

February 13th, 2024 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on February 13^h, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at LaFayette Town Hall and live on Facebook.

Present: William McConnell, Supervisor
Melanie Palmer, Councilor
Jerry Marzo, Councilor
Carole Dwyer, Councilor
Nate Loughlin, Councilor
Mark Distler, Deputy Supervisor

Recording Secretary: Kristin Shute Colburn, Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown
Budget Officer: Marty Knapp
Others Present: Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement
Steve Robson, Highway Superintendent
Dave Prince, Parks & Rec
Jessica Rice, Library Director
Several residents

1. Supervisor McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn took the roll, All present
3. Councilor Palmer led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Motion to accept regular meeting minutes of January 9 Organization Meeting Minutes and Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes.

R-19-24 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to accept the January 9th 2024 Organizational Meeting and regular meeting minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn. Motion carried 5-0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. 2023 LaFayette Fire Dist. & Ambulance LOSAP Audit for Approval

R-20 -24 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to pay the post entitlement benefits to 7 people to be paid by voucher in recognition of their accomplishments for 2023 per the LOSAP report submitted by the LaFayette Fire Dept. Motion Carried 5-0

R-21-24 Councilor Palmer mover and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to approve the payment to the 18 members of the LaFayette Fire Dept. out of the LOSAP contributions to BPAS. Motion Carried 5-0

B. 2024 Carol Watson Mass Gathering Permit for Annual Fundraiser

R-22-24 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Loughlin seconded the motion to approve the 2024 Mass Gathering Permit submitted by Carol Watson for April 6th and 7th 2024. Motion carried 5 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

C. Former LaFayette Hotel Potable Water Sampling- Supervisor McConnell reported that we received the report back from C & S Engineers. DEC wanted 5 residential / business sites tested for water quality for the remediation done at the former LaFayette Hotel. Nothing has been detected that exceeded the NYS Class GA ground water standard. The Town expects a completion letter for NYS DEC documenting that the soil remediation was successful and completed.

D. Request to Amend §290-32 H Solar Energy Law - Rpbert Romine of Clear Path Solar Development advised that his company has requested through their attorney, Hancock and Estabrook to amend the Town's Solar Law. While he believes that the law is generally well crafted, there are two provisions that effectively prohibit further solar development within the town. Supervisor McConnell advised Mr. Romine that based on discussions with the rest of the LaFayette Town Board, they are happy with our current local law, having just updated it two years ago. However, as guidance and technology evolve, The Town Board could reconsider changes in the future. He thanked Mr. Romine for coming to the meeting.

E. Annual Highway Maintenance Permit

R-23-24 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to accept the revised NYS DOT Annual Maintenance permit for 2024 with an expiration of January 1, 2025 and authorize Supervisor McConnell to execute same. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

F. 2024 After Prom Donation

R-24-24 **Supervisor McConnell moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to support the 2024 LaFayette After Prom event in the amount of \$250. Motion carried 5 -0.**

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

G. Justice Court Internal Audit for 2023 Resolution

R-25-24 **Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to forward to Internal Audit Services (IAS) the 2023 Audit Report as provided by David Lamson, CPA for LaFayette Town Justices Maureen Perrin and Justice Adrian Shute, which have been duly examined by this Town Board, and state that the fines therein collected have been turned over to the proper officials of the Town as required by law. Motion carried 5 -0.**

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

H. Cardiff Water Project RFQ (Request for Qualifications) - Supervisor McConnell reminded the Board that it approved a Request for Qualifications to be advertised for engineering services related to the Cardiff water district. Several companies requested the RFQ but only one (Barton & Loguidice) submitted qualifications to the Town by the February 9 deadline.

He also talked about the first several tasks that B&L needs to do.

Supervisor McConnell also requested approval for to sign a final version of the MOU between the Towns of LaFayette and Tully and the Village of Tully for potential water service extensions to both Rt 11A and Cardiff water districts.

R-26-24 **Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to appoint Barton & Loguidice as the engineers for the Cardiff**

Water Project and sign the agreement contingent on attorney approval. Motion Carried 5-0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-27-24 Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded to motion to authorize the expenditure of \$28,665 to begin the Cardiff Water District process. Motion Carried 5-0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-28-24 Councilor Loughlin moved and Councilor Marzo seconded to motion to authorize Supervisor McConnell to sign the MOU between the Village of Tully & the Town of Tully. Motion Carried 5-0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

7. COMMUNICATONS FROM THE PUBLIC - 3 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER

- School Superintendent Jeremy Belfield wanted to thank the LaFayette Highway Dept. for all of their assistance with plowing and repair of their plow truck. as well as all the other work that they do in connection with our Intermunicipal Agreement. It is greatly appreciated.
- Dale Shinneman spoke of the 200th Anniversary Celebration and advised that they will have LaFayette apparel for sale at Winterfest, Community Days,
- Jay Erickson of the LaFayette Fire Dept showed a calendar that was sent to all residents in hopes that donations will be made to help them refurbish an old tanker truck from 1946. To date they have received \$8k in donations.

8. BOARD ACTION

9. REPORTS

A. Departmental

1. Town Supervisor
 - a. January Monthly report
 - b. Transfer of appropriations
2. Attorney Nothing Further to report
- 3 Highway Superintendent Report February 2023

Roads: Miscellaneous general maintenance to our roads, shoulders, ditches and culverts will continue through the winter as weather permits. All snow removal equipment is ready. Snow and ice ops - 13 times for snow and 1 time for ice.

On January 10, 2024 we encountered some storm damage due to the heavy rain received over night. All areas have been cleaned up and repaired.

Highway Business: At this time, The department is appealing FEMA's denial of funding for 2026 Clark Hollow Road and Deer Run Road. 2026 Clark Hollow Road was denied for \$101,699.00. The Town is partially approved for work completed (forced account labor, equipment and materials) of \$14,865.04. Deer Run Road was denied for \$22,500.00. We were approved for \$278,150.00 to complete necessary repairs to this location.

Superintendent Robson is in the process of appealing both locations with the assistance of Homeland Security Emergency Services and C&S Engineer's. Please see Eligibility Determination Memorandum letters from FEMA for an in-depth description.
4. Town Clerk
 - a. Monthly report for January 2024
 - b. Update
5. Building & Zoning Code Enforcement/SPDES
 - a. No Report for January 2024 Building Permits

Supervisor McConnell requested that Codes Officer Ralph Lamson get together with Attorney Jeff Brown to figure out a way to deal with properties that are abandoned or unsightly.
6. Justice Court - January 2024 Justice Reports
 - a. January 2024 Justice Reports

Judge Perrin had 224 cases and turned over \$11,210.00 to the Town of LaFayette for January 2024.

Judge Shute had 269 cases and turned over \$8,376.00 to the Town of LaFayette for January 2024.
7. Parks - Per Dave Prince nothing to discuss.
8. Library Director -Written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office

Supervisor McConnell spoke of the Septic issue that happened over the weekend and thanked Ashlie Carrier, Steve Pitoniak, Dewy Northrup of Northrup Septic and ServePro for their help in getting the issue taken care of.

- 9. LCC - Written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office
- 10. LaFayette Fire / Ambulance Department - Written Report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office
- 11. Dog Control - Written report is on file in the Town Clerks Office

B. Committee Reports

1. LACC Written report is on file in the Town Clerks Office - Mark Distler, LACC Chair, reviewed a clean energy project plan for 2024 and 2025 that LACC recommends the Town take advantage of the three opportunities under the NYSEDA Clean Energy Community program. He reviewed the grants that the Town would be eligible for and what the Town would need to do to become eligible. He asked the Town Board for its comments and concerns, particularly about receiving a free greenhouse gas inventory and a free energy audit of the Community Center, for which two grants could provide insulation and windows. The Town Board expressed no objections.

2. CPIC Annual Report Written report is on file in the Town Clerks Office

3. Community Development - Deputy Supervisor Distler provided an update on the Crossroads Building after the Town Board voted the previous month to pursue rehabilitation. He said that conversations have restarted with Hanover Development and a meeting with them is planned for early March to discuss project development details, particularly a schedule and sequence of activities going forward.

Town Attorney Brown advised he requested, received and authorized an engagement letter with Harris Beach to form a LDC. Their work has been put on hold until after the meeting with Hanover.

4. Safety & Facility Maintenance (Ashlie Carrier & Steve Pitoniak) Written reports is on file in the Town Clerks Office

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 10. Motion to audit & pay bills

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Check #'s</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Fund	21421-21423, 21425-21448, 21450-21459, 21473-21475, 21477, 21478, 21481, 21489-21491, 21494,214502	\$725,266.88

Highway Fund	21421-21424, 21460-21472, 21476, 21479, 21480, 21489-21491	\$54,229.98
Library Fund	21421, 21489-21491	\$5,732.16
LaFayette Fire Dept	21421, 21449, 21482-21488, 2193,21495, -21501	\$394,777.75
Jamesville Fire Dept	21492	\$42,250.00

R-29-24 Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 5 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

10. Motion to adjourn

R-30-24 Supervisor McConnell moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:33 pm. Motion carried 5-0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Nate Loughlin	Councilor	Voted	Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Shute Colburn, Town Clerk