

## **New Lisbon Town Board—November 9, 2016—7:30 PM Regular Monthly Meeting---Town Hall, Garrattsville**

Present: Supervisor Timothy Miller, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Councilmen John Pegg, Joseph Gregory and Robert Eklund, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Clerk Charlene Wells, Deputy Supervisor Stacey Kazacos, Attorney Martin Tillapaugh, Tom Riso, Sue Smith

Supervisor Timothy Miller opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5/0 to accept the minutes for the October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 public hearing and regular meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker advised the Board that he had applied for \$201,845.15 in reimbursement from the CHIPS and PAVENY funding. He noted that they had an issue with the power take off with the army truck and had to have it reprogramed to work the way he wanted it to. The employees had voiced no issues with changing insurance plans. Councilman Robert Eklund questioned Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker about having a non-employee riding in the truck with the newest employee. Supt. Whitaker advised that during the first snow event, retired employee John Bugyi came out and helped by riding with Earl Smith. That day, Edmeston schools were getting out early and he wanted all the trucks on the roads. Attorney Martin Tillapaugh advised that we should check with our insurance carrier as to if we are covered having a non-employee in our vehicles. Also, if the situation came up again, we could hire someone as a part-time employee for a day. Hwy. Supt. Whitaker will check with Hughson & Benson Associates about the issue. A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilman Joseph Gregory and carried 5/0 to add a rider to our insurance policy to cover part-time employees if it is necessary to make sure our liability is covered in case of an accident.

Councilwoman Flo Loomis noted that the SPCA had to take in 40 cats, but got no help from the County. The 2017 County budget is supposed to have funds for the SPCA. Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso noted that he gave 3 locations with changes to the assessor. He reviewed the draft of the new flood damage prevention law. He suggested that it should be our policy not to give out any variances to build in the floodplain.

The Board discussed the medical insurance options for 2017 as prepared by Kevin Morse. Mr. Morse had advised that all plans cover air/ground transport, with some dependent on the situation and some require over 60 mile distance for air transport. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory and seconded by Councilman John Pegg to go with the MVP Platinum 1 option which will be a decrease in premium and provide comparable components to what we now have. The hwy. employees had no issues with switching carriers. After further discussion the Board voted 5/0 in favor of the motion to switch to the MVP Platinum 1 option for 2017 medical insurance.

Deputy Supervisor Stacey Kazacos advised that the suggested trails are being marked in the Texas Road state land. The DEC will look at what has been marked and modifications can be made before submitting a final plan. The trail would be for walking and cross-country skiing only, no atvs or snowmobiles. Sue Smith asked about horses and alpacas using it, which will be checked on.

The Planning Board will be meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup> to work on solar farm regulations. Supervisor Timothy Miller noted that he, Councilwoman Flo Loomis and Planning Board member Robert Taylor attended the NYSERDA/solar farm training at BOCES in October. They are proposing that towns become clean energy communities which would involve some short term fixes and a long range plan. We would have to meet their criteria to be in the program. It was noted that solar farms would be tax exempt for 15 years, but we could require a fee instead of paying taxes. Attorney Tillapaugh noted that we could require a performance bond as part of the special use permit. All communities seem to be concerned with what happens after the solar farms are no longer in operation. We could do a separate solar farm law or add as a section to our site plan regulations. Supervisor Miller thought we should do as an amendment to our site plan regulations.

Last month it was noted that the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps will go into effect in March 2017 and we had to update our 1992 local law on flood damage prevention to meet the new criteria. Clerk Charlene Wells prepared a new draft law based on a model received from the NYSDEC. They are requiring that we submit our new draft to them for approval before we start the local law adoption process. Attorney Martin Tillapaugh advised that the draft law was okay with him as most towns will be using the same state model law. Since banks will require flood insurance for any buildings in the floodplain, we must have this law so residents could be eligible for flood insurance. A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5/0 to send the draft local law for Flood Damage Prevention to the NYSDEC for their review.

The 2017 Preliminary Budget can be amended or adopted as is for the 2017 Final Budget. Councilwoman Flo Loomis stated that she had a problem giving a raise to our Justice in light of his recent admonishment by the Court for carrying a weapon into a County building. She also felt that the Board should have known about this since it had been going on for some time. Councilman Robert Eklund felt that the Judge has received his punishment and the community was made aware of it since there was an article in the Daily Star. Supervisor Timothy Miller added that many towns have two justices and since we only have one, it keeps our justice busy, with court business and being called in for arraignments at any hour. After further discussion on the budget, and with no changes being made, a motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to adopt the 2017 Preliminary Budget as the 2017 Final Budget.

The Board met prior to the meeting to review the bills. Councilwoman Flo Loomis asked about paying travel fees to Yocum Full Service. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker noted that the only other company would be out of Cortland. The white marking paint is used for marking underground lines, not sides of roads. A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Gregory, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to pay General Fund bills #200 through #211 for a total of \$6,280.38 and Highway Fund bills #175 through #193 for a total of \$20,039.93. Supervisor Miller/Deputy Supervisor Kazacos paid General Fund bills #194 through #199 and Highway Fund Bill #194 for a total of \$9,887.98 with prior Board approval. The Supervisor's monthly report was submitted to the Board.

Supervisor Miller reminded Hwy. Supt. to look into getting a reflective material for the Army "camo" truck and to get prices for tarps for the hauling trucks. There is a broken pressboard desk that is no longer in use that needs to be removed from the Clerk's office at the Town Hall so she can access the files. A motion was made by Supervisor Timothy Miller, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5/0 to declare the old desk as surplus and to authorize the Clerk to dispose of it.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5/0 to adjourn at 8:30 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk