

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD—NOVEMBER 9, 2022—7:30 PM PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW #4 OF 22—TOWN HALL

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, County Rep. Meg Kennedy, Residents Lenny Melillo, Brian Holt, Keegan Holt, Joseph Gregory, also Photographer Greg Cromer

At 7:30 PM Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the Public Hearing on Local Law #4 of 2022, a local law Effecting Technical Amendments to Local Law 2 of 2022, Providing for Maintenance and Rehabilitation Guidelines for Town Highways and for the Designation of Minimum Maintenance Roads. This law only makes technical corrections to Local Law #2 of 2022. There were no comments from the floor, so Supervisor Lentz closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 PM.

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD –NOVEMBER 9, 2022—REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Present: same as above

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:33 PM. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the minutes for the October 11, 2022 regular meeting as written.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith noted that they had cleaned up the dozer track and got it usable. It will need some further work as time allows. They have someone coming to show them how to use the sander controls on the new truck. The CHIPS paperwork was submitted for reimbursement in December. Next year he would like to purchase a pickup, generator and mower. His target paving project will be Gardnertown Road, depending on when the highway garage project will begin as the stone is piled near the building location. He will be attending a class on Post-Storm Response and Recovery Permits put on by the NYSDEC on November 18, 2022 at SUCO. The generator hookup has been installed in the Morton building for the fuel pumps. He is going to order the Minimum Maintenance Road signs. We had an employee injured by a chainsaw on October 27th. Luckily it was a minor injury, but Supervisor Edward Lentz suggested and the Board agreed to send a memo to the highway crew urging them to wear proper safety gear when working with chainsaws. Supt. Smith advised that we need to upgrade our road name signs to 9 inch signs with 6 inch letters. We have 139 signs, at \$53.00 each and hardware would cost us \$10,450.00. He is going to check with the County sign shop to see if they could make them any cheaper. We may have to split it up and do over a few years. We have spent \$35,500.00 in equipment repairs through October 2022. Councilman Bill Whitaker questioned if we could pile our paving stone in Parker's pit. It was noted that their mining permit doesn't allow materials to be hauled in.

Fuel bids were received for 2023 from Reese-Marshall. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the following: B10 Fuel oil-\$3.75 fixed rate, Propane-\$2.159 fixed rate, Unleaded regular gas-\$.19 differential, Kerosene (for Firehouse)-\$.16 differential, Diesel-\$.16 differential, Winter mix Diesel-\$.16 additional per gallon, and four service contracts at \$320.00 each.

Photographer Greg Cromer was present to show an aerial photo that he had taken of the hamlet of Garrattsville that was for sale for \$195.00. Keegan Holt was present and addressed the Board concerning his previous request to be considered for the Dog Control Officer position in 2023. Councilman Brian Ryther asked him how long he planned on staying in the area. Keegan responded that at least until 2025, but that he could be deployed with the National Guard at any time. Lenny Melillo commented that since safety equipment is mandated by OSHA and that the Hwy. Supt. is ultimately responsible for what happens in the highway department, the Town Board should mandate that all safety gear be worn by employees when using chainsaws.

County Rep Meg Kennedy reminded everyone to use green outside lights to show support of veterans and to attend the Open House for Veterans at Foothills in Oneonta on November 13, 2022 from 1-3 PM. The County has used a consultant to make sure that all of the ARPA funds are used properly. Our request for \$50,000.00 to use for our new Highway Garage project was okayed. The County will hold a public hearing on the 2023 County Budget on November 15, 2022 at 6:00 PM. They will vote on it later in the week. They are collecting the additional 2% in bed tax and have earmarked \$800,000.00 of that to go directly to the highway department for road work. They are increasing salaries to try to help retain employees. Lenny Melillo questioned if the \$800,000.00 in bed tax funds for the County Hwy. Dept. is in addition to the normal hwy. funds or if they are using that to help defray the normal budget amounts. Co. Rep. Meg Kennedy will check on that. The County budget will be under the 2% tax cap.

Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he is working on closing out the CDBG Housing Project and we still had some CDBG funds left which are being paid out to ORHA, with the remaining amount to be the Town's portion to cover our expenses and time. We received notice from Otsego County that our 2023 Workers' Compensation levy is \$6,062.96, up from \$5,875.87 last year. Supervisor Lentz advised the Board that he was going to be moving about half of the Hwy. Garage project money out of Bank of Cooperstown to Community Bank because they gave him a 2.5% interest rate on a 6-month CD which was more than BOC offered. Our NYS Retirement bill is at \$25,349.00 for 2022. Supervisor Lentz will pay it before the next meeting to get the discount. The Susquehanna SPCA, our Dog Shelter, passed their inspection done by the NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets.

MVP has sent the 2023 rates for the Hwy. Dept. employees who are on the Town's policy. There have been no complaints about the plan. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to renew the MVP EPO Silver 8 HDHP at the 2023 rates of \$686.52 Single, \$1,373.04 Double and \$1,956.58 Family.

Otsego County has requested support from the Town so that they can apply for a Permanent Certificate of Need for operating their ambulance service. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Bill Whitaker, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to send a letter of support to Otsego County in regards to their Permanent CON application.

USDA has sent two resolution forms which need to be completed and returned to them to complete the required paper work for the \$69,000.00 loan and \$20,000.00 grant towards the cost of the 2022 Freightliner Truck. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve Resolution #3 of 2022, Loan Resolution Security Agreement (USDA FormRD1942-9), a Resolution authorizing the indebtedness of \$69,000.00 (@2.5% interest over 15 years) towards the cost of the 2022 Freightliner Dump Truck/Plow and to accept the grant of \$20,000.00. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve Resolution #4 of 2022, Loan Resolution (USDA Form1942-47), a Resolution authorizing the indebtedness of \$69,000.00 towards the cost of the 2022 Freightliner Dump Truck/Plow and acceptance of the \$20,000.00 grant pursuant to provisions of the NYS Finance Law.

Attorney Michelle Kennedy prepared official resolutions pertaining to the new highway garage project. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve Resolution #5 of 2022 to approve the contracts for the new highway garage as follows: General Construction Contract-Upstate Companies I, LLC--\$1,797,800.00 less \$56,700.00 in deductions by change order for a total of \$1,741,100.00, HVAC Contract—S&H Mechanical, Inc.--\$258,722.00 less \$31,000.00 by change order for a total of \$227,722.00, Electrical Contract—Upstate Companies I, LLC--\$274,500.00, Plumbing Contract—S&H Mechanical, Inc.--\$93,000.00 and to authorize the Supervisor to execute all contracts.

Attorney Michelle Kennedy advised that we needed to complete a supplemental bond resolution because the total cost of the project would be over the amount in the previous bond resolution of July 13, 2021, if we were to include the deducts just mentioned, even though we would not be borrowing any additional funds. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve Resolution #6 of 2022, Supplemental Bond Resolution, to add the additional sum of \$141,022.00 to undertake the new highway garage project, for a total of \$2,897,022.00, appropriating \$216,022.00 from the Town's General Fund and the issuance of up to \$2,681,000.00 in serial bonds, subject to a permissive referendum.

Supervisor Edward Lentz suggested a few changes to the 2023 Preliminary budget, including increasing the Historian's salary, rearranging the Fire District lines (keeping the same total), increasing the retirement lines and a few other minor changes. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 5/0 to make the discussed changes to the 2023 Preliminary Budget and to adopt the revised 2023 Preliminary Budget as the Town's Final 2023 Budget.

Financial Reports were submitted to the Board. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to make the following appropriation changes to cover bills: 1. Increase A1220.4 Supervisor Contractual by \$1,000.00. Transfer from A1410.11 Deputy Town Clerk. 2. Increase DA5130.4 Machinery Contractual by \$5,000.00. Transfer from DA 5142.4 Snow Contractual. 3. Increase DA 5130.2 Machinery Equipment by \$10.00. Transfer from DA 5142.4 Snow Contractual. 4. Appropriate \$6,044.00 from fund balance (unspent CDBG funds) to CD8668.4 CDBG Expenses. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Bill Whitaker and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #191 through #207 for a total of \$104,900.96 and Highway Fund bills #136 through #150 for a total of

\$19,785.86. Supervisor Edward Lentz paid General Fund bills #186 through #190 for a total of \$412.10 with prior Board approval.

With no further comments, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adopt Local Law #4 of 2022, a local law Effecting Technical Amendments to Local Law 2 of 2022, Providing for Maintenance and Rehabilitation Guidelines for Town Highways and for the Designation of Minimum Maintenance Roads. The law will be effective upon filing with the NYS Secretary of State.

Lenny Melillo commented that he hasn't been able to get an accurate number of how much of the Workers' Compensation amount is for the fire department and EMS workers. County Rep. Meg Kennedy will see if she can get an answer from the County. Lenny further asked if there will be a separate tax increase for the new hwy. garage. Supervisor Edward Lentz advised that the anticipated 2.9% tax increase includes all aspects of the budget, including the new hwy. garage project. Lenny added that our roads look good and he is happy to see the highway department working well together.

With no further comments or business, a motion was made by Councilwoman Flo Loomis, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk