

August 13th, 2019 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on August 13, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

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

Absent: Steve Zajac, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk
Budget Officer: Tom Chartrand
Attorney: Jeff Brown
Code Enforcement: Ralph Lamson

Others Present: Dave Knapp, Onondaga County Legislature Chairman
Steven & Kathy Pitoniak
John & Nancy Mueller, Herb & Rosemary Brodt,
Paul & Sue Eiholzer, John Beardslee

1. Supervisor Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed all in attendance. Councilor Dwyer led the pledge to the U.S. Flag.
2. The Town Clerk, Jackie Roorda took the Roll.
3. Town Board Minutes of July 9th, 2019 Regular Meeting.

R-98-19 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to accept the July 9th, 2019 regular Meeting Minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. Motion carried 4-0.

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

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Tully Valley Water Supply/Proposed letter to residents

R-99-19 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer seconded the motion to authorize Supervisor Fitzpatrick to execute the proposed informational letter to the LaFayette residents affected by Honeywell's offer to provide individual drinking water wells instead of the current private community spring system. Motion carried 4 – 0.

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

Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that the Tully Town Board is following LaFayette's lead as they also have residents involved.

B. Spectrum Cable franchise agreement & build-out map – Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that the Board had discussions with a Spectrum representative and the Town is not ready to move on the agreement. More discussion regarding franchise fees and missed pockets of service are needed, and a Public Hearing needs to be scheduled.

R-100-19 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the Public Hearing regarding Spectrum Cable Franchise agreement for the October 8th, 2019, 6:30 regular Town Board meeting. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

Resident John Beardslee of Commane Road explained that he submitted a request for Spectrum to install cable/internet at his home and was given an estimate of \$34,000 to do so. Supervisor Fitzpatrick informed him that the Town Board's conversation with Spectrum included expanding service to areas in the Town which do not have service.

Attorney Jeff Brown advised we need to have more discussion to make an actual decision on the franchise fee agreement and these missed pockets of service should be discussed before we set the Public Hearing.

Supervisor Fitzpatrick also advised that the franchise fee can be paid on cable TV bills and put into an account which would go, at least in part, to expanding service.

Legislator David Knapp said that the Town of LaFayette has leverage now so it's a good time to discuss ways to address residents lacking service. He also commented that Spectrum has done a tremendous job of filling in a lot of places that were without service and presently there are only a few places such as Big Bend, Newell Hill, Dodge Road, and Palmer Road areas that do not have service.

Supervisor Fitzpatrick thanked Chairman Knapp for his input and work on the situation.

C. Update regarding survey to subdivide the old highway property - Supervisor Fitzpatrick reported that there is no need to subdivide at this time as he is exploring a lease agreement before the Town spends money on a survey. Councilor Dwyer has agreed to use her expertise as a realtor to investigate the fair market value for a lease of the property.

D. Request from Branch's Driving School to hold a Defensive Driving Class at a Town location. – Town Clerk Roorda advised that Branch is interested in holding a class at the Town Hall or Community Center. The class would be a total of six hours including a lunch break 9 AM till 3 PM. The class is for drivers of all ages and you must have a New York State learner's permit or driver's license to attend. The class is approved by New York State Department of Motor Vehicles and sponsored by the Empire Safety Council. Participants receive 10% off their insurance premiums for three years for the principal operator and up to a four-point reduction on their driving abstract with New York State DMV.

Town Clerk Jackie Roorda will contact Branch's and confirm a date with the Justice Court to hold this session.

R-101-19 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion approving Branch's Driving School to hold a Defensive Driving Class at the Town Hall and Town Clerk Jackie Roorda will schedule a date agreeable with the Justice Court. Motion carried 4 – 0.

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

E. Mandatory NYS Sexual Harassment training for all paid employees - Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised this is a mandatory New York State Sexual Harassment training for all paid employees. If you have already received this training at some other place of employment, you do not need to take it again. The notifications to all employees will be in their pay stubs or by email and those taking it need to advise Town Clerk Jackie Roorda if they will be taking at on September 4 or September 11. We are doing this training jointly with Tully Town and Village in their Town Hall.

F. 2019 MOA for the Central NY Stormwater Coalition was amended & updated on August 6, 2019. - Attorney Jeff Brown advised that this was received one day before the meeting and we can put this on the agenda for the September meeting so that we have time to review it.

6. REPORTS

A. Departmental

1. Town Supervisor

a. Town Supervisor's Monthly report was provided by Budget Officer Tom Chartrand. Tom went through the highlights of the July, 2019 report, advised that Court fees are much better, interest is coming in strong from the NY Class program that we have, mortgage tax came in \$6,000 less and hoping for about a 15% increase in the numbers to make budget. John had a good amount of scrap metal

come in at Clean Up days so we are up about \$1k in that budget. Overall things are looking pretty good.

b. Tom Chartrand advised budget season is coming fast and he will be sending all budget requests to the department heads and will request they be back to him by September 13. We will need to set up the budget workshops. Counselor Dwyer asked Town Clerk Jackie Roorda if she can send reminders to the Town Board of these meetings. Chartrand also advised that we will need to set up a Public Hearing after Election Day the week before our November meeting either on November 6 or November 7, 2019.

R-102-19 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the Budget Workshops for Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 5:30 PM and Tuesday October 8th, 2019 at 5:30 pm. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

Tom also advised that the Board will need to set a date for the Public Hearing on November 6th or 7th after Election Day to adopt the final budget.

2. Town Attorney

Attorney Jeff Brown reported that he was approached by the LaFayette Optimist Club, as they are trying to assist with a legal issue for the Toolon Tigers so he is helping them out on the Town of LaFayette's behalf.

He also advised that he is working with Town Clerk Jackie Roorda and Highway Superintendent John Greely to develop a highway work permit. This process protects the Town legally from any liability.

Attorney Jeff Brown also advised that he is working on the codification of the Town ordinances and should be done by the end of the year. It is a slow but steady process.

He also advised that he was unable to get an update from the DEC regarding the milling's pile on Route 20. He's been advised that resident Nancy Mueller has talked to them and requested Nancy give the Town Board a report. Nancy Mueller advised that she received a call from DEC telling her that Suit-Kote is fighting the notice of violation, however there is nothing in writing. They say they're trying to come up with a remedy by November 30. She stated that their plan which they described very briefly would be to use the Town of LaFayette's November 1st deadline for removal of the millings and the entire site be cleared and regraded, reseeded and mulched in order to take care of the stormwater problem. She has heard that Mr. Shute wants to have a paved parking lot which she feels he will need to get a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals as he should not be able to do this on an Ag/Res zoned area. The DEC has told her that they are not getting

involved with this process. Attorney Jeff Brown advised he will follow up with DEC and see if he can get any additional information.

3. Highway Superintendent - no report

4. Town Clerk

a. Monthly Report for July and payment to Supervisor's Account were in the packet for Town Board review.

b. Town Clerk Roorda advised that it's been a busy month as hunting license sales that started August 1st. The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals have been very busy compared to other years with several items on both agendas for most months.

c. Roorda advised that Sherry LaVancher was appointed as interim Assessor as Shawn Adam's retired. Her term expires September 30, 2019 and the next term will begin October 1, 2019 and end September 30, 2025. The Town Board needs a resolution to appoint her to this new term.

R-103-19 Counselor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion appointing Sherry LaVancher as Town of LaFayette Assessor for the term beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2025. Motion carried 4 – 0.

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

4. Building and Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer Ralph Lamson submitted his written report for building permits, issued to date for 2019.

Ralph Lamson also reported that he received a call regarding a fire inspection request in the prior church on Feather Drive where they are planning to have a charter school, wherein he referred the applicant to the Planning Board for approval for a Controlled Site Approval.

6. Justice Court -

a. Justices Monthly report for June 2019

72 - Total cases for Judge Perrin; \$6,950.00 was taken in for the month of June 2019.

107 - Total cases for Judge Shute; \$10,725.00 was taken in for the month of June 2019.

b. 2019 April & May Audit/Review of Justice Court Records were distributed for review by the Town Board.

7. Library –

a. David Prince advised they have two new board members, Donna Knapp and Mike Force and asked Town Clerk Jackie Roorda what they need to do. Roorda advised that they need to come in and sign the oath of office book.

b. Prince also advised that the library and Syracuse school district computer systems were hacked. There was no interruption in service and they were still able to loan out books. They are 90% back to normal however still a couple issues to clear up have. They are working on what can be done to prevent this in the future.

c. Prince also advised to that the summer children's reading program had approximately 250 participants.

d. The library is looking at reconfiguring the checkout desk and Arise came in as a consultant who recommended this and that the bathrooms be updated with handrails. Budget officer Chartrand advised that the bathrooms would be a building issue, and would come out of the building fund.

8. Parks & Rec – Prince advised the large mower has been down for a long time and as a result he has been mowing with the old John Deere which adds about an extra day of mowing time.

9. LCC – Lacrosse program is wrapping up; Tennis camp coached by Varsity Coach Joe Fox and two of his players had 10 participants, and soccer begins next week.

7. OPEN COMMUNICATIONS – Chairman Dave Knapp reported that he has some good news. He was able to get some grant money, \$35,000, which will go towards the situation at Jamesville Grove subdivision regarding drainage and curbing. Also, part of the \$400,000 for extra snowplow money can be used towards this. Highway Superintendent John Greeley has been working with the neighborhood association to develop a solution.

The second grant of \$50,000 from community development has been approved and should be available in 2020. This is great news as the tennis courts and basketball courts at Stafford Park have been an item being discussed for years between the Optimist Club, the Town and the school. This money will help with resurfacing. Supervisor Fitzpatrick and the Town Board thanked Chairman Knapp for all of his efforts for the Town of LaFayette. Supervisor Fitzpatrick asked Chartrand if we need to transfer funds now, it was advised that it is not necessary until John Greeley has all the numbers and then we can do that at the September 10th Town Board meeting.

Lastly, Chairman Knapp advised that he will be submitting a mass gathering permit for the Apple Festival in October.

Councilor Dwyer brought up the subject of the Recycling schedule with regards to Trash pickup. Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that Dependable has it posted on its website and a hard copy was sent to residents. She asked that it be put in the next newsletter which Supervisor Fitzpatrick and Chairman Knapp agree was a good solution. Ralph Lamson

advised that people need to be aware that different areas of the Town are on different schedules.

8. Motion to audit and pay bills.

General Fund	14738-14773	\$ 37,841.52
Highway Fund	14705-14796	\$ 93,157.91
Special District	14797-14799	\$ 43,535.52
Trust & Agency	14800	\$ 2,040.00

R-104-19 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

9. Motion to adjourn.

R-105-19 Councilor McConnell moved Palmer and seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk