

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---SEPTEMBER 5, 2013---7:30PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Robert Taylor, Councilwoman Connie Chase, Councilmen Glen Noto & Edward Lentz, Clerk Charlene Wells, Attorney Martin Tillapaugh, Richard Hilary & his builder, Brian Ryther, Donald Smith, Sue Smith, Joe Gregory

Absent: Councilman Robert Eklund, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker

Supervisor Taylor opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Glen Noto and carried 4/0 to accept the minutes for the August 13th, 2013 regular meeting as written.

Richard Hilary was present to further explain his request for a setback variance to 55 feet for the purpose of adding onto his existing residence. He advised that the addition was to be for additional living space, no business use. If he went with the previously approved setback to 66 feet he would have to make the addition smaller. After further discussion, a motion was made by Edward Lentz and seconded by Glen Noto to approve the setback variance to 55 feet for Richard Hilary for the purpose of constructing an addition to his residence. Supervisor Robert Taylor and Councilwoman Connie Chase voted against the motion, thus with Councilmen Glen Noto and Edward Lentz voting in favor of the motion, the vote tied at 2 to 2, resulting in the variance to 55 feet not being approved. The builder thought the garage was included in the previous 66 foot variance and he has already poured the concrete pad for the garage. A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Glen Noto and carried 3/1 (Robert Taylor against) to approve a setback variance to 71 feet for Richard Hilary for the purpose of building a garage on his Backus Road property.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker was absent, but left notice that he planned on meeting with FEMA next week. He hopes to recoup up to \$15,000.00 for flood related repairs. They have been cleaning up washouts from the last round of storms.

Councilman Edward Lentz advised that he had talked to Upstate Spray Foam and they plan on getting the hwy. garage done this fall, weather permitting. We are waiting for Otsego Electric to move the electric poles so we can do the addition to the storage building. The Clerk will check with Action Garage Doors to see if we should go ahead and order the doors now or if the price they quoted would hold for a while. Supervisor Taylor again thanked all those who have volunteered time on our projects.

We received three bids for replacing the town hall roof. Ernest Remillard/Quality Construction submitted a bid of \$20,800.00, Jeff VanDyke/Custom Flooring submitted a bid of \$22,500.00 and Robert Loitsch/Loitsch Construction submitted a bid of \$38,960.00. A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Glen Noto and carried 4/0 to accept the low bid of \$20,800.00 from Ernest Remillard. If the highway employees provide any assistance, the cost can be reduced. The Board decided to go with a forest green color for the new metal roof.

Supervisor Robert Taylor noted that he got a new stove for the Town Hall from Lowe's for \$455.00 and Suburban Propane installed it for \$100.00. He provided a safety refresher course for the highway employees. They noted that they appreciate the good relationship between them, the Hwy. Supt. and the Town Board. Supervisor Taylor felt that the Board had a good day meeting the public at the Firemen's Barbecue. We have been having problems with the internet at the Town Hall. They came out and checked the line, but it may be the modem and/or the router.

Councilman Edward Lentz attended the meeting on broadband with Congressman Chris Gibson in Cobleskill. He found out there is money out there for grants and low interest loans to help with getting broadband service. The Board will ask Peter Manning, our OCCA Circuit Rider Planner to look into grants for Broadband Service.

We received a letter from Cornell University advising that they are going to create a partnership between the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and College of Engineering that will keep the Local

Roads Program continuing at the University. They had previously announced that they were going to terminate the Local Roads Program and we sent a letter in support of continuing the program.

We received notice from the US Army Corps of Engineers that they have closed the files on an application from Robert Tuthill to facilitate the redirection of an unnamed tributary because he did not provide them with the additional information they requested from him.

The NYS Dept. of Public Service sent information on Lifeline Discount Telephone Service which is a program to make basic telephone service more affordable for low income-eligible consumers.

A motion was made by Glen Noto, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 4/0 to pay General Fund bills #166 through #178 for a total of \$8,525.41 and Highway Fund bills #122 through #133 for a total of \$8,864.53. Supervisor Taylor paid General Fund bills #164 & 165 for a total of \$199.17 and Highway Fund bill #134 for \$5,060.94, with prior Board approval.

Attorney Martin Tillapaugh provided the Board with a draft local law to allow for a business investment credit. The property owner must spend at least \$10,000.00 for a business use to get the credit which starts at 50% of the assessment (only on the business portion) and goes down over ten years until they would be at full assessment. The credit would only be on town taxes. Attorney Tillapaugh noted that the verbiage is directly from real property tax law. The town could reduce the allowable percentages. The purpose of the law would be to encourage local business use of property. The Town Board decided that they were happy with the law as presented by Attorney Martin Tillapaugh and will hold a public hearing on proposed Local Law #1 of 2013, a local law to enact the provisions of NYS Real Property Tax Law section 485b so as to provide for a Business Investment Credit on the Town of New Lisbon real property tax rolls on Tuesday, October 8th, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

A motion was made by Connie Chase, seconded by Edward Lentz and carried 4/0 to reappoint Florence Loomis to a new five year term on the Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2013.

A motion was made by Edward Lentz, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 4/0 to go into executive session with Attorney Martin Tillapaugh to discuss pending litigation with Yogi Bear Campground and to include the Town Clerk at 8:30 PM.

A motion was made by Glen Noto, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 4/0 to close the Executive Session and return to regular session at 9:10 PM.

With no further business, a motion was made by Glen Noto, seconded by Connie Chase and carried 4/0 to adjourn at 9:10 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk