

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

Present: Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman Robert Eklund, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Supervisor Edward Lentz, Town Clerk Charlene Wells, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy, Councilman Elect Bill Whitaker, Residents: Edward George, Earl Smith, Lenny Melillo, Bruce Page, Jr., Guest: Taylor Brose Absent: Councilman John Pegg

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to accept the minutes for the November 12, 2019 regular monthly meeting as written.

Taylor Brose of the US Census Bureau was present to explain why it is important for people to be counted in the 2020 Census. He noted that the first census was in 1790 and it is in the Constitution to do a census every ten years. They estimate there are about 330 million people and 140 million housing units. Census information is kept private as they collect the data for statistical purposes. The results determine how many representatives each state gets in Congress and determines state legislative and school districts and voting precincts. There will be three ways to complete the census; online, paper form and by phone. Mr. Brose emphasized that completing the Census is safe, easy and important. He further noted that they have many part-time jobs available (www.2020census.gov/jobs).

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith noted that the 1997 International is in cold storage as a backup. The 2008 Volvo needed a fuel tank. All other trucks are okay. The men had 16 hours of overtime in the last two weeks. He is still working on the dust control policy and getting the new lights installed in the storage building. They are waiting for input from Cornell on ideas for the Card Spur Road issue. Repair costs through November were \$60,605.00 compared with \$138,474.00 last year.

Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that looking at many sample dust control policies showed that the property owners had to pay to get dust oil. The basics of a policy would include that houses must be within 300 feet of the road. A length of 300 feet would be placed on the road in a 10-foot width. Councilwoman Flo Loomis suggested that it needs to be placed earlier in the year. Hwy. Supt. Smith advised that they have to hone the roads first and the weather determines when they can place the dust oil. He is looking at coming up with their own tank & sprayer.

Ideas for the Card Road Spur include widening the road and placing different signage and guardrail. Information from Cornell was just received and will be reviewed further before any changes are made. Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith noted that they have had some problems with residents plowing snow from their driveways into the road. This is a hazard to both town trucks and other drivers and the property owner may be liable if there is an accident.

Lenny Melillo noted that the Fire Department is happy with the relationship between the Town Board and the Fire Dept. He further added that he is happy with the Town Hwy. Dept.

Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy noted that the 2020 County budget was passed and has a small increase. They included raises for management positions to keep them on a level with other counties. A few new positions were added, including a County Administrator. The waste fee for garbage is going up to \$87.00 per ton with bags going up to \$4.25. Our AIM payment will come out of the County's internet sales tax due from the state. Supervisor Edward Lentz thanked Rep. Kennedy for all of the work she did on the committee dealing with the County Administrator issue. She noted that they will do the search for the County Administrator position. The job description is in the law. The Energy Taskforce is getting closer to putting their findings together in a report. Lenny Melillo asked that she continue to push for cell service using the County EMS towers.

Land Use Enforcement Officer Tom Riso was absent. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson advised that the CSC Committee met with Amy Wyant. She felt more positive about what actions we might be able to get points for. Supervisor Edward Lentz thanked outgoing Councilman Robert Eklund for his 13 years on the Town Board and the contributions he made to the Town.

Supervisor Edward Lentz voiced his frustration with situations in town that he has sent letters on but is not feeling like he is seeing any progress. He has sent letters relating to farm animals getting loose,

people not licensing dogs, garbage, vehicles on property and the Hwy. Garage roof. Lenny Melillo suggested contacting the insurance company on Upstate Spray Foam's certificate of insurance.

Our Health Officer Chris Brooks' term expires in January 2020. It was decided to look for someone more local to take the position. We received a notice from Community Bank that a mandatory arbitration clause was being added to all accounts unless we opted out. Supervisor Lentz saw no problem with that. Lenny Melillo questioned if the Town will have to return bail money with the new law. We will have to check with Justice William Burdick to see how bail money is handled. Monthly financial reports and projected fund balances were reviewed.

Paperwork continues to be done for the CDBG. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #9 of 2019, authorizing the Supervisor to enter into a contract with Otsego Rural Housing Assistance, Inc. for their assistance with our CDBG #791HR334-19 and our Housing Rehabilitation program. An environmental review has to be completed for the overall project (individual sites will be done later) and filed after the legal notice has been published. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #10 of 2019, determining that the proposed action of the grant project is listed in 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) and therefore a Type II Action. We will have to file an annual report at the year end on our CDBG project.

A motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to make the following appropriation changes to cover bills: 1. Increase A1110.22-Justice grant by \$855.53. Transfer from A1110.4-Justice Contractual. 2. Increase A1220.11 Bookkeeper by \$341.00. Transfer from A1220.4 Supervisor Contractual. 3. Increase A1910.4 Insurance by \$443.00. Transfer from Contingent Acct #A1990.4.

The bills were available for audit prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Robert Eklund and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to pay General Fund bills #212 through #224 for a total of \$2,942.33 and Highway Fund bills #167 through #185 for a total of \$20,492.54. General fund bills #207 through #211 and Highway fund bills #186 & #187 for a total of \$35,654.87 were paid with prior Board approval.

The Board decided to hold the 2020 Organizational meeting at 7:00 PM on January 14, 2020, to be followed by the public hearing on the 2020 Fire Protection Contract, followed by the regular monthly meeting. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that the new fire contract will be for two years and \$2500.00 was added to the \$127,00.00 as funds for an incentive program to help recruit and maintain volunteers.

One bid was received from Rifanburg's of Edmeston to install the new flagpole for \$1425.00. Supervisor Edward Lentz questioned if our hwy. dept could do the install. Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith advised that he had not looked at the installation paperwork. The flagpole is supposed to come this month, but it was unsure if we can get the concrete work done now. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the bid of \$1425.00 from Rifanburg's to install the new flag pole if the hwy. dept. decides they cannot do it.

Edward George noted that our meal site has been shut down due to lack of participants. He questioned the status of the New Lisbon Senior Citizens Group as they met at the meal site and there wasn't very many who came. Lenny Melillo noted that they are having an energy audit done of the lower firehouse. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Robert Eklund, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:25 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk

