

January 12th, 2021 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Virtual Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on January 12th, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Present: Daniel Fitzpatrick, Supervisor
Steve Zajac, Councilor
Melanie Palmer, Councilor
William McConnell, Councilor
Carole Dwyer, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown
Budget Officer: Tom Chartrand

Others Present: John Greeley, Highway Superintendent
Steve Robson, Deputy Highway Supt.
Dave Prince, Library, LCC, Parks
Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement
Brad Bush, Planning Board Chair
Kristin Colburn, Deputy Town Clerk
Rick Stout, Don Moody, Steve Pitoniak
and several other residents

- 1. Supervisor Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM
- 2. The Town Clerk, Jackie Roorda took the Roll. All present.
- 3. Town Board Minutes of December 8, 2020 Regular Town Board Meeting.

R-8-2021 Councilor McConnell moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to accept the December 8th, 2020 Meeting Minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. Motion carried 5-0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

4. COMMUNICATIONS

B. 2021 LaFayette Fire & Ambulance and Jamesville Fire Department Contracts

R-9-2021 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the public hearings for the 2021 LaFayette Fire & Ambulance Contracts and the Jamesville Fire District for January 26, 2021 at 5:30pm. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

B. AmeriPride Rental Service & Agreement (Town Hall Carpets)

R-10-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and McConnell seconded the motion authorize Supervisor Fitzpatrick to execute the 36-month agreement beginning January, 2021 between the Town of LaFayette and AmeriPride. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

C. Resignation/ Retirement of Highway Superintendent John Greeley.

Supervisor Fitzpatrick said on behalf of the Town and the Town Board, wanted to thank Highway Superintendent John Greeley for all his years of service and all he has contributed to the Town. He wished that there could have been a bigger send off, but due to COVID-19 that was not possible. John thanked Supervisor Fitzpatrick, the Town Board, and Budget Officer Tom Chartrand for supporting him in all that he has done.

R-11-2021 Supervisor Fitzpatrick moved and Councilor Zajac seconded the motion regretfully accepting the resignation/ retirement of Highway Superintendent John Greeley, effective January 22, 2021. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

D. Appointment of new Highway Superintendent upon John Greeley's retirement

R-12-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and Dwyer seconded the motion appointing Deputy Highway Superintendent Steve Robson as Highway Superintendent with a salary per the 2021 budget rate upon John Greeley's retirement on January 22, 2021. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes

Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

E. LaFayette Veterinary Clinic Emergency Services 2021 Agreement

R-13-2021 Councilor McConnell moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion authorizing Supervisor Fitzpatrick to sign the 2021 annual agreement with LaFayette Veterinary Clinic for Emergency Services. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

F. Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement proposed T-Mobile upgrade to the Groth Road Tower.

R-14-2021 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer seconded the motion to approve the Second Amendment to the Groth Road Tower lease between CCT-3 and T-Mobile, LLC for the T-Mobile upgrades. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

G. Cardiff Water District Order for Public Hearing

Supervisor Fitzpatrick informed the Board and attendees that when Honeywell Corporation decided to walk away from the Cardiff Water District, they have been in negotiations for approximately 2 years. Finally, Honeywell has agreed to pay \$2,000,000 to assist in the development of the water district. Hopefully, this is will allow us to expand the water access to the Tully Valley & LaFayette Area. Supervisor Fitzpatrick expressed his gratitude and thankfulness to Onondaga County Legislature Chair Dave Knapp, Tully Supervisor John Masters, and Bob DeMore for their assistance and especially to LaFayette Town Attorney Jeff Brown for the tremendous amount for work, time and effort he has put into this effort.

**R-15-21 TOWN OF LAFAYETTE
CARDIFF WATER DISTRICT
ORDER FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

WHEREAS, a map, plan and report for establishing the Cardiff Water District has been prepared and filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of LaFayette

(Town), together with a Petition requesting that the Town create the Cardiff Water District to include the property described therein; and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the proposed water district are fully described on the prepared map, which is further described in said report; and

WHEREAS, the property within the proposed water district consists of 29 single family residential parcels and two (2) commercial parcels; and

WHEREAS, the entire cost of establishing the water district described herein, including all required hook-ups to the system, will be paid by funds provided by the Honeywell Corporation, and therefore no capital expenses nor borrowings will be necessary; and

WHEREAS, the average annual cost to a single-family home on the system is projected to be \$260.00. This represents the annual average charge to a residential user served by the Onondaga County Water Authority, which is expected to operate the water system; and

WHEREAS, the petition, map, plan and report describing the same are on file in the Town Clerk’s Office for public inspection.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and resolved as follows:

ORDERED, that the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette shall meet at the Town Hall, Town of LaFayette, 2577 Route 11, LaFayette, Onondaga County, New York on the 26th of January, 2021 at 6:35 p.m., or if necessary via videoconference due to the coronavirus pandemic, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the proposal to establish the Cardiff Water District in the manner specified above, at which time and place all persons interested in the subject thereof may be heard concerning the same; and it is further

ORDERED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of LaFayette is hereby authorized and directed to publish a copy of this Order in the official newspaper of the Town, to post a copy of the same on the sign board of the Town of LaFayette located outside the Clerk’s Office, and to include a copy of this Order on the website maintained by the Town, all the foregoing shall be in the manner required pursuant to Town Law of the State of New York.

R-16-2021 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the public hearing for January 26, 2021 at 5:35 pm, via Zoom. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

5. REPORTS

A. Departmental

1. Town Supervisor Report

a. Budget Officer Tom Chartrand submitted the Monthly Financial Report, and advised of the following; Justice Court fines picked and we are at 60%; Franchise Fee is only at 45% of what was budgeted which hurt us a bit; The Mortgage Tax came in at 151% so were up about \$31K; AIM (State Revenue Sharing) came in at 100% of what we budgeted. He advised that he will have a lot more detail next month when we get through the bills and post them to the accounts.

2. Highway Superintendent – written report read by John Greeley

Equipment: All plows are active ready

Roads: The Highway Department plowed 11 times since last TB meeting.

Everyone is healthy and doing their best to be compliant with all COVID-19 protocols

3. Town Clerk - Jackie Roorda advised that the December, 2020 and Annual 2020 reports were in the Board's meeting packet for their review, also that the Town Clerk records are available for the Board to audit and people can stop by to sign the Oath of Office Book.

4. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement - Ralph Lamson's Annual Report for all building permits was provided to the Board.

5. Justice Court

a. November & December 2020 Justices Reports.

Judge Perrin had 102 cases and turned over \$9,578.00 to the Town of LaFayette for November, 2020.

Judge Perrin had 76 cases and turned over \$7,939.00 to the Town of LaFayette for December, 2020.

Judge Shute had 147 cases and turned over \$13,479.00 to the Town of LaFayette for November, 2020.

Judge Shute had 102 cases and turned over \$10,962.00 to the Town of LaFayette for December, 2020

b. July – October Justices Shute and Perrin audits/review of records reports were included for the Board's review.

6. Library Director November Board of Trustee Minute & Directors Report included in packet for review. Town Clerk Jackie Roorda advised the board that she was notified late in the day that Virginia Collinson was retiring as Library Board Treasurer and they have appointed Wendy Motion in her place

7. **Parks**

- Clearing sidewalks and applying salt at Town Offices, Library and Community Center as necessary

Library

- Day to Day Operations Continue
 - o Physical library is open – patrons are granted access to use computers or browse for books by appointment only. Social distancing practices are in place for computers, etc. Curbside service will continue to be offered as an option.
 - o Returned materials are quarantined for 7 days before being recirculated
- Remodeling project Continues
 - o New, all weather carpet has been installed around area of circulation desk (covering the old purple and grey tiles)
 - o Plan to install an accordion door in the foyer to block access to book return and create a storage area to hide equipment such as shovels, salt, etc. and tv
 - o Plan to install a video information screen near circulation desk
 - o Update bathroom to bring into compliance with recommendations
- Town of LaFayette Historical Archives
 - o Storage cabinet acquired and located in Library's mechanical room
 - o New Town Historian introduced to staff and oriented

Community Council

- LCC chaperoned ski program began January 8 – following COVID guidelines established by Song Mountain
- Youth winter sports – wrestling, basketball, and volleyball, are on hold indefinitely, paralleling the New York Public High School Athletic Association (NYPHSAA) guidelines for high-risk sports, which the state considers these to be. Resumption of these programs is dependent on state guidelines and the LCSD's policies.
- Adult programs remain on hold due to concern for the population participating in these programs or status as a high-risk sport.

Miscellaneous

- AED's – research conducted, competitive bids obtained, units purchased and placed into service
 - o Replaced units can be recycled and a rebate obtained – Town Board needs to declare the units as "surplus" for them to be recycled
- COVID Testing – conducted at Community Center, several messages left on LCC's answering machine by people wanting to register, seeking results, etc. Calls returned as appropriate
- Issues discussed with Dave Knapp – no County DOH phone number available for answers to questions, or to register for testing when internet access not available.

- Dave Prince advised that since the above written report, he has obtained three AED's and they are in service as of today and Town Clerk Jackie Roorda has been added to the registration for the AED's. The also said there will be a rebate on the old machines and they need to be deemed as surplus.

R-17-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and Supervisor Fitzpatrick seconded the motion authorizing the old AED's be listed as surplus items. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

7. ATTORNEY

A. Senior Tax Exemption for 2021

Jeff Brown asked to Town Clerk Roorda if she confirmed with the Town Assessor whether if municipalities are required to adopt the resolution regarding Senior Tax Exemptions. Roorda advised that per Assessor Sherry LaVancher, Governor Cuomo made this a mandatory resolution for municipalities. The resolution will permit the Assessor to request the filing of a new exemption application for seniors and disabled residents where the assessor believes the individual has changed his/her primary residence, added an additional owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner or has passed away.

R-18-2021 Councilor Dwyer moved and McConnell seconded the motion authorizing the Assessor to request the filing of a new exemption application for seniors and disabled residents where the Assessor believes the individual has changed his/ her primary residence, added an additional owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner or has passed away. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

B. Pandemic Operations Plan

Attorney Jeff Brown advised that a Pandemic Operations Plan needs to be in effect by April 1, 2021. In speaking with the Town Board, the goal will be to have a draft at the next Board meeting, and reach out to the county, Association of Towns, other local towns to see what they are doing. Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that the Association of Town Supervisors will have an approved draft available at the Thursday's meeting and that should significantly reduce the work load.

8. NEW BUSINESS – No New Business

9. OPEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Resident, Steve Pitoniak inquired whether or not there would be a public hearing about the restructuring of the Conservation Advisory Committee? If there are any Solar Farms that are up and running and have, they met all the Town requirements? Also, he inquired regarding the Cardiff Water District; some people were previous hooked up to the system and some were on wells?

With regard to the CAC, Attorney Brown advised that it is part of our local law and the Town Board decides pm committee appointments, etc. and so, any type of substantial changes to the local law would be up to the Town Board. Both Attorney Brown and Ralph Lamson concurred that none of the solar farms are currently up and running. As far as his question with regard to Cardiff Water District, Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that he was incorrect, no one was currently on a well that is part of the new district. For this initial part of the water district, it only includes the people who have been a part of it the system. Hopefully, other people will have the opportunity to hook up the system at a later date.

Councilor McConnell said he wanted to welcome Rick Stout as the new Town Historian and thanked him for stepping in and looks forward to working with him.

10. Motion to audit and pay bills. - Bookkeeper to the Supervisor, Tom Chartrand told the Town Board members that he will be dropping off the vouchers at the Town Hall for their signature.

General Fund	16972-17072	\$187,637.71
Highway Fund	16981-17093	\$124,600.56
Special District	16983-17097	\$ 87,673.14
Trust & Agency	17098-17099	\$ 1,865.00

R-19-2021 Councilor McConnell moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

11. Motion to adjourn.

R-20-2021 Councilor McConnell moved Palmer and seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion Carried 5- 0

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk