

## Village of Lansing

MINUTES of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lansing held on Thursday, February 13, 2025, held at the Village of Lansing 2405 N. Triphammer Road.

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

Zoom:

Mayor Hardaway called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:06pm.

Scott stated that he just finished the 1203 that goes to New York State (NYS). Scott is now working on the MS4 Report along with the updated flood plain law which has to go back to NYS by March 21<sup>st</sup>. A proposed PDA at 20 Bomax will be coming back to the Trustees since it is not the same project as originally proposed. It has doubled in size and they have added another lot to the proposal.

Scott attended a STBOCA meeting yesterday. They discussed a registry that will now be controlled by NYS for Short-Term Rentals. We are still unsure how it is going to be handled. We will get more details in the future. They also talked about the ICC Code regarding the next round of proposed changes. There will be a final meeting of the draft and the STBOCA group is going to sign up to have the code officers speak at the meeting. STBOA is creating a letter which will be about 20 pages long that different Code Officers will read. Scott's biggest concern is with the requirement of having sprinkler systems in single family homes.

Courtney stated that he has been working on his budget and plowing snow. The transmission went on the 2021 one-ton truck. This truck is used for small roads and clearing intersections. The truck was out of commission for about a month. The issue ended up being the shaft and it was covered under warrantee.

Courtney stated that Zavaski put together a CSC equipment list for Yen. Hardaway stated that getting to bronze is the first step in the process.

Hardaway asked how the new traffic cameras were working. Courtney thinks that they are working well and stated that they actually saved them from coming in last evening because they were able to monitor the short storm. Since none of the highway staff lives close, this gives them peace of mind to be able to see what is happening in the village and saves money.

Courtney stated that there is a salt shortage and Cargill is not making Clearlane anymore, which is what the Village uses with their salt. We have taken our quota for the year and the salt barn is full. Now we are in a conservative mode with salt. Hardaway asked how we protect our salt from theft. There is a door we can close on the salt shed. Courtney is not concerned.

Dake stated that she has met with Yen and Ainslie to help them understand the budget process.

Dake is still waiting for information from Courtney on what projects he plans to get done next year.

The village has received two written quotes for the installation of a video intercom and lock system for the Administration Building front door. The low bidder was Covert Security. The total cost to completely install the system is \$2,230. For an additional \$490 we could also have a second desk monitor station in the Code Office. We received another estimate from Ace Security which was \$3,870 for just one monitor station or \$6,500 for two stations. Since this was not originally budgeted for, we will need to do a budget transfer if we want to move forward with this security measure.

**Resolution #7121**-To Authorize a Budget transfer from A1990.4, General Government Support, Special Items, Contingent Account to A1620.2, General Government Support, Buildings, Equipment for the installation of a video intercom system for the Village Administrative Building for \$2,720.

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

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye  
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Dake stated that she has gone through Part I of the Codification and has fixed formatting issues and spacing issues. To make any changes to Part I: Administrative Legislation, all that has to be done is a resolution as opposed to Part II: General Legislation that needs to be changed by filing a Local Law. Dake noticed that what is on our webpage is not necessarily the same as what is in our Code book. For instance, there are many chapters that do not have the header or footer on them. The following is what she found:

- Chapter 1 was 10-font when the rest of the Codification is 12-font so that was corrected. The version online says "Test" in red at the top. Dake will send a new PDF to Hardaway to update.
- Chapter 7 had a blue [1] at the top and an extra page that have been removed. A new PDF will be sent to Hardaway.
- Chapter 11 & 15 do not have a header or footer in the online version. A new PDF will be sent to Hardaway.
- Chapter 20 fixed ABC formatting and spacing, added the resolution # because it only had the date we changed the bank name.
- Chapter 25 to be consistent with the rest of the Code, Dake proposed that we change the definition section by renaming it §25-2 Definitions and making the words italic instead of bold like all the other chapters. Online version doesn't have headers of footers either. A new PDF will be sent to Hardaway.
- Chapter 30 made all fonts Time Roman. Propose that we remove the extra Article I title reference. Fixed the dashes after each definition
- Chapter 34 no changes needed
- Chapter 38 the online version doesn't have headers of footers. A new PDF will be sent to

Hardaway.

We will need a resolution to change Chapters 25 definition section, and to remove the unnecessary reference in Chapter 30. Unlike the General Legislation section that must be changed by local law, the Administrative Legislation can be changed by resolution.

**Resolution #7122** -To Update the Village of Lansing Codification by Making the Above Listed Changes to Part I Administrative Section and Reference this on the Disposition List.

Greenwald moved this resolution. Mayor Hardaway seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye  
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Hardaway thanked Dake for doing that, it was a lot of work.

Dake asked if there were any questions before approving vouchers.

**Resolution #7123-** Abstract of Audited Vouchers

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the General Fund, in the amount of \$49,829.92 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$48,103.83 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the Trust & Agency Fund, in the amount of \$143.78 is hereby approved for payment, and

Be it RESOLVED, that Abstract of Audited Vouchers No. 9 for the Water Fund, in the amount of \$1,073.50 is hereby approved for payment.

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

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

Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye  
Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye

Motion-To Approve February 3, 2025, Minutes

Mayor Hardaway moved that the draft meeting notes, as reviewed and revised by the Clerk/Treasurer and the Board, are hereby adopted as the official minutes. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye  
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

Dake handed out a printout entitled Sewer and Water Income 101. She explained the revenue codes and rates for the Water & Sewer Funds. Dake asked if we had heard anything from the Town of Lansing or Village of Cayuga Heights regarding the letter we sent about rates. Hardaway stated that he had not heard anything until the sewer meeting of six this morning when Ruth Groff stated that she wanted to discuss it. Hardaway told her that the 30-day window has closed and now it just has to be formalized. Greenwald pointed out that that was true for the rate but the other two issues still need to be discussed.

Courtney stated that the rate will automatically increase with the June billing but the other two items regarding the sewer connection fee and the opportunity for the Village to inspect the plans are different. Courtney stated that he has mixed feelings regarding the sewer connection fee or inspection fee. Courtney stated that it sounds like they are starting to engineer sewer connections through the Young's property in the Town of Lansing (TOL). The TOL still wants to connect to our 8-inch main with a 12-inch pipe. Courtney is against this. Most of the Village lines are 8-10-inch mains. The TOL can't connect until we see the plans, which we have not seen. Dondi of TG Miller told Courtney that a 12-inch main is overkill since they are only authorized to send 33,000 gallons a day. There is a discrepancy with these 300 acres of land as to whether they are allotted 165 units or 245 units. The unit is 200 gallons per day per unit at a maximum daily use. Courtney has concerns with this. Herrick engineered our village sewer system and is now the engineer for TOL. Dake suggested the Mayors, Supervisor, engineers and Supt. of Public Works from all three municipalities meet. Hardaway will plan a meeting with the TOL and the Village of Cayuga Heights to discuss the size of the lines before February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Courtney stated that we are almost at 90% of the allotted units and once 90%, have been allocated, a renegotiation is required. There are only so many units for each district. Currently the Village has about 347 units.

Courtney requested input on what the Trustees feel needs to include in the budget. He would like to bid out a sidewalk project and confirmed that everyone is in agreement. A new sidewalk would go down Craft Road from Triphammer Road to either Janivar Drive or on down to Ned Hickey Park. Also included in this project would be a sidewalk on the remaining part of Uptown Road. Courtney stated that in Lansing Trails I all culverts are pushing up rock and there is a lot of surface drainage. He would like to do storm work up there and add sidewalks at the same time. There are three cross culverts that need to be done. Courtney feels that Craft Road is currently a drainage nightmare. Also, Bomax needs a sidewalk from East Pointe to Warren Road for continuity. The Board agreed that Courtney should have TG Miller put together an estimate for a sidewalk project.

Dake asked if we would be able to go out to bid in March so that the sidewalks can be done this summer. Courtney feels we can, and it is best to do a lump sum bid instead of itemizing.

Greenwald asked about the small sidewalk fixes that needed to be done. Courtney stated that they have completed most of them. They still need to connect the sidewalk at the fire station.

Other items Courtney would like to include

- \$45,000 in the budget for a camera detection system at the intersection of Graham & Triphammer Roads. He feels there is a need for a left turn arrow at Graham Road. It includes a new controller.
- \$215,000 for a Volvo EWR130 larger excavator that would be used to clean our ditches
- \$373,375 Cayuga Hill, Hampton Hills Road, Pembroke Lane, Esty Drive, Sheraton Drive and Cinema Drive are all up for repaving, milling and striping. This includes widening Esty Drive.
- Nothing is planned for playgrounds.
- Storm sewer on Janivar Dr.
- Sewer on Cedar Lane. There is a 90 turn which needs to be upsized. TG Miller is working on this year's budget.
- Water \$10,000 - we purchased new pumps last year. The pump house needs to be replaced with a 12x12 building

Hardaway recommended that we do not purchase an excavator. He is concerned with the Federal Government's cuts to staff, budgets and grants which will trickle down to the State and then to the Village. He would prefer to wait and watch. He would like to use Bellisario to complete the work instead of buying the excavator. Courtney stated that Bellisario is having trouble getting help. Hardaway stated that if they can't meet the contract agreement we have with them then we need to negotiate a new contractor. Courtney stated that if we are worried about the Federal Government, we should also cut out sidewalks. Hardaway stated that sidewalks and infrastructure have a longer life cycle. If we buy a larger piece of equipment, we need to build storage to house it, there is maintenance, it cost to maintain, protect and secure it. It will lose value over time. Courtney feels he really needs this piece of equipment for ditching and stormwater work. He feels he could spend all summer doing that. Courtney doesn't think we can rent a piece of equipment and dedicate one month of time to it because we have to take time off or we have other things to do. DPW does ditching when they have time in between other projects. Greenwald asked if we should get quotes so we know what we are comparing this to.

Bullmer stated that Courtney convinced him that the equipment is really needed. The question now is where do we get the equipment from, do we buy or rent. Over time renting is always more expensive than buying. Renting only makes sense if you don't have the money to buy. The question was how often the equipment will be used. Dake asked if we could trade in our smaller excavator for this larger one. Courtney stated that the smaller excavator is on tracks so we can get to different areas. A larger excavator is on tires and could be driven down the road. Courtney thought that a new excavator would be used every day or about 15 hours a week. We have a lot of ditching to do. If we had our own equipment, it would be available to use whenever we needed it. Courtney stated that we have been able to live without it, but it takes hours to ditch, and this would cut time also. We never had one before because we have no way to move it. They would be able to drive this

excavator to a job site. He feels it will save 15 hours a week because we can have the big trucks there to haul material away instead of using the one-ton truck and hauling it back to the shop to wait until we have a large load. Our large trucks hold 17 tons.

Hardaway's overall concern was we should treat ditching just like a capital project. We need a company that can dig and truck. What would it cost? Courtney feels you would chew up the cost of the excavator in two years. Courtney stated that we ditch every two or three years. Having a larger excavator would save a lot of man hours. It would make their life easier.

Yen wants a priority list from Courtney which would help with projected costs.

Courtney stated that this spring we will finish wiring the streetlights and pave the trail.

Zavaski & Dean stated that they have been changing blades, pushing up salt and making sure equipment is ready for snow. Zavaski has also been helping Courtney with the budget.

Greenwald stated that she received a compliment from her neighbor on how well the roads are being maintained.

Ainslie stated that the Planning Board had a presentation from eCodes. The Planning Board was very positive and there were a lot of good questions. After they discuss it some more, they will submit their suggestions to the Trustees. Scott stated that they like the application but not the cost. Dake pointed out that we went with eCodes before and then dropped it. We need to be absolutely sure this is going to work because it didn't work last time. Dake stated that she did not want to waste taxpayers money. She knows the Code gets update with every new law because she does it. Our Comprehensive Plan, Greenway Plan and Codification are already on the Village webpage. There are also extra features such as mapping for \$10,000. Dake pointed out that Tompkins County does mapping for us and TG Miller has just updated maps for us for \$500. Scott stated that he didn't like that the representative from eCodes couldn't give us the cost for making amendments.

Hardaway's issue was with annual costs and on top of that any charges relating to labor. They are not as regimented at tracking billing able hours as an attorney would be. He would like to contact other municipalities to hear about their experience. Tompkins County, Town and City of Ithaca and Town of Lansing all use eCodes. Scott will reach out to other code officers to find out how they like working with eCodes.

Bullmer stated that he got an email from John Dennis who was trying to get a statement. Bullmer warned the Trustees to be careful whenever he sends them something. Greenwald's stated that her feeling is that we have already dealt with this.

Yen stated that there is a Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting tomorrow. Feb 26<sup>th</sup> is the next Climate Smart Communities meeting. Tompkins County Whole Health has a community health survey that can be done online, over the phone or on paper. The results of this survey will impact the direction they go with the 2025-30 Plan.

Motion- To Adjourn

Hardaway moved for adjournment. Trustee Ainslie seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Mayor Ronny Hardaway-Aye  
Trustee Kathleen Yen-Aye  
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer-Aye

Trustee Susan Ainslie-Aye  
Trustee Carolyn Greenwald-Aye

The meeting adjourned at 1:38pm.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer