

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD—AUGUST 13, 2024---7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING—TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Laura Curtis, Councilman Scott Fickbohm, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman Brian Ryther, Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, County Rep. Meg Kennedy Residents: Micheal Malone, Peter Gartung, Kayla Atcher, George Knarich, Bruce Page, Joseph Gregory, Subdivision reps Stefan Marikovics & Anthony Heath

Absent: Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the minutes for the July 9, 2024 regular monthly meeting as drafted.

Supervisor Lentz updated the Board on highway issues. Supt. Smith is looking at various options for a new mower ranging from \$180,000.00 to \$282,000.00. They are going to put \$300,000.00 in the 2025 Tentative budget. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson noted that repair costs at \$19,253.00, are between 2022 and 2023 figures. She noted that having newer equipment is paying off in reduced repair costs. An RFP was sent out for a man lift to be paid with leftover hwy. garage grant funds as per previous Town Board discussions in March and April. They are going to accept the lowest price of \$16,000.00 from SkyWorks. The highway crew is continuing to dismantle the old highway garage. They are going to want to purchase about \$7,500.00 in concrete blocks for inside. Hwy. Supt. Smith found out that Heidelberg has bought out Carver which means he expects an increase in paving stone cost next year. Supt. Smith is going to try to get an order in before the price increases. The engineer report has been received for Turnbull Bridge from Delaware Engineering. They will be getting estimates for cleaning and painting beams, replacing the deck and paving. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he has contacted the County about a shared services agreement that was in the works last year, but never completed. He also will reach out to Victor Jones about using the Town Hall as a cooling center.

County Rep. Meg Kennedy noted that sales tax is up 2.6% from last year. She advised that the County had appointed Debra MacKenzie as County Historian. She will be working with all Town Historians planning the celebration of America's 250th birthday in 2026. The Household Hazardous Waste Day will be held August 16th in Unadilla and August 17th in Cooperstown. Rep. Kennedy noted that she attended a meeting with Chobani. They have made a shelf stable milk product which lasts for 9 months for food banks and the Red Cross. They spoke of their commitment to rural upstate NY and helping to feed people.

DCO Keegan Holt was not present as he has started law enforcement academy this week. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson reported that we received notice that we have been awarded a \$10,000.00 grant through the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program. With the previous \$5,000.00 grant, we will have \$15,000.00 to put towards clean energy building improvements. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that perhaps we could also get some grant funds through the Justice Court grant program to combine with the NYSERDA funding so we could put heat pumps at the town hall to replace the aging heating system. Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson noted that if we did install heat pumps it would also give us points towards the next level of grant funding. Councilman Scott Fickbohm noted that he has started keeping a log of park/playground inspections. He advised that the basketball court needs resurfacing and one backboard and the park sign need replacing.

Supervisor Edward Lentz advised that he met with Art Klingler of NYSEG about our increased bills. He was told that overall prices are up and there are extra charges, but all were approved by the PSC. Supervisor Lentz feels that our increases appear to be over the percentages approved by the PSC and has contacted Art Klingler about this. The NYS DOT is developing a masterplan. If anyone on the Board wants to comment on it, they can get the information from the email that was forwarded. The Butternut Valley Harvest Festival is Saturday, August 17th at the Morris Firehouse Park. Supervisor Lentz further noted that he had rented a table to set up town information at the Garrattsville Firemen's Barbecue on Sunday, September 1st.

Stefan Marikovics and Anthony Heath of Clevis Acquisition Two LLC, submitted the final plat for Subdivision #2-2024 on land owned by Dana Jorgensen. After review by the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Scott Fickbohm, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the final plat as submitted and to approve the 12-lot major subdivision for Dana Jorgensen on tax map # 132.00-1-4.00.

Peter Gartung has requested a setback variance to build an addition of a covered deck to his existing structure at the corner of County Hwy. 14 and Allen Road. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve a setback variance to 60 feet for Peter Gartung to build an addition of a covered deck to his existing building at 101 Allen Road, tax map #175.00-1-30.02.

We received a letter from the NYS DEC regarding SEQR Lead Agency Status for an application for a 10.4 acre sand and gravel mine from Parker Excavating and Gravel Company. The proposed project is both in New Lisbon and Laurens. We have not received an application for local site plan review for the project. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Scott Fickbohm, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to advise the NYS DEC that the Town of New Lisbon is happy to allow them to be the lead agency for the SEQR for the Parker Sand & Gravel Mine application they received. Supervisor Edward Lentz will send a letter to the NYSDEC advising them of the Boards' decision. Mr. Parker will still need to submit a local site plan application with the Planning Board.

Supervisor Edward Lentz discussed the proposed local law on prohibiting Garbage & Junk. He had spoke with Justice Noto about how the court would handle fines, but because of ethical obligations, Justice Noto couldn't give him any detail on how he would handle violations. He also did some online research and talked with Attorney Michelle Kennedy. Basically, the person investigating would talk to the property owner and try to get them to voluntarily clean up any mess. After a period of time, if nothing is done, then a notice of violation would be issued to clean up in 30 days (with up to 120 days being available if appropriate for the situation). After that if the situation isn't resolved, then a ticket to appear in court would be issued. It would then be up to the court to decide on a fine. If the fine isn't paid then the Town Justice could issue a summons. A new notice of violation can be issued weekly if not resolved. Supervisor Lentz submitted sample laws from the Towns of Laurens, Otsego and Otego for the Board to review. Because changes have been made to the proposed law, a new public hearing will have to be held. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Curtis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to hold a public hearing on proposed Local Law #2 of 2024 Prohibiting the Accumulation of Garbage and Junk at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at the Town Hall, prior to the regular monthly meeting.

Highway Garage repairs account A5132.40 needs money to cover the roof replacement bill. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to increase A5130.40, Garage Repairs by \$10,724.00, transferring from fund balance. The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Curtis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #141 through #156 for a total of \$18,129.80 and Highway Fund bills #86 through #95 for a total of \$16,235.42. Supervisor Lentz paid General Fund bills #137 through #140 for a total of \$584.49 with prior Board approval.

Town Clerk Charlene Wells introduced Kayla Atcher who is interested in learning the Town Clerk position. In accordance with civil service rules, her application will be submitted to the County Personnel Office for approval. Then Town Clerk Charlene Wells will appoint her as Deputy Town Clerk.

With no further business or comments, a motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Curtis and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 8:57 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk