

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---OCTOBER 8, 2019---7:30 PM PUBLIC HEARING ON 2020 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Councilman John Pegg, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman Robert Eklund, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Town Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Residents: Edward George, Robert Taylor, Mert Hull

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the public hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget at 7:34 PM. There were no comments or questions from the floor. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to close the public hearing at 7:37 PM.

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---OCTOBER 8, 2019—REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Present: same as above

The regular monthly meeting opened at 7:37 PM. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the minutes for the September 10, 2019 regular monthly meeting and September 24, 2019 special meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith advised that the 2009 Freightliner has been serviced. They are going to try to switch the wing from hydraulic to mechanical. The new 2019 Freightliner is hopefully going to come in early November so we can submit for CHIPS reimbursement. The 2008 Volvo will need tires before winter. Three items were sold at auction, including the 94 International for \$510.00, the army generator for \$1825.00 and the 1960 Oshkosh for \$760.00. Next year's plans include getting a new loader and a trailer for transporting equipment. They will be sealing Turnbull Road tomorrow. In order to be able to submit the sealing bill for CHIPS reimbursement this year, Supt. Smith asked the Board to consider pre-approving the payment for the sealing, expected to be between \$8,400 and \$10,000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize Supervisor Edward Lentz to issue a check for the cost of sealing Turnbull Road once a bill is received and approved by the Hwy. Supt.

An estimate of \$17,725.00 was received for hiring an engineer to draw up plans for the Gross Road Culvert replacement project. Supt. Donald Smith felt this was too high, so he drafted some plans and has submitted them to the NYSDEC and to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) since one end of the culvert has a stone laid bridge end. He feels that if he gets a permit from the NYSDEC we won't need an engineer's plans. The highway garage roof is still leaking in one spot and he is trying to get Upstate Spray Foam to come out and address it before it gets too cold. They replaced the back wall of the salt shed using old bridge timbers at a total cost for materials of about \$300.00. Supt. Smith would like to replace the lights in the storage building with LED lights at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00 which would require an RFP. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize the purchase of LED lights to go in the storage building. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize the Hwy. Supt. to get estimates and to hire an electrician to install the LED lights we purchase in the storage building. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson noted that our equipment repair costs were at \$44,600.00 at the end of September compared to \$123,200.00 for the same time frame last year. Because of the reduced repair costs our mileage rates are lower. It was discussed that maybe we should draft a dust control policy to avoid issues in the future. Possibly we should consider getting our own tank for spraying. Several were not happy with what was done this year. Supervisor Edward Lentz added that it is very expensive and not very environmentally friendly. It was discussed possibly taking out a loan for at least part of the loader so that we would have some CHIPS money for roads.

Planning Board member Robert Taylor advised that he is still on the Association of Towns Executive Committee and he asked for Board approval to attend the 2020 Annual Conference in NYC in February 2020. He noted that he did not submit his 2018 expenses and didn't attend in 2019. All agreed that it is good for a small town like ours to have a representative in the Association of Towns and a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize Robert Taylor to attend the 2020 Association of Towns Annual Conference in NYC in February 2020. He noted that he would bring back land use items to use as Planning Board training.

Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde advised that she would be changing her office hours to every Tuesday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy updated the Board on what the part-time Ag Implementation Specialist Jim Barber has been up to. He has given them a report, has helped two farms get grants to become NYS grown & certified, is working on a phone app (Source Otsego) and is working on publishing an ag resource guide. The Hazardous Waste Collection Day was very successful with over 74,000 pounds of items collected and over 1000 cars. There was a bit of a traffic jam, but people were patient and happy to be able to get rid of stuff. Barbara Heegan will be beginning the training classes for small businesses. The discussion is moving forward for a countywide health care consortium. The County marketing agreement has been renewed. Rep. Kennedy explained the status of the County administrator position. They are drafting a local law and job description with the full Board to vote on it before the end of the year. She explained that there was not much difference between a County Administrator and a County Manager.

Fireman Mert Hull gave the quarterly report for the Garrattsville Fire Company. They had 7 calls with 87-man hours and 333 hours in training and other functions. He thanked the Board for the special reception last month.

The Climate Smart Communities Committee will meet on Thursday. They will be looking at other point options. They need to do another information booth so maybe they will consider doing one at the Harvest Festival next year. The streetlights should be changed to LEDs in 2020. Maybe we can get credit for changing the highway garage lights to LEDs also.

A financial review showed all accounts in good shape. Supervisor Lentz also did a fund balance review. Any further changes to the 2020 Preliminary Budget can be made next month before adopting the budget.

The County Treasurer sent notice that they are getting a new tax software program from Munis. This will take the place of ATC Taxes and be in place by the 2021 tax season. They will offer use of the program to towns at no cost. They asked for towns to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a partnership with the County for use of the Munis system and respond by October 18th, so the County can apply for Shared Service funds. Supervisor Edward Lentz thought it sounded like a good shared service project. Clerk Charlene Wells noted that she is happy with her tax program from Steve Lawton. She would not want to consider switching without looking at the new program. When the County got the ATC program, tax collectors got to look at it before they had to make a commitment. She felt that the Treasurer's office should have sent notice of this to tax collectors as they are the ones dealing with the Treasurer's office and taxes. Also, after talking with Deputy Treasurer Andrew Crisman, the County will be the one applying for state shared service funds as they are the one spending the money on the software. After further discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays/ 1 Abstention (Councilman Robert Eklund) to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the County for use of the Munis software with the understanding that we are not committing to switching, just willing to look at it.

The paperwork has been submitted for the CDBG and we are awaiting the final contract. The meetings on the EMS system are still ongoing. It looks like 18/7 service will be possible with 24/7 service too expensive if Edmeston doesn't participate. We would be looking at about \$7,000.00 to ensure that the Village of New Berlin continues as a backup for us. About 75 riders turned out for the first New Lisbon Gravel Grinder bike race. Everyone seemed to have a good time and enjoyed the scenery.

Justice William Burdick advised that he doesn't need a bookcase that is in his office. Instead of selling it, since it was made by past resident Dale Tosti, Clerk Charlene Wells asked if it could be moved to the Planning Board office for now instead of selling it. There was no objection to this from the Board. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he received a letter asking if we wanted to opt out of a class action lawsuit against an opioid pharmaceutical company. He noted that he saw no reason to opt out since we are not pursuing a lawsuit on our own. He received a copy of a full EAF, with a negative declaration, from Gilbert Lake State park who are upgrading a sewage treatment facility.

A letter of resignation, effective immediately, was received from Daniel Morehouse from the Planning Board. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the resignation of Daniel Morehouse from the Planning Board with thanks for his 31 years of service to the Town on the Planning Board. Mr. Morehouse had recommended that the Town Board consider appointing William Balcom to fill his spot. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5

Ayes/ 0 Nays to appoint William Balcom to the Planning Board to fill Daniel Morehouse's term which expires May 31, 2020.

The bills were available for review prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #179 through #187 for a total of \$2,796.60 and Highway Fund bills #140 through #151 for a total of \$24,121.84. General Fund bills #173 through #178 and Highway Fund bill #152 for a total of \$6,249.59 were paid with prior Board approval.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to reappoint Carol Lernihan to a new five-year term on the Board of Review effective 10-1-2019. Supervisor Edward Lentz will contact some people to see if we can find someone to fill the vacant spot on the Board of Review.

Brief discussion was held on the 2020 Budget. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he included \$25,000.00 to start a building fund. Whether or not to have a tax increase was discussed. Better outside lighting was discussed for the town hall driveway and entrance sign.

Robert Taylor commented that we should plan on revisiting our Comprehensive Plan as it is over ten years old. Edward George noted that there is a need for more Democratic Election Inspectors. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:25 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk