

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---AUGUST 13, 2019---7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman John Pegg, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Councilman Robert Eklund, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Tom Riso, Edward George, Barry & Sandra Braunius, Lenny Melillo, Earl Smith

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to accept the minutes for the July 9, 2019 regular meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith advised that all the equipment is doing okay. They are waiting on parts to fix the boom mower. He is going to send the three big trucks out for an annual tune-up/inspection to make sure they are ready for winter. He had to get a new tire for the loader. They have fixed the bridge boards on Turnbull Bridge. He would like to pave Turnbull Road from Co. Hwy. 16 to where it meets the current pavement on the hill at an estimated cost of \$35,000.00. We have additional funds since we will be receiving Winter Recovery funds from the State. He would pave over the bridge which would help preserve the board decking. After further discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/0 Nays to authorize the Hwy. Supt. to proceed with paving Turnbull Road at an estimated cost of \$35,000.00 using State funding. Review of highway accounts show all in good shape, with vehicle/equipment repairs being about one third of what they were last year.

Upstate Spray Foam will be coming back out to look at one spot of the Hwy. Garage roof which is still leaking. We will ask them to do annual inspections. Supt. Smith is going to get estimates for lights and heat for the Morton building addition. Supervisor Lentz will look into "green" heating alternatives. Delta Engineering will be contacted to draft plans for replacing the large culvert on Gross Road under the CHIPS program next year. No further discussion was held on whether or not to keep Warren Card Spur Road open year-round since resident Wendy Goodspeed, who is opposed to this, was not present to make her case. A recommendation will be made next month.

Councilwoman Flo Loomis commented that she was unhappy with the dust control that was applied on her road. It was only down the center of the road and she added that it should be applied a lot more in front of homes. Councilman Robert Eklund noted that he hasn't had issues with dust by his home.

A representative from Otsego County Conservation Association will be coming next month to give a presentation on the development of a management plan for the Butternut Creek watershed. Tom Riso questioned what the results were of the survey that was done of the Butternut Creek. Supervisor Edward Lentz responded that the survey was completed and that Jordan Clements of Soil & Water should have the report available in a few weeks.

Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy noted that the Delaware-Otsego-Schoharie Family Farm Day will be Saturday, August 24th with open houses at various farms. The County's Hazardous Waste Disposal days will be September 20th in Unadilla & September 21st at the Meadows Office Complex in Cooperstown. She added that she attended a meeting on recycling and actually saw a block of condensed Styrofoam from the County's new densifier. She noted that the items that are and aren't accepted for recycling changes a lot so residents can check on the County's website under Solid Waste. Early Voting will be held this year, but only at the Meadows Office Complex on October 26th through November 3rd. Check the County's website under Board of Elections for the times they will be open on these days. Councilman Robert Eklund commented on a video he saw of the Energy Taskforce. Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy noted that because they are a sub-committee, they don't have to have open meetings, but they are trying to keep open and transparent. She added that they are keeping notes and recording their sessions.

Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso advised that he has been finding new construction projects which the Assessor will go out and assess once they are completed. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson reported that Vicky Lentz has joined the Climate Smart Communities Committee. They are working on gathering information for a brochure on how to keep items out of the waste stream. They are looking for more volunteers. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he finally received a contract from NYSEG for switching the streetlights to LEDs at a cost of \$731.53. A motion was made by Councilwoman

Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract with NYSEG for changing the Streetlights to LEDs, subject to review by the Town Attorney.

The Supervisor's monthly financial reports were reviewed and everything is on track. We are getting more state highway money than was in the budget, and we need to transfer funds for the Turnbull Road paving project and for changing the streetlights to LED's so a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to make the following budgetary appropriation changes: Increase DA3501 Highway Revenues to \$225,348.24, increase DA5112.2 (improvements-CHIPS) by \$27,000.00 and transfer \$731.53 from unappropriated Street Light funds into SL 5182.4 Streetlight account.

We received notice that our Community Development Block Grant was approved and we will be receiving \$198,000.00 for housing rehabilitation. (The County received a grant of \$690,000.00). Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he set up the team for work on the project of himself, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Town Clerk Charlene Wells, Tim Peters from Otsego Rural Housing and Eric Scrivener from the Otsego County Planning Department. They met on Monday to go over what needs to get done to get things started. The contract and other documents have to be in by August 22, 2019. We will contract with ORHA for assistance with the grant. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the CDBG grant of \$198,000 for housing rehabilitation and authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #3 of 2019, designating Supervisor Edward Lentz as Certifying Officer for all activities associated with the environmental review process involved with the CDBG (Project ##791HR334-19). A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #4 of 2019 to authorize Supervisor Edward Lentz to open a new, non-interest bearing checking account for the receipt and disbursement of CDBG funds (Project #791HR334-19).

Supervisor Edward Lentz is continuing to meet with other Supervisors about the EMS shortage and ways to help keep New Berlin available as a backup. New Berlin has come up with a preliminary proposal of us contributing about \$5,000.00 based on our history of mutual aid calls for a 16 hour/7-day week coverage. They were asked to come up with a figure for 24-hour coverage, but they didn't think they would be able to do that. Per the NYS Dept. of Health the Town would have to get a certificate of need if we contracted with New Berlin because they are outside of the Town. Lenny Melillo commented that he is unsure about New Berlin, but we don't have many options. AMR has more ambulances but has not been available on numerous occasions according to the County 911 Coordinator as reported by Supervisor Lentz. They are doing more transfers and fewer 911 calls. Lenny added that he feels it goes against volunteers to pay New Berlin for EMS services. We should do something for our volunteers to help keep them involved. The State has pending legislation to allow fire companies to bill for calls and incentives for volunteers who put in enough hours of service. Councilman Robert Eklund questioned if we would get a credit from New Berlin if we helped them on calls. A yearly review would have to be done. Supervisor Lentz added that he feels that AMR is in the business to make money where New Berlin is a non-profit. If they fail, our EMS coverage will be hurting.

The Town Board will hold a recognition for our local fire/ems providers at 7:00 PM on September 10th, prior to the monthly meeting. Stacey Kazacos is spear heading the work on getting the signage for the Texas Schoolhouse State Forest walking trails which was approved for grant funding. The cycling event is on for October 5th, with details still to be worked out. The grant funds received will mark a permanent bike route.

Supervisor Edward Lentz will lead a training session on Sexual Harassment Prevention as is required by NY State at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at the Town Hall. The training is mandatory for all part-time and full-time Town employees. Immediately following the training, the 2020 Tentative Budget will be presented to the Board, followed by a work session on the budget. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to advertise for these meetings.

Sole Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde's term expires September 30, 2019. A new term would be for six years. Support was voiced for Pam's service to the Town and a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to reappoint Pamela Dyn-Gohde as Sole Assessor for a new six-year term effective October 1, 2019.

Our final equalization rate is 106.22. We received notice of public hearings on NYSEG's proposed rate hike. We received a request by email from John Gray of 133 Card Road requesting that speed limit signs be posted on his section of the road as people are driving too fast for road conditions. He was advised that the Town does not have the authority to set speed limits. The County would have to be asked to ask the State DOT to review the site. There was no support to request a speed limit reduction as there isn't significant criteria (sharp curves, hills, accident history) to support the case and with no local enforcement, speed limit signs probably wouldn't slow people down anyway.

The bills were available for the Board to review prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #147 through #161 for a total of \$2,510.20 and Highway Fund bills #107 through #122 for a total of \$36,388.76. General Fund bills #140 through #146 and Highway Fund bill #123 for a total of \$4,785.32 were paid with prior Board approval.

We haven't heard anymore on our Hazard Mitigation Plan renewal. Tom Riso will check on getting an estimate for a standby generator for the town hall. Councilman Robert Eklund advised that he did speak with someone at the County Emergency Services about us having Narcan in our first aid kits. He stated that he received a split opinion on it. It is not a requirement and if we did want to get it, we would have to get a prescription from a physician and keep it secured. Our Town Attorney advised that we should check with our Health Officer. Our insurance carrier said that if we did have it, we would have to have a Narcan policy and have training on how to administer it.

Lenny Melillo noted that the flagpole at the Garrattsville four corner lot is shot and needs replacing. He estimated about \$1500.00 for a stainless steel 25-foot pole and suggested we should pay for delivery due to its' length. He will get estimates for the Board. He further stated that the Hwy. crew is doing a great job. He read in a magazine that NYSDEC officers will not be patrolling in State land anymore, only forest rangers.

Councilwoman Flo Loomis has received some information from Hartwick on their Clean Up Day. We definitely would need to have a committee to deal with getting it set up and was advised that it is a real problem to find someone who would take tires.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9: 45 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk