacey Kazacos, Tom Riso, Matthew Atcher , Assessor Dan Maxwell Absent: Councilwoman Flo Loomis

Supervisor Timothy Miller opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to accept the minutes for the June 13, 2017 regular monthly meeting as written.

Fuel bids were received from Reese-Marshall and Mirabito Energy Products as follows: from Reese-Marshall----Diesel---\$1.82 fixed or \$.19 differential, Winter Blend Diesel---\$1.95 fixed, Unleaded Gas---\$2.01 fixed or \$.19 differential, Kerosene---\$2.19 fixed or \$.19 differential, Fuel Oil---\$1.76 fixed or \$.19 differential, No bid for Propane, and \$250.00 each for service contracts. From Mirabito we received bids for Diesel---\$1.82 fixed or \$.12 differential, Winter Mix Diesel---\$1.88 fixed or \$.08 differential, Unleaded gas---\$1.61 fluctuating or \$.11 differential, Kerosene--\$2.28 fixed or \$.12 differential, Fuel Oil---\$1.82 fixed or \$.12 differential, Propane---\$1.29 fixed or \$.45 differential and \$89.50 or \$154.50 options for service contracts. After further review and discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to accept the fixed rate bids from Mirabito Energy Products of \$1.82 for Diesel, \$1.88 for Winter Mix Diesel, \$2.28 for Kerosene, \$1.82 for Fuel Oil, \$1.29 for Propane, the fluctuating bid price of \$1.61 for Unleaded gas and the \$154.50 TCP service contracts for our four furnaces.

Our new temporary Assessor, Daniel Maxwell was present to meet the Board. He noted that it is his policy to be fair and transparent and help residents with their exemptions. He has been doing revaluations and assessing for years and noted that the job entails a lot more paperwork than it used to. He likes to get out in the field and see new projects. We have one small claim case which he will be able to handle for us. We received notice that the new owner of the golf course, Bret Birnbaum had filed for small claims assessment review because he was not satisfied with the new assessment on his building after it had been changed from commercial to residential. Assessor Maxwell will hold office hours on Tuesday from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

The Planning Board met on July 10, 2017 and reviewed and recommended approval on Subdivision Application # 02-17 for Franco Ngoma and Paul & Barbara Yoder for a simple subdivision. The County Planning Dept. had reviewed the application and sent it back for local action noting no significant county impact. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to approve Subdivision Application #02 for Franco Ngoma for a simple, 20.28 acre subdivision on tax map #157.00-1-1.02 on Pardee Road, with a declaration of no significant adverse environmental impacts.

Highway Superintendent Bill Whitaker got prices for a new 9 foot straight Boss plow for the new pickup truck. For the plow and installation he got a price of \$5,250.00 from M & G-Burr Truck and \$4,660.00 from Charles D. Stahl (a Boss Distributor). He also will need to get our airflow salter controls switched over to the new pickup and wants to get a beacon light. He would get these done at the same time as the plow installation. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 3 Ayes/0 Nays/1 Abstention (Councilman Robert Eklund) to accept the price of \$4,660.00 from Charles D. Stahl to have a new 9 foot Boss plow installed on the new pickup and to further authorize the Hwy. Supt. to have the salter controls transferred and add a beacon light to the new pickup for an additional fee.

Supt. Whitaker received a price of \$77,237.66 for setting up the second Freightliner truck from Viking. If we went with a stainless steel box it would cost \$7,350.00 more, which would probably be worth it since steel bodies deteriorate with the salt. This price also includes a tarp system and an inside control to adjust the plow in soft conditions. He plans on having the truck stretched, which is an

additional cost that would be done by a different vendor. It was discussed having the truck stretched now so it could be ready to be set up with 2018 budget funds. Supt. Whitaker will get cost estimates for the stretching for the next meeting. The cost for a new Mac truck was received at \$201,492.46. With a 7 year payment plan we would pay \$31,540.00 per year at 3.16% interest. Leasing options have not been received yet.

The rented grader will be going back next Monday. Our Volvo grader is being fixed. They had a minor setback in the repairs when the new transmission got installed, it had oil coming out and they found it had the wrong drive pump. They are fixing that and putting it back together and Supt. Whitaker expects to hear that it is done soon. He noted that he still has Bardin Road to hone and dust control is coming. Councilman Robert Eklund suggested that the Hwy. Supt. should try to get a few extra days with the grader or money off of the transport since we were down about two days when we had to get a new tire and new battery for the rented grader. The 2004 Volvo had some wiring issues fixed which could have been caused when the truck rolled during Winter Storm Stella.

Councilman Robert Eklund noted that he had received some complaints about work being done on Bell Hill Road. Many are using this as a detour to St. Hwy. 51 being closed in Garrattsville. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker advised that he had some washouts that he wanted to fix since he knew this road would be getting increased traffic. He is planning on putting dust oil on the road which will help stabilize it.

Melissa Doyle addressed the Board concerning her neighbors in Garrattsville who recently moved in. They have sheep, donkeys, alpacas, etc. which are escaping a lot and she is concerned for their safety. She also noted there have been rats getting into her place which are coming from the neighbors. Edward George had previously contacted the NYS Health Dept. about the rats. Supervisor Miller will give the information to our Health Officer.

Nick Lasher addressed the Board concerning our use of Army trucks. He felt that we would be better off to go with new trucks that have a better life expectancy and resale value. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker noted that we can only sell the Army trucks to other towns because they don't meet the emission standards. Lenny Melillo added that we used to purchase a new truck every 5-6 years and now we basically let everything run until they die. We can't haul with the Army trucks because they are overweight if fully loaded. We need to decide on a game plan for replacing equipment. Hwy. Supt. Whitaker noted that he wants to have the fleet in good shape when he retires. Councilman Joseph Gregory added that we will have to keep good maintenance records on equipment.

County Representative Meg Kennedy noted that the County is drafting an RFP for Enterprise for fleet management. There may be something in it that towns would be interested in. The Strategic Plan Committee will be discussing the issue of a County Manager. The County is applying for a grant to build tiny houses (250 sq. ft.) on County property for temporary and emergency shelters. They spend approximately \$10 million dollars on sheltering expenses and feel this idea would save money. Sales tax is up about 1%. Supervisor Timothy Miller noted that he had not heard any more about another meeting on the shared service plan the Governor had asked for. Co. Rep. Kennedy noted she had not heard anything more and will check on it. Hartwick may be interested in a shared enforcement officer. Councilman Robert Eklund commented that in regards to the County Board considering a non-binding resolution in favor of Rep. Faso's healthcare ideas, the County Board should be focusing on County issues, not national ones. Edward Lentz asked Co. Rep. Kennedy to push for all towns getting a share of the bed tax. She will look at the past plans that were discussed and noted she was in favor of having it shared with all towns. Supervisor Miller added that we would like to see County support for the SPCA remain in the County budget.

Land Use Officer Tom Riso advised that he had met with Dan Maxwell and told him that he would be happy to continue to locate new items in town to add to the assessment roll. The assessor also advised that he would be interested in going around town with him.

Lenny Melillo reported that the Garrattsville Fire Company had been busy the last three months with 268 man hours of training and 100 man hours in accident/calls. In the first 6 months of the year they have put in 913 man hours. The FD got a DEC matching grant of \$3000.00 to put towards fire suppression which they will use for a chainsaw and other safety equipment. It was noted that the

temporary bridge set up by the St. Hwy. 51 culvert reconstruction site is for the ambulance & brush truck. It is not a pedestrian bridge. One fire truck has been placed in the hamlet during the culvert project. Lenny noted that Ed Lentz Jr. has recertified as an ALS provider. He did not get the squad figures as they had a busy day with calls, but will submit them as soon as available. Lenny suggested that the Town should consider purchasing an AED station for the Town Hall. They just purchased one for the lower firehouse at a cost of \$1700.00. We are waiting on a revised draft contract from Attorney Tillapaugh from the discussions from the last committee meeting. The Fire Contract Committee will meet on Monday, July 31, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall.

The County EMS system is still being worked one with some issues being handled. They are still interested in perhaps placing a tower in town. They are looking for a lower spot, for valley coverage. The Town Hall site may be too high. The tower could be from 20-90 feet tall. Edward Lentz added that it would be good to keep the public involved in what's going on with this issue.

Supervisor Timothy Miller noted that he received information on the NYS Deferred Compensation Plan. Employees can participate in it by putting in extra money. There is no cost to the Town. The information was given to the Hwy. Supt. to see if there is any interest in the highway department about joining. Supervisor Miller asked if the Board wanted to get an AED station for the Town Hall. It was suggested that he go ahead and start getting the information and cost and to ask if the Red Cross or Clark Foundation might be able to help us get one. Councilman Joseph Gregory will call Tim Hunt from Cazenovia about the one equipment grant he had mentioned.

Fifteen letters were sent out to Assessors in the County to see if they would be interested in taking on our town. We received applications from Sherri Falcone (Burlington & Springfield), Pamela Dyn (Westford & Roseboom), Matthew Lippitt (Butternuts, Hartwick), Katharine Davis (Pittsfield) and Daniel Maxwell (Manheim, Fairfield). The Board will review their information and invite the applicants to come to the August 8th meeting (or September meeting) to meet with the Board.

Councilman Robert Eklund reported that the Capital Planning Committee had not met because the Board needs to decide what direction they are going to take in regards to equipment replacement. The Capital Planning Committee will meet on August 8, 2017 at 6:00 PM. Councilman Joseph Gregory reported that Richard Dennis has advised that he would charge \$32.00 per hour to do our building inspections. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to hire Richard Dennis at \$32.00 per hour for up to four hours to inspect and give us a written report on our building conditions and any work that needs to be done.

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 ayes/0 nays to approve paying General Fund bills #124 through #132 for a total of \$1,569.15 and Highway Fund bills #110 through #125 for a total of \$28,728.10. General Fund bills #120 through #123 and Highway Fund bill #126 for a total of \$24,023.10 were paid with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

Otsego County Hwy. Supt. Bill Mason may be willing to help some with the Evans Road/Co. Hwy. 15 culvert replacement, but he is dealing with a personnel shortage. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker advised that he has a post to fix the backstop with and has it on his to do list.

Stacey Kazacos reported that 13 people came out and worked on clearing the Texas Schoolhouse State Forest Walking Trail. DEC trail markers have been posted. Clerk Charlene Wells will look into getting a sign to mark the entrance of the trail. The state is planning on logging the forest in the near future and we may be able to develop more trails using the logging trails.

Supervisor Timothy Miller noted that Amish landowners do pay land and school taxes, as they have no exemption.

With no further business, a motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 ayes/0 nays to adjourn at 9:30 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk

