

Town of LaFayette Town Board SPECIAL Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 6:30 PM

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

Recording Secretary: Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown
Budget Officer: Tom Chartrand

Others Present: Sue Marzo, Dave Knapp, Chris Keenan, Mike Steiner
& those who participated via Facebook Live.

1. Supervisor McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM
2. Town Clerk Jackie Roorda took the Roll. All Present
3. Pledge to our U. S. Flag led by Councilor Marzo
4. PUBLIC HEARING – 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT

A. Supervisor McConnell explained that over the last two weeks a lot of phone calls and paperwork has gone into grant preparations and he thanked Attorney Jeff Brown, Town Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand, and Chairman Dave Knapp for all their hard work, explaining that at this time, there are 4 to 5 working grants in the Town. The first grant, DASNY was filed by the Supervisor in 2014 for \$50,000 to put into buildings. Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand is checking to see if we will actually receive the funds and if the Town is allowed to use those funds to go into the community proposed senior center building.

B. The second Grant was applied for in 2019, for a hamlet planning in the amount of \$50,000, and doesn't require a public hearing for agreement with Barton and Loguidice (B & L) to work a couple things into it. B and L, are the engineers who have been working on the Cardiff water district.

C. The current Community Development grant was for \$50,000. \$30,000 was used to resurface the tennis courts at Stafford Park, leaving a balance of \$17,000 to use for rerouting the stream. Optimists and Town will be draining the pond which is 3 to 5 feet deep and highway Superintendent Steve Robson will attempt to use the dozer to level the bottom of the pond.

D. For the Public Hearing tonight, we have the opportunity for another Community Development grant is in the amount of \$50,000. We thank Chairman Dave Knapp for pointing us in the right direction and assisting us with the process. He further advised that this is an annual grant that didn't happen until late last year because of COVID and now the current deadline to apply is April 9th, 2021 and we will find out in the Fall and apply the funds in 2022.

Chairman Knapp advised the applications come in from the various towns and villages for federal dollars. In the late fall they decide how to divi-up the money up. Every community gets a certain amount and the Town of LaFayette involves the Route 11 corridor, the area near the Park and a lot of the money allotted is driven by the number of apartment buildings near the Park that makes this income eligible. Over the years, these monies helped with the walking trail, the smaller pavilion, the volleyball court, the workout equipment, etc. We have been very successful in taking advantage of these monies over the years. The next thing we are working on is the building of the dog park at Stafford Park and for 2022 we are looking for two grants one for \$150,000 and the second for \$50,000 hopefully to use towards the proposed community/senior center. Hopefully, we can get a nice amount.

R-71-2021 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer seconded the motion to open the Public Hearing regarding the 2021 Community Development Grant and 5-year plan. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

Supervisor McConnell advised that the five areas put in for the grant have been talked about, the \$150,000 in a facility upgrade to put toward the Senior Center and another \$50,000 to put toward the inside on the center such as tables, chairs, etc., building a bridge across the gorge behind the new community center to the park, removing trees, landscaping, and possibly paving the parking lots.

McConnell asked if there are any questions from the Town Board, those in attendance and those on live Facebook. No questions were presented.

R-72-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo at seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

R-73-2021 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer at seconded the motion approving the five-year plan and authorizing Supervisor McConnell to sign the 2021 Community Development grant application with Onondaga County regarding the Town of LaFayette. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

**Carole Dwyer
Jerry Marzo**

**Councilor
Councilor**

**Voted
Voted**

**Yes
Yes**

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. 2019 Town Planning Grant to develop a comprehensive plan, Town center or hamlet planning project per application to Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency (SOCPA).

Supervisor McConnell advised that we have a grant for \$50,000 for the dog park at Stafford Park for which CNS Engineering Consultants is developing the design.

The other grant is the Community Grant that came from our Onondaga County Executive and we have reached out to B & L with regard to our 2012 Comprehensive Plan, which should be reviewed every five years. Supervisor McConnell, Councilor Carole Dwyer, and Mark Distler met today with B & L to discuss the updating of the Town's Comprehensive plan/five-year plan. The focus is on the hamlet's character, parking, public water, public sewage and to come up with an action plan. Instead of a two-year plan it will be a one-year plan wherein the Town could receive \$35,000 from Onondaga County Planning Board. There is \$7,500 to carry over from the general fund from last year that we can use.

Supervisor McConnell reported that beside himself, Councilor Dwyer, Mark Distler, and the Chairs from Planning Board and Zoning Board will meet one hour before Town Board meetings for the next seven months to develop a plan update and be ready to go. They will also take any public input and hold one or more public hearings.

Chairman Knapp advised when applying for grant money municipalities need to have their comprehensive plan up to date and since our plan is 10 years old, this is exactly what needs to happen.

Supervisor McConnell stated that he and Mark Distler will be the administrative leads and explained that Barton and Loguidice will take the lead as consultants. There will be updates out on social media in order to keep the public aware and get public opinions. He advised that we need a motion to allow the Supervisor to sign the grant with the County and begin on April 13th, 2021, with the first intro meeting.

R-74-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and Dwyer seconded the motion authorizing Supervisor McConnell to sign the grant with Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency to develop a comprehensive plan regarding the Town center or hamlet planning. Motion carried 5 - 0.

**William McConnell
Steve Zajac
Melanie Palmer
Carole Dwyer
Jerry Marzo**

**Supervisor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor**

**Voted
Voted
Voted
Voted
Voted**

**Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes**

B. Puttkamer Property

Supervisor McConnell reported that when the Town purchased the Puttkamer property, Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand advised him that there was \$27,000 left over in the general fund that may be used at the senior center. Highway Superintendent Steve Robson is getting estimates on the cost to demolish the house and dispose of the demolished building materials. Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand suggested Steve join as member of the Camillus Landfill 30 days before to cut the cost significantly for disposing of the demolished building, cutting the price from \$55.00 per ton to \$35.00. McConnell advised that power to the building will be shut off this month. Counselor Marzo will be taking out the furnace, hot water heater, water pump, and kitchen appliances that may be reused in the future. The existing storage garage is in good shape and the Optimist Club may use it to store some of their belongings. Supervisor McConnell advised that CNS is working on a virtual rendition of what the building for the community/senior center will look like for the public to see.

Councilor Dwyer questioned if anyone had spoken to the fire department regarding using the building as practice for their fire drills, Chairman Knapp commented that he thinks the building is too close to the road, however Supervisor McConnell will contact the fire department inquiring on this.

Attorney Jeff Brown suggested that someone reach out to the Puttkamer family as a courtesy to advise them of what will be going on with the home, Supervisor McConnell will do that.

Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand recommended that the Town Board declare the building as scrap and of no value to the Town prior to demolition. Supervisor McConnell advised they will do that at the April 13 meeting, and then demolition may begin. As for now, objects may be removed from the house as long as they are not sold.

6. HIGHWAY –

A. Equipment Mower purchase and trade-in - Supervisor McConnell advised that a resolution needs to be in place in order for Highway Superintendent Steve Robson to purchase the new mower that was discussed and money was transferred at the March 9th, 2021 Town Board meeting.

R-75-2021 Supervisor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion authorizing the Highway Superintendent to purchase a 2021 New Alamo 88” Interstate Flail Mower from Tracey Road Equipment in the amount of \$89,339 per NYS OGS Contract #PC66577. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

R-76-2021 Supervisor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion declaring the older mower, TS 115 tractor with Alamo Boom mower as surplus with residual value of \$9,500 which will be traded in (Trade # 34784). Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

B. Section 284 of Highway Law - Supervisor McConnell advised that Highway Superintendent Steve Robson requested the agreement for expenditure of Highway monies per Section 284 of New York Highway Law be signed by the Town Board which authorizes the Superintendent to utilize that money, as stated.

R-77-21 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion authorizing the Highway Superintendent Steve Robson to spend the allotted \$130,000 for primary work in general road repairs upon the 28.35 miles of Town of LaFayette per the 284 Agreement with the Town Board signatures. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

7. Motion to audit and pay bills.

General Fund	17360-17369	\$ 10,237.38
Highway Fund	17370	\$ 16,338.61

R-78-2021 Councilor Palmer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

Before adjourning, Supervisor McConnell asked if anyone else had any questions or comments. Attorney Jeff Brown advised that he will attend a meeting Friday with Honeywell and he should have more information regarding the Cardiff water district after that.

8. Motion to Adjourn

**R-79-2021 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to adjourn.
Motion carried 5 - 0.**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk

