

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---SEPTEMBER 13, 2022—7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING—TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilman Bill Whitaker, Councilman Brian Ryther, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Town Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, County Rep. Meg Kennedy, Resident Lenny Melillo, Delaware Engineering Rep. Bill Brown

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith reported that the 09A Freightliner had some repairs done. The 2019 Freightliner is in Utica for its annual servicing and repair of some electrical issues. The 2018 Freightliner needs steer tires this fall. The Ford pickup needs a new windshield and both pickups need tires. The 2008 Volvo sold for \$19,200.00 at auction. The new 2023 Freightliner has been received. He did not process the bill for Henderson for the box & plow as some things were not set up right and he is still waiting for some parts. The access road at the radio tower site has been fixed. The County has put out an RFP for a new tower. They have been having some plumbing issues with the water lines in the highway garage. Hwy. Supt. Smith noted that he is out of 18" culvert pipes and will place an order for 8 of them costing \$1849.60.

Supervisor Edward Lentz had submitted a copy of a Form E which will be used by USDA to keep track of costs for the new highway garage project. The total anticipated cost, including preliminary work is at \$2,997,022.00. We have put in \$230,538.07 to date and will have to add an additional \$35,403.93. After further review, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the budget as shown for the new highway garage project. Supervisor Lentz noted that he reduced the amount for a clerk of the works to \$15,000.00 in the proposed budget and a meeting will be set up with Matthew Palmer who proposed \$68,000.00 for this position. He is thinking that we can go with a scaled down version of what Matt proposed. Delaware Engineering representative Bill Brown advised that they have done many jobs of this size without an additional clerk of the works. Based on expenses already paid, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to increase the design phase of the new highway garage budget by \$1769.70. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to authorize the Supervisor to sign an Amendment for Construction Administration and Inspection Services with Delaware Engineering for Construction Management for \$174,000.00. This work will include dealing with contractors, onsite inspections, getting material testing done and making up as built drawings which would show any changes from the original drawings.

A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to pass Resolution #2, authorizing the acquisition of the new 2023 Freightliner at an estimated cost of \$242,807.00 (including legal fees), with \$20,000.00 coming from a grant from USDA, \$69,000.00 in serial bonds with USDA and with the remaining funds coming from the highway fund. (USDA has offered us a 15-year loan at 2.5 %interest.)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to amend the 2022 284 Agreement with the Highway Supt. to show the amount for bridges at \$101,811.32 and the amount for capital road projects to \$136,315.21.

County Rep. Meg Kennedy noted that there is a grant for counties to recoup postage on absentee ballots sent out with prepaid return envelopes. All that are returned will get reimbursed by the state grant. Phil Couse, Director of the County's Veterans' Service Agency has received his accreditation from the American Legion and both he and his deputy are working on getting their state accreditation so they can access state files to help veterans. There will be a Veterans Expo at the Foothills in Oneonta on November 13th. The Veterans services clinic in Bainbridge is closing, but one is opening at FoxCare in Oneonta. Rep. Kennedy advised that the Planning Dept is getting a new planner, but they still need someone in the Solid Waste Coordinator position. Otsego Now has reported that 100 jobs have been created. The Hazardous Waste Day will not be held until Spring 2023. Lowes and Home Depot must take in unwanted paint per NYS law. The ReUse Center in Oneonta also takes in paint.

Lenny Melillo commented that he feels that Delaware Engineering should have all aspects covered in regards to covering the construction phase of the new highway garage project and that we shouldn't need to hire a separate Clerk of the Works to do the work Delaware Engineering should be doing.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to go into Executive Session at 8:38 PM to discuss pending litigation and to include the Assessor, Hwy. Supt. and Town Clerk. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to close the Executive Session and return to the regular meeting at 9:05 PM.

Congratulations to the Climate Smart Communities Committee on their application for Bronze Status being approved with 151 points. We are the second town in Otsego County to achieve this status and there are only about 100 towns who have achieved it in the state.

Supervisor Edward Lentz advised that he had spoken to Gerald Fuchs about the accumulating junk equipment in open view on his property which violates his Site Plan Review approval. He has advised that after his building in Morris burned down, he has been behind with his clean up, but he will work on it. Supervisor Lentz will send a letter to the Goodspeeds about moving the newly set mailbox on Bell Hill Road as it is in the Town right-of-way. The County will use the State equalization rate of 91% for us on the tax roll.

Our website technician, David Green of Edmeston passed away on September 11, 2022. The Board agreed to have Steve Lawton try to help us with regaining access to the site and move on from here rather than start with a new company at this time.

A motion was made by Councilman Bill Whitaker, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to make the following budget appropriation changes to cover bills: 1. Increase DA 5130.2(Machinery) by \$5,781.04 Transfer from DA 5120.2 (Bridges) 2. Increase DA 5112.2 (Improvements-CHIPS) by \$61,315.21. Transfer \$13,407.64 from DA 5120.2 (Bridges), \$3,127.00 from DA9010.8 (retirement), \$2,000.00 from DA9060.81(Health Insurance-Deductible), \$10,000.00 from A1989.0 (reval), \$2,919.00 from A1990.4 (Contingent), \$1,500.00 from A7110.4 (Parks) and appropriate \$28,361.57 from Hwy. Fund Balance. 3. Increase A1620.44 (Firehouse repairs) by \$300.00. Transfer from A1620.43 (Firehouse-Contractual). Increase A1355.4 (Assessor Contractual) by \$60.00. Transfer from A1355.12 (Board of Review).

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #157 through #169 for a total of \$8,168.22 and Highway Fund bills #107 through #123 for a total of \$232,373.02. Supervisor Lentz paid General Fund bills #152 through #156 for a total of \$446.59 with prior Board approval.

With the turmoil in the fuel market, we will hold off bidding for 2023 until later in the year. The 2023 Tentative Budget will be presented to the Town Board at a special meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, followed by a work session on the budget.

With no further comments or business, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:41 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk