

Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, April 11, 2024, held at the Village of Lansing 2405 N. Triphammer Road.

PRESENT: Mayor Ronny Hardaway; Trustees Susan Ainslie, Wolfgang Bullmer, Carolyn Greenwald, Drew Riedl; Code/Zoning Officer, Mike Scott; Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake; Supt. of Public Works, John Courtney; MEO, Chris Zavaski

Roll Call: Susan Ainslie, Wolfgang Bullmer, Carolyn Greenwald, Drew Riedl, Ronny Hardaway
Zoom: none

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:00pm. Ongoing negotiations with another municipality will require an executive session at the end of the meeting with no decisions after.

Courtney stated that we are getting the contracts around for the new water line and sidewalk project. Start date is anticipated for mid-May. There will be a message board with the information regarding the project on the roadside. RB Robinson is the contractor and they have done work in the village in the past. We should be able to pay their retainage to them on the Warren Road Water Project by the end of year. We have been waiting on as-builts.

Vacri has resumed work on Cayuga Heights Road and there will be closures in that area. Hardaway will post this information on our website. Vacri will retest lines in the area, do lawn restoration and reestablish drainage ways. There were some I&I issues that they are resolving. The plan is to let these areas settle and then we will do roadway reconstruction in June. Dake stated that we will have to encumber money for this project, and we also need to approve the change order for taking the paving out of the sewer contract. Courtney stated that there are some other issues that are also being resolved. There will also be a change order from Vacri for a few water stops that need to be done.

The DPW guys have been working on the salt shed addition and doing a little snow removal. There was a very positive meeting yesterday with the Town of Lansing and Village of Cayuga Heights regarding the Youngs sewer expansion project. The plan is to add a flow meter at the town/village line. The developer in the Town of Lansing concern is that there will be minimal connections and the flow meter won't be readable at such low volumes. It will be more for informational purposes for I&I monitoring. This is a requirement so we can see if there is a problem with the system. It will be an early alert system.

Greenwald asked who owned Rosina Drive. The road is owned by the Town of Lansing, but the houses are in the Village.

There was some discussion about whether the Village can get the \$5,000 grant being offered by Tompkins County and which projects could qualify. The bridge replacement in Lansing Trails seemed to be a good project to submit. Hardaway was unsure if we will be able to get the grant

since you can only apply every 5 years. The last time we applied for one of these grants was 2019.

Courtney explained that when you are looking at Federal Grants it is better to get a right of way acquisition for projects instead of an easement granting use. Dake explained that we went through this situation when we did Triphammer Road Reconstruction. Since one property owner would not give us their property at the road, we had to pay everyone for their property acquisition. This added two years to the project and increased the cost of the project.

Zavaski stated that they got the drainage in to keep the water away from the salt shed addition. The plan is to pour the concrete next week. They have been getting the mowers ready and building the bases for the Dart Drive streetlight will start soon.

Courtney stated that he ordered cameras for two intersections so that we will be able to observe weather conditions.

Courtney wanted to discuss the email Jeff Geiger put out on the pedestrian crossings. His concern was that there is not a northside road crossing at the Graham Road West crossing. We looked at this crossing in 2005 as part of the N. Triphammer Road Reconstruction Project and it wasn't warranted. In 2017 we put in a west side crossing by Duthie Dental so we have pedestrian movement to three of the four sides of the intersection. No possible way to get a pedestrian crossing on the north side of Graham Road and Graham Rd. West on Triphammer without affecting the permissive right turn on red issue and left turn arrows.

Hardaway stated that that is not the only intersection like that. He does a lot of walking and if an intersection doesn't have a crosswalk one should go to an intersection that has one. We should continue to monitor this. If foot traffic increases, we may then look into adding a crossing. Right now there is not enough foot traffic to warrant this. Bullmer stated that it is annoying, but it can be managed. The real problem is that there is no sidewalk, which we are resolving with our sidewalk project. Courtney added that traffic light timing has to do with the length of the crosswalk. Ainslie stated that she did not get a copy of that email. Courtney will forward it to the Trustees and Clerk.

Scott stated that he has been trying to get ahead on stormwater inspections. Scott is working on updating Section 80 of the Codification with Attorney French. This incorporates new MS4 requirements.

The Stormwater Coalition quarterly meeting will be here at the Village office on May 9th. John Dunkle will be doing a sight inspection on the stormwater pond on Nor Way and give us advise on how to clear out the area at no charge. The Village Highway Department will also attend. There may be some tips and tricks to clear out stormwater ponds that they would like to learn. Scott will send out information to the Trustees. There will be 20-30 people from different municipalities in attendance. NYSDEC has different design concepts for storm ponds that change annually. Courtney stated that they will be focusing on stormwater ponds this year.

Greenwald stated that Wedgewood has standing water on both sides of the road which Courtney will look into it. Courtney thinks fixing the malls stormwater issue should help since they have so

much permeable surface. If part of the mall property is subdivided off, we may be able to reduce the parking spots. The Planning Board is looking into this.

Once our storm ponds are engineered, we will not accept any more stormwater ponds. As part of the Beers Project, they will own the stormwater ponds and we will have a stormwater agreement with them to control maintenance.

Hardaway asked about Beer's development. Scott has not heard from the Beer's or on the Bomax or Uptown projects. He may hear something once the weather gets better.

Set Elections

The next item on the agenda was to set the date, time, and place for the Village Election.

Resolution#7031-To Set the Village Election for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, from 12-9pm in the Village of Lansing Community Room

Greenwald moved this resolution. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye	Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye	Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	

Dake asked the Board if they would like to approve the minutes from April 1, 2024.

Motion - To Approve the Minutes of April 1, 2024

Greenwald made a motion to approve minutes. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye	Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Deputy Mayor Carolyn Greenwald-Aye	Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Abstain	

Hardaway asked if there were any questions on the vouchers.

Resolution #7032- Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$28,537.17 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$2,269.86 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$7635.15 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 11 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$213,108.16 is hereby approved for payment.

Hardaway moved that the foregoing Abstract of Audited Vouchers resolutions be adopted, and Trustee Greenwald seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Dake stated that she has been working a lot from home given her husband's health. She is able to keep things going with the help of Scott in the office. The April water/sewer bills went out and there have been a lot of payments coming in. Dake confirmed the agenda for the joint meeting with the Planning Board on Monday. The budget public hearing will also take place on Monday.

Grant Application

Hardaway stated that he is completing a grant application to the Tompkins County Planning Department for \$5,000 to be used for the bridge replacement in Lansing Trails. The county requires budget details for that piece of our project which Courtney has provided to Hardaway. As part of the grant application, a resolution in support of submitting the grant application is required. It can be as simple as a letter but Hardaway would rather have a resolution so there is a resolution to send. It is a good project that we need to do.

Resolution #7033 - To Authorize the Mayor to Submit a Grant Application to Tompkins County Planning Department for \$5,000 to be Used for the Bridge Replacement in Lansing Trails.

Trustee Bullmer moved this resolution. Trustee Riedl seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

Greenwald would like to reconsider our brush pick up for spring and fall to have it include leaves or loose material. Courtney stated that the Village does not do leaves because it is labor intensive, and we do not have the equipment. The Village of Cayuga Heights does months of leaf collection. We are rural and when the leaves are rakes to the road they plug our culverts. Now there becomes a ditch problem. Village residents can take their leaves to the Town of Lansing. Greenwald asked about bags of leaves. To pick up leaves Courtney stated that it would require more equipment and an additional 5 guys. Ainslie wondered where the responsibility of the homeowner is. Courtney stated that residents go buy a tree, why can't they get rid of it. You can hire commercial contractors. Courtney begged the Board to stay away from that service. Villagers are impressed with the efficiency of the Villages small staff. Courtney stated that he is all about services but feels we should stay away from collecting leaves. Ainslie agreed. Greenwald asked if Courtney preferred

loose or bagged leaves for pick up. Courtney preferred loose leaves that would be mechanically picked up. Bullmer is completely against vacuum pick up. The leaves blow to neighboring properties. Hardaway asked if there are contractors that a municipality could hire that would do this. Courtney stated that garbage, leaf pick up and police are the three largest expenses in the Village of Cayuga Heights. Hardaway wishes there was a good solution. He trusts Courtney's opinion on this.

Bullmer stated that he will attend the April meeting at the Town of Lansing. The Joint Youth Commission is looking for new members.

Ainslie had nothing to report.

Hardaway stated that he will get the grant application completed before the end of the week.

Hardaway and his wife Dawson attended a meeting regarding local assessments being inequitable. The meeting consisted of private citizens, contractors, real estate agents, county legislatures, and other municipalities. The problem is people do not understand the assessment process. Tompkins County will get more information out on this. The assessment department doesn't have the staff to do an annual assessment of all the properties in the county. A County Legislators subcommittee will look at the assessment process and see if it can be improved and see if they can add some staff to the assessment office. Dake explained that if the assessments go up then the municipalities can lower their tax rate.

Dake left the meeting.

Hardaway feels that the Village does a good job of planning for a project before going forward and our citizens know that. We have had no complaints about assessments here in the Village. Assessments are based on the previous year's assessment. Jay Franklin did a presentation on how he does his assessment at a TCCOG meeting which Hardaway will share with the Trustees.

There is a Reimagining the Mall Workshop tomorrow night which Hardaway will be attending. Cayuga Medical is sponsoring it. It will be two hours tomorrow night and then eight hours on Saturday. Hardaway plans to report on this at Monday's joint meeting. Originally, the thought was that with Cayuga Medical coming in it would draw more commercial businesses. Hardaway has concerns that they may be trying to convert the mall into nonprofit services.

Motion- To Go Into Executive Session

Mayor Hardaway moved to go into executive session. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

The board went into executive session at 1:16pm.

Motion- To Come Out of Executive Session

Mayor Hardaway moved to come out of executive session. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

The board came out of executive session at 1:48pm.

Motion- To Adjourn

Trustee Greenwald moved for adjournment. Trustee Bullmer seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye
Trustee Drew Riedl-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:49pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer