

January 11th, 2022 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on January 11th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at LaFayette Town Hall and live on Facebook.

Present: William McConnell, Supervisor
Steve Zajac, Councilor
Melanie Palmer, Councilor
Jerry Marzo, Councilor

Absent: Carole Dwyer, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown
Budget Officer: Tom Chartrand

Others Present: Dave Prince, Parks & Rec
Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement
Kristin Colburn, Deputy Town Clerk
Jessica Rice, Library Director
Nichole Ponticello, Deputy Town Clerk II
And residents

1. Supervisor McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
2. The Town Clerk, Jackie Roorda took the Roll. Councilor Dwyer absent.
3. Minutes of December 14, 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting and December 28, 2021 Special Town Board Meeting

R-9-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion to accept the December 14th, 2021 Meeting Minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. Motion carried 4-0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

Attorney Jeff Brown gave a brief overview of the Special meeting held on December 28, 2021 explaining that the Town Board approved the purchase of two (2) parcels at the Route 20 and Route 11 corner with the goal of we closing by the end January 2022. The Purchase prices are \$65k for the former hotel property and \$12,500 for the vacant lot. A new survey and legal description are required and currently being worked on.

R-10-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion authorize Supervisor McConnell sign any contracts, checks and or transfers to complete the purchase of the two properties. Motion Carried 4-0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-11-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion to accept the December 28th, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. Motion carried 4-0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Update purchase hotel and vacant Lot

Supervisor McConnell recapped the Town is in the process of obtaining these properties and upon the purchase, the planning process of what is to become of the two properties will begin. The outcome of the Phase 1 and 2 environmental investigations showed some spillage from decades ago and we are working with DEC to remediate those issues.

B. 2022 LaFayette Fire & Ambulance and Jamesville Fire Contracts

R-12-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the public hearings for February 8th, 2022 at 6:30 p for the 2022 LaFayette Fire & LaFayette Ambulance contracts and the Jamesville Fire District contract. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

C. LaFayette Veterinary Clinic Emergency Services 2022 Agreement

R-13-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion authorizing Supervisor McConnell to sign the LaFayette Veterinary Clinic Emergency Services Agreement for 2022. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

5. Communications from the Public - No Responses

6. REPORTS

A. Departmental:

1. Town Supervisor Report

a. Budget Officer Tom Chartrand submitted the Monthly Financial Report, and advised that this is a light report until all of the bills for the end of the year are approved and paid. Justice Court fines are up \$42K above budget, Tower Rent is up \$2K above budget and Mortgage Tax is up \$124kK above budget. AIM (State Aid/County sales tax) wasn't coming in 2 years ago therefore was not budgeted for in the 2021 cycle so we are up about \$36k on that budget line. The Highway received their final Chips payment which allowed Superintendent Robson to do \$77k worth of additional Capital Improvements on our roads. General spending is at 58% without S.O.T.S / Revenue is at 124%; Highway spending is at 78% / Revenue at 104%; Library spending is at 80% / Revenue is at 100% Overall we are in good shape.

R-14-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion that a positive audit of the bank reconciliation of the Supervisor's account for December as completed by Supervisor McConnell was appropriate. Motion carried 4 - 0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-15-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to update our banking resolutions with NBT Bank and NYCLASS due to the appointment of a new Deputy Supervisor Mark Distler. Motion carried 4 - 0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

2. Attorney -

Attorney Brown advised that Cypress Creek requested approval of their PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement that was originally negotiated in 2019. Jeff explained that he had a conversation with OCIDA today and they concurred that this deal is fair and consistent with what they are seeing at other solar projects of this nature. Currently the land involved in this particular project brings in about \$500 annually in taxes; with the PILOT the taxes will increase to \$4K per year. There is a 15-year limit on the PILOT and then the property goes back on the tax roll. We need to pay attention and the Planning Board needs to be stringent with whoever owns the property to what happens in the decommissioning process. We need to make sure the owners are aware of our tight expectations.

Attorney Brown advised that he is requesting Town Board approval to move forward with the PILOT agreement with Cypress Creek Renewables that was previously considered and reviewed for the Carley Farm & Dimon Solar, LLC projects at 3660 Apulia Road

R-16-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion authorizing Attorney Jeff Brown to approve the PILOT agreement for the solar farm located at 3660 Apulia Road as submitted. Motion carried 4 - 0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

3. Highway Superintendent -

Roads: Snow and Ice operations were preformed 17 times since the last Town Board meeting.

Employees: With regrets I would like to announce Art Gabriel’s retirement. He has been an employee at the Town of LaFayette Highway Dept. with 35 + years of dedicated service.

Equipment: Delivery of the new Roadside Mower (New Holland) was received on December 28, 2021. New Truck 2 (International) build date is January 11, 2022. Tentative delivery February 14, 2022 to MDI Truck for equipment installation and tentative delivery to the Town of LaFayette is early March.

New Equipment: I would to ask the Town Board for a resolution and approval to purchase a 2022 International CV515 SBA with an MDI Plow Package (Onondaga County Contract ONGOV-106-19). This will replace Truck 1 (2019

Ford 550) that the bumper-to-bumper warranty expires in October of 2022 or in 6000 miles. The 2019 Ford 550 is the first of a plan to replace all equipment within its warranty period. My deputy Don Skinner and I are working on a solid plan for our equipment rotation to reduce maintenance cost and increase resale values. The 2013 Dodge 4500 cost the Town \$17,072.42 in repairs for the 2021 year. The plan is to try to replace trucks prior to their warranties expire to avoid repair costs.

R-17-2022 Councilor Zajac moved and Marzo seconded the motion authorizing Superintendent Robson to move forward with the purchase of 2022 International CV515 SBA with an MDI Plow Package under Onondaga County Contract ONGOV-106-19 replacing the 2019 Ford F550. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-18-2022 Councilor Zajac moved and Marzo seconded the motion to declare the 2011 Dodge Ram 4500 as surplus and authorize Superintendent Robson to list it on Auctions International with a residual value of \$5K. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

4. Town Clerk

Jackie Roorda advised that the December, 2021 report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. She also stated the 2021 Town Clerk records were available for the Board to audit prior to the meeting. She requested that those who need to sign the Oath of Office Book who are present and those not present to please stop in her office to sign.

R-19-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion that a positive audit was completed by four of the Town Board members of the 2021 Town Clerk's records as required by law. Motion carried 4 -0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

5. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement - Ralph Lamson's 2021 Annual Report for all building permits was provided to the Board.

6. Justice Court

a. December 2021 Justices Reports.

Judge Perrin had 103 cases and turned over \$9,523.00 to the Town of LaFayette for December, 2021.

Judge Shute had 132 cases and turned over \$10,012.00 to the Town of LaFayette for December, 2021.

7. Library Director

New Library Director Jessica Rice verbally reported that:

- She wished to commend the library staff for stepping up and filling in after Scott's retirement.
- Still waiting on the circulation desk's arrival & installation
- Scott has been going over the financials with her and she hopes to have that completed soon & that she appreciates being here.

8. Parks

- Dave Prince reiterated that the south parking lot is the only lot that will be plowed during the winter months but the entire walking path will be cleared for residents.

9. LCC

Secretary Kim Tingley reported that:

- Wrestling is back up & running they took a brief break over the holidays.

There is a meeting on 1/13/22 to discuss youth volleyball & youth basketball programs as well as the Monday night men's basketball

10. Dog Control

- 12/1/2021-12/31/2021: Total of 6 calls received regarding dogs at large - All were returned to their owners -None taken to the SPCA.
- Annual AG & Market Inspection - Included in this inspection were records & equipment. Inspections resulting in no violations & a passing status.
- Calls in January totaling 5 in regards to dogs at large or lost. All dogs were returned to owners.

B. Committee Reports

LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission (LACC) January 6, 2022
Submitted by: Mark Distler, LACC Chair

These are the LACC activities between December 10, 2021 and January 6, 2022:

1. Membership - No change in membership.

2. Meetings - No meeting was held. The next meeting will be January 18.
3. Projects & Programs - A summary of projects requested by the Town Supervisor and programs designed at building a community conservation culture. Of note:
 - a. The LACC submitted, to the Supervisor, a memorandum of recommendations to revise and update the Town's solar farms law (§290-32 (H)). The Supervisor requested the specific edits to the law be reviewed by the Town Attorney before submittal to the Town Board.

Members of the LACC completed their participation on the 2021 Comprehensive Plan steering committee with the Town Board's adoption of the final plan on December 14. The LACC has been designated as the Lead Party of Goal 2 (Preservation of Rural Character), which includes 12 actions items to be completed over the next five years. Over the next couple of months, the LACC will be preparing plans and schedules for each action item.

7. NEW BUSINESS - Budget Officer Tom Chartrand advised that our regularly scheduled November 2022 meeting falls on Election Day therefore we will need to move the date to November 10, 2022

R-20-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion change the November 8, 2022 Regular Town Board meeting to November 10, 2022 due to Election Day conflict. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

8. Motion to audit & pay bills

General Fund	18623-18673	\$166,506.91
Highway Fund	18674-18691	\$186,379.29
Special District	18692-18695	\$107,245.66

R-21-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 4 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

10. Motion to adjourn.

**R-22-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to adjourn
Motion carried 4-0**

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:51p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk

