

**NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---SEPTEMBER 10, 2019---7:00PM
SPECIAL FIRE & EMS RECOGNITION---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE**

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman Robert Eklund, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Clerk Charlene Wells, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Tom Riso, Art Mathewson, Jennifer Smith, Barry & Sandra Braunius, Ed George, Firemen/EMS personnel: Laurie Melillo, Ed Lentz Jr., Nick Lasher, Sara Pokrywka, Amanda Woodbeck, Mert Hull, Pete Chase, Lenny Melillo, Don Smith, Jim Fistrowicz, Amy Dill

Supervisor Edward Lentz welcomed the Firemen and EMS personnel from the Garrattsville Fire Company and thanked them all for their service to the Town. The community is grateful for the time they put in for training, on calls and keeping in compliance with all of the State rules and regulations. Supervisor Lentz added that the volunteers will remain our primary source for service even though we are working on securing backup EMS service. The service of the personnel from the Garrattsville Fire Company & Emergency Squad will continue to be most valuable to the Town of New Lisbon. Refreshments were served.

**NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---SEPTEMBER 10, 2019---7:30 PM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING—TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE**

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

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the meeting at 7:32 PM. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the minutes for the August 13, 2019 regular meeting as written.

Bailey Gano, Assistant Planner at OCCA was present to give a presentation on the Butternut Creek Watershed Management Plan. She advised that this project is a joint effort of many groups, including OCCA, BVA, Otsego Land Trust, NYSDEC, Otsego County Planning Dept & Otsego County Soil & Water. The plan will be a strategy, not a regulatory document, which will be helpful in acquiring grants. The Butternut Creek goes through six towns and two villages in the County, covering 83,328 acres.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith reported that the 2009 Freightliner has gone in for its pre-winter check. The new truck is in Watertown and he will be going up for a pre-build meeting on the 25th. They fixed the mower tractors, spending about \$500.00 instead of the \$5,000.00 that was estimated. The Turnbull Road paving is scheduled for September 19th. He has been doing an inventory of road signs and has ordered \$2,780.00 worth of signs & posts to get us caught up on what is needed. He has an engineer working on a plan for the Gross Road culvert project. It is estimated to cost about \$40,000.00 because lots of rock work is needed. The Hwy. Garage roof is still leaking and he is going to meet with Upstate Spray Foam again.

An estimate of \$2,595.00 was received from Reese-Marshall for a propane heater for the Morton hwy. building. Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith noted that he wants to keep the building over 32 degrees so that he can keep the loader in there. In order to work in the building and get the temperature higher, we may need an additional heat source. Bennett Sandler of Heat Smart Otsego had been figuring costs for us and estimated a small heat pump would cost about \$5,000.00. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the estimate of \$2,595.00 from Reese-Marshall for a LP gas fired Hot Dawg hanging heater model #HD125 to be installed in the Hwy. Storage building. We will have to get estimates on a heat pump system if we want to add that.

Lenny Melillo advised that he got a price of \$2300.00 to replace the corner lot flagpole. The only way they are guaranteed is if the company installs. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to purchase a new flag pole for the corner lot in Garrattsville at an estimated cost of \$2300.00. It was noted that Bill Burdick has offered to refurbish the "Welcome to Garrattsville" sign that is being stored in the hwy. storage building.

Jennifer Smith questioned if any decision was going to be made on whether or not the Warren Card Spur Road was going to be kept open over the winter. Lenny Melillo noted that it would be a plus for emergency vehicles and would be an advantage to the community. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to recommend to Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith to go ahead and maintain Warren Card Spur Road as a full-time road instead of a seasonal road if that is what he decides is best to do.

County Rep. Meg Kennedy reminded that there will be early voting at the Meadows using electronic poll books and on-demand ballot printers. October 9th is Safety Day at the County. They video conferenced with the Treasurer in Africa. Next week she will be attending a NYSAC conference where issues of lack of cell phone coverage and fully funding criminal justice reforms will be topics of discussion.

Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso advised that they are still adding things to the assessment roll. The Climate Smart Communities Task Force had an educational presentation on recycling and reducing items in the waste stream at the Firemen's Barbecue. They have to do another presentation to get points. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that the Attorney approved the NYSEG contract to switch the streetlights to LED bulbs so he will sign and submit.

A review of the monthly financial reports showed no concerns. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he feels we have enough money to pay for the new truck. We should consider starting a reserve for a new hwy. garage & equipment. We are proceeding with the paperwork for the CDBG. We can still take in people's names for the repairs waiting list. Wording for the signs for the Texas Schoolhouse State Forest Walking Trail is being worked on to be paid by the \$1000.00 grant we received. The Cycling Event is scheduled for October 5th, 2019. The Empire House will be doing the food and there will be music. Supervisor Lentz noted that they wanted to have alcoholic beverages available, but the Town Hall policy does not allow alcohol on premises. He left the room while the rest of the Board discussed changing the Town Hall policy to allow alcoholic beverages. After discussion, Councilman Robert Eklund and Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson voted to not change the policy and continue to not allow alcohol at the Town Hall and Councilwoman Flo Loomis voted in favor of allowing alcohol at the Town Hall for the Cycling Event. Without a majority in favor, no change was made to the policy to not allow alcohol on Town property.

Supervisor Edward Lentz has continued meeting with other town officials and Village of New Berlin officials about working out agreements to support the New Berlin Ambulance as our backup Emergency Medical Service. He submitted preliminary proposals for 16-hour and 24-hour coverage. The cost is figured with all towns involved in the discussions supporting the Village of New Berlin financially, so the cost could change if one or more of the towns decide not to join in. (Edmeston, Burlington, Butternuts, Morris, Pittsfield, Columbus & New Lisbon). Supervisor Lentz noted that about 18% of calls occur in off-peak hours, so he would prefer the 24-hour coverage. AMR would still be a backup and toned out by the control center. AMR does make calls for us, but not as consistently as New Berlin. They have not responded about possibly posting an ambulance in our part of the County. By financially supporting New Berlin ambulance we will not improve the EMS situation, only help to ensure that New Berlin stays operating and keeps providing backup service like they have been. This project would be a temporary fix until perhaps the County will at some point in the future come up with a County wide plan for emergency services as the lack of volunteers is occurring all over the County. It is hopeful that our joint effort with the other towns & New Berlin would result in getting some Shared Service funds from NY State. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #5-2019 to approve the execution of a contract with the Village of New Berlin for EMS Ambulance Services. The Board was in favor of trying for a year before committing to a longer length of time. Our town and Butternuts need to get a Certificate of Need for being able to contract with New Berlin, which is out of our district. Our Attorney Michele Kennedy is working on one for another town and agreed that she would be able to do this for us, at an estimated cost of \$3500.00-\$5000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #6-2019 to utilize the legal services of Attorney Michele Kennedy to assist the Town of New Lisbon and Town of Butternuts in the acquisition of a Municipal Certificate of Need so that we can contract with the Village of New Berlin for EMS coverage.

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #164 through #171 for a total of \$2,225.10 and Highway Fund bills #124 through #138 for a total

of \$24,818.21. General Fund bills #162, #163 and #172 and Highway Fund bill #139 for a total of \$4,310.69 were paid with prior Board approval.

Justice William Burdick would like to submit an application again for items for the New Lisbon Court, including a desk for the conference room and storage. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to pass Resolution #7-2019 to authorize the New Lisbon Town Justice Court to apply for a JACP grant in the 2019-20 grant cycle for \$7,200.00.

Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that we are having more than one issue with garbage. Lenny Melillo suggested trying the NYSDEC Solid Waste division. Tom Riso questioned how our fair share is being figured in a possible ems contract with New Berlin. Basically, it is being figured by number of calls. He added that we all need to put pressure on the State and County to help deal with the fire/ems lack of volunteers issue.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:55 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk