February 8th, 2022 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on February 8th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at LaFayette Town Hall and live on Facebook.

Present: William McConnell, Supervisor

Steve Zajac, Councilor Melanie Palmer, Councilor Jerry Marzo, Councilor Carole Dwyer, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Kristin Colburn, Deputy Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown
Budget Officer: Tom Chartrand
Deputy Supervisor: Mark Distler

Others Present: Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement

Jeff Palin & Mark Chambers, C & S Engineering Alan Chelnitsky, Southern Hills Preservation

Taylor Bottar, Barton & Loguidice

Rick Stout, Historian

Jessica Rice, Library Director

And several residents

- 1. Supervisor McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM
- 2. Deputy Town Clerk, Kristin Colburn took the Roll. All Present
- 3. Pledge was led by Supervisor McConnell
- 4. Minutes of January 11, 2022 Organizational and Regular Town Board
- R-23-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the January 11th, Organizational and Regular Town Board Meetings as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda.

 Motion carried 4-0-1.

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

5. PUBLIC HEARING - 2022 LaFayette Fire & LaFayette Ambulance contracts and the Jamesville Fire District contract.

R-24-2022 Councilor Palmer_moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to open the public hearing with regard to 2022 LaFayette Fire & LaFayette Ambulance contracts and the Jamesville Fire District contract. Motion carried 5-0.

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

No Discussion took place with regard to the LaFayette Fire, LaFayette Ambulance and Jamesville Fire District contracts.

R-25-2022 Councilor Marzo_moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to close the public hearing with regard to 2022 LaFayette Fire & LaFayette Ambulance contracts and the Jamesville Fire District contract. Motion carried 5-0.

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

6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. 2022 LaFayette Fire & Ambulance and Jamesville Fire Contracts.

R-26-2022 Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to authorize the Supervisor and Town Board to sign the 2022

LaFayette Fire Department contract Motion carried 5-0

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

R-27-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to authorize the Supervisor and Town Board to sign the 2022 LaFayette Ambulance contract Motion carried 5-0

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

Carole Dwyer Councilor Voted	Yes	25
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R-28-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to authorize the Supervisor and Town Board to sign the 2022

Jamesville Fire District Contract Motion carried 5-0

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

B. 2022 Carol Watson Mass Gathering Permit for Annual Hospice Fundraiser

R-29-2022 Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to approve the 2022 Mass Gathering Permit submitted by Carol Watson for April 9th and 10th 2022. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

C. Town of LaFayette Senior Center HUD Grant

Supervisor McConnell informed the public that we have the contract for the \$150k grant that came in December 2021 in addition to the \$100k we originally received to use once this project is started

D. Southern Hills Preservation

Alan Chelnitsky of Southern Hills explained to the Town Board and residents in attendance about what his organization does and the 2021 projects they have completed here within their service area (Fabius, LaFayette, Marcellus, Onondaga, Otisco, Pompey, Skaneateles, Spafford and Tully). He spoke of the guidelines that residents need to meet to qualify for these assistance programs. Budget Officer Tom Chartrand advised that we have \$1k left in the 2021 publicity budget line that we never used and could allocate to a donation to Southern Hills and then better budget for a donation in the fall for next year.

R-30-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to authorize a donation in the amount of \$1k to Southern Hills Preservation Corporation. Motion carried 5 - 0.

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes

Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes

E. Anonymous Letter received by Supervisor's Office

Supervisor McConnell advised that he receive an anonymous letter with regard to the 4 corners and the dumpster in front of the former LaFayette Hotel. Due to the fact that the letter was anonymous he was not able to discuss this with the individual directly but explained that the dumpster has a purpose and projects are progressing in the cleanup effort.

F. 2022 Annual Justice Court Audit completed by Lamson Tax Services

R-31-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion that the Internal Audit Service (IA) 2021 Audit Report as provided by David Lamson, CPA for LaFayette Town Justices Maureen Perrin and Justice Adrian Shute which has 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
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes

- 7. Communications from the Public
 - a. Chris Albanese & Neighbors Presented to the Town Board on behalf of himself and his surrounding neighbors the numerous reasons they are opposed to the construction and implementation of the Carly Farms and Dimon Solar projects in their neighborhood.
 - b. Steve Pitoniak Spoke to proposed changes he would like to see on the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) that was used to adopt the 2021 Comprehensive Plan.

8. REPORTS

- A. Departmental:
- 1. Town Supervisor Report
 - a. Budget Officer Tom gave an over view of 2021 advising that we started out the year with a balance of \$257K, and we brought in just over \$2 million in revenues; we spent a little over \$1.8 million; Leaving us with an ending

balance just under \$120K; We have a carryover of \$368K but some of this will need to be addressed in a transfer due to a bunch of projects that were authorized but not completed during the year. Some of the unfinished projects were: water study; purchase of buildings at the four corners; senior center; dog park; balance of the garage grant we received; and the planned purchase of a mower that has not arrived yet. This still leaves a balance of \$121K to the positive.

The Highway fund is similar, we started the year with \$484K; brought in \$1.233 million; spent \$1.239 million and transferred \$70K to the reserve fund; leaving a balance of \$408K. We used \$246K to reduce taxes, bringing the balance to \$162K approximately, however \$125K of that was allotted for the purchase of a new highway truck that hasn't happened yet putting the actual balance at \$27k which is on par with our normal end of year balance for the highway. Good news is the current reserve for new equipment is at \$341K. The library fund had a year-end balance of \$11K over the previous year but we will need to transfer some of that back to the budget to cover staff salaries. b. January Report - Receipts and disbursements, Dish Wireless came on board on the Groth Road cell tower and we received ½ of the initial fee and the 1st monthly fee. These monies are used to reduce resident taxes.

We received funding from the County Planning grant which is now in our surplus account.

- c. The tax collector has collected our taxes in full.
- d. The Court received a JCAP grant for \$5,829 for a walk-through metal detector and Budget Officer Tom Chartrand reviewed the procurement policy with them to ensure we are in compliance.
- e. He advised the Board that he attended an ARPA training for the use of COVID -19 relief funds we received the spending uses have been revised to be less restrictive.
- R-32-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion to approve the ending 2021 and January 2022 financial reports.

 Motion carried 4 0

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

R-33-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to approve the transfer of appropriations as defined above in the general fund, highway fund and library fund. Motion carried 5 - 0

William McConnell	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes

Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwver	Councilor	Voted	Yes

R-34-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo seconded the motion that a positive audit of the January bank reconciliation of the Supervisor's account was completed by Supervisor McConnell and was appropriate. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

Supervisor McConnell asked Mr. Chartrand to review the Fire Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) report advising that it has been received with six (6) retires listed (Lawrence Paige, James Moore, John Harper, Karl Field, Jay Erickson and Sharon Cleaver). This was verified by LaFayette Fire Chief Sean Doolittle, and he advised that the 30-day roll has been posted.

R-35-2022 Councilor Dwyer moved and Palmer seconded the motion to accept the LOSAP report submitted by the LaFayette Fire Department.

Motion carried 5-0

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

R-36-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to accept the post entitlement retirements for the six members listed above and verified by Chief Sean Doolittle.

Motion carried 5-0

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

2. Attorney -

R-37-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to set the Public Hearing for Local Law #1-2022 consisting of amendments to the Community Solar Law as recommended by the

a. Set Public Hearing for the Solar Law Updates as provided by LACC

LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission and proposed by Supervisor McConnell for the Regular March 8th Town Board Meeting. Motion carried 5 - 0

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

3. Highway Superintendent -

<u>Roads:</u> Snow and Ice Operations were preformed 32 times since the January Town Board meeting.

<u>Equipment:</u> Tentative delivery date of the 2022 International CV 515 is February 15, 2022.

I would to ask the town board for a resolution and approval to accept the final bid for the 2011 Dodge Ram 4500 of \$ 15,300.00. This bid has exceeded the reserve of \$ 5,000.00 set in the last Town Board meeting.

R-38-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to accept the final bid for the 2011 Dodge Ram 4500 of \$15,300.00. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

4. Town Clerk

Deputy Town Clerk Kristin Colburn advised that the January, 2022 report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. She also advised that our new Deputy Town Clerk II, Nichole Ponticello has been in four times since the beginning of February and is learning and grasping the job tasks quickly.

5. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement

Ralph Lamson advised that January was a surprisingly busy month and continues to be so. He also commended Deputy Clerk Colburn for the job she is doing keeping the office running smoothly while Town Clerk Jackie Roorda is out.

6. Justice Court

a. January 2022 Justices Reports.

Judge Perrin had 109 cases and turned over \$12,005.00 to the Town of LaFayette for January 2022.

Judge Shute had 140 cases and turned over \$14,149.00 to the Town of LaFayette for January 2022

7. Library Director

Library Director Jessica Rice verbally reported that:

- The new circulation desk has arrived and is in the process of installation. Measurements for the new top will be made next week, and the wiring and cabling is also in the works. It may be a few weeks before it is complete.
- The Youth Services Coordinator left mid-January, slightly earlier than anticipated, due to her pregnancy. We have already begun the process of finding a new staff member and have an individual coming in for an interview.
- Imagination Lab continues, and is being run by a volunteer, Mrs. Haas. The number of participants is small but the group is having fun.
- The library continues to require use of masks and is encouraging social distancing at this time.

8. Parks - Nothing to report

9. LCC

Secretary Kim Tingley submitted a written reported:

- LCC chaperoned Ski program began January 14 following COVID guidelines established by Song Mountain. They have experienced some frigid Fridays but have skied on.
- Wrestling LaFayette High School hosted a multi-meet tournament on January 22. All wrestlers and fans were following COVID mask guidelines. The multi-meet went well, LCC provided a concession stand. January 28 wrestling meet that was to be hosted by Grimshaw was cancelled due to expected schools not able to participate or had very few wrestlers. Friday, February 4 meet at Grimshaw.
- Volleyball for grades 3-6 First session was Wednesday, February 2 at Grimshaw, with the large number of participants, grades 3-4 and grades 5-6 will split into the two separate nights, Wednesday and Friday.
- Youth basketball for grades 4-6 will begin on Saturday, February 12 at Alliance church.
- Basketball Clinic for grades 2-3 starting date to be announced when schedule finalized.
- Next LCC meeting is on Thursday, February 10th starting at 7:00 at The LaFayette Inn.
- LaFayette Optimist Winterfest LCC will provide cookies from Old Tymes Café, popcorn and smores kits.

10. Dog Control

Dog Challenges: Dog believed to be from the reservation, had many complaints on this dog. It was at an resident's home. Officers made many attempts to catch the dog and were unsuccessful. Owner of the home was feeding it which made the job more challenging. After 2 weeks the dog was finally secured and taken to the SPCA for shelter.

- 12 Dogs at Large
- 17 Dog Complaints
- 3 Missing Dogs
- 2 Miscellaneous Calls
- 1 Call for a rooster crowing
- 1 Call for missing cat

Officers have had many called for lost dogs at Jamesville Beach, which is not our jurisdiction. The beach is coved by the County and the park ranger. Many people come and let their dogs run and the dogs do not return causing more missing dog calls. There appears to be a problem policing this area as well as policies to address this issue. Dog owner's need to be reminded that their dogs are their responsibility and need to be under control at all times. Even though there is no leash law in LaFayette, dogs cannot become a nuisance and invade other people's properties and create havoc for neighbors. This is an ongoing issue and may create the necessity for issuing tickets in the future.

B. Committee Reports

- 1. Cemetery Committee
 - a. Sherman Hollow Mowing Supervisor McConnell advised that The Odd Fellows will continue to mow.
 - b. Cardiff Cemetery In Kind Services Support working with Kevin Gale on this project

2. Community Development

a. Senior Center Update: C & S Engineering Recommendations by Jeff Palin. He reiterated that as previously advised the original bids came in way over what the estimated costs for this project were. They revisited the plans and scaled back several items... HVAC, removed one of the covered patio's, change in flooring. This cut off approximately \$300K and by re-bidding for a Spring/ Summer construction it could potentially lower the cost by an additional \$100k. The plan is to advertise for bids this week for bid opening at the beginning of March.

R-39-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Dwyer seconded the motion to allow C & S Engineering to represent the Town of LaFayette and rebid the construction of the Senior Center project. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes

b. Stafford Park Dog Park Update: C& S Engineering Recommendations Mark Chambers explained that much like the Senior Center bids, for the Dog Park came in way over what had been planned. The original budget was \$50K and Legislator Knapp procured an additional \$20k increasing the budget. Putting this project out to rebid now should make this a less costly project. The hope is, pending bid amounts, start the project in late April / May 2022.

R-40-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to allow C & S Engineering to represent the Town of LaFayette and rebid the construction of the Dog Park project. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

- c. Hamlet Revitalization Update: LaFayette Hotel & Adjacent vacant lot Supervisor McConnell advised that Attorney Brown has requested an abstract which we should have in about 10 days. As previously stated, \$77k of the ARPA funds will be used to purchase the properties. Legislator David Knapp informed that we were approved for \$500K grant through the Community Mainstream Revitalization program. The project will most likely cost more than that but we will look for more funding to supplement the project.
- d. Cardiff Water District Update: Barton & Loguidice Taylor Bottar provided an update and explained the recent hydrogeologic study results should be available by the end of February. They are developing a survey to determine residential interest in public water, to be distributed in the February / March time frame. The tentative project development schedule for the next couple months: Feb. 2022-Tally/map interest survey results; March 2022 Review interest survey results and complete the HydroSource draft report; April 2022- Water Committee meeting, review HydroSource draft report and present to the Town Board, obtain authorization for HydroSource Phase 2 geographical survey (if necessary) and review potential water district options.
- 3. LACC LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission (LACC)February 3, 2022 Submitted by: Mark Distler, LACC Chair

These are the LACC activities between January 7, 2022 and February 3, 2022:

- 1. **Membership** No change in membership.
- 2. **Meetings** A meeting was held on January 18.
- 3. **Projects & Programs** Projects requested by the Town Supervisor and programs selected to build a community conservation culture. Of note: a. At the supervisor's request, the LACC submitted specific recommended edits of the Town's solar farms law (§290-32 (H)) to the Town Attorney for review.
 - b. As the Lead Party of Goal 2 (Preservation of Rural Character) of the 2021 Comprehensive Plan, the LACC drafted a plan to implement five of the 12 action items under that goal this year. It is currently adding team members to each of the five action items then it will launch the initial steps of the action items.
 - c. The LACC collected tree, bench, and plaque vendor quotes to support the Stafford Park Tree & Bench Memorial Program, which is under development and planned to be submitted to the Town Board for approval this Summer. A meeting was held on January 25th with the Optimists' liaison (Jerry Marzo) to review the quotes and decide on further development actions.
 - d. The LACC met with a contractor, qualified under National Grid's Make Ready program, to discuss concepts of an electric vehicle charging station in the library parking lot. The contractor is now beginning a process to develop a cost estimate to provide electrical upgrades and install a pay-for-use dual DCFC (fast-charge) station. This Spring, the LACC is expecting to provide cost and ROI estimates to the Town Board, along with a request to apply for two grants expected to provide 90% of the total cost. This station addresses three action items in the 2021 Comprehensive Plan.
- 4. Safety & Facility Maintenance Report Jerry Marzo provided a report advising that he completed a safety audit of Stafford and Bailey parks. This included: building structures, egress, fire protection, HVAC systems, electrical & mechanical systems, and general safety considerations, including a review of the playground equipment.
- Nothing found with the playground equipment
- Several items that required attention were taken care of by Optimist members
- 2 Trees were removed from Stafford Park
- The restrooms have been closed for the season therefore unable to be audited, however the North end of the park restrooms do require 2 doors to be replace to be done in the spring.
- No findings of the audit of the Town Hall, however an annual fire drill will need to be done this year.

9. NEW BUSINESS -

a. Sale of 5.56 acres of Town Property (Tax Map#007.-02-23.0; Located East of Eager Road / West of Jamesville Apulia Road) - Councilor Carole Dwyer advised that property will be sold by the Town by public bid, with bids being due by April 1, 2022. A strictly cash deal with 10% down and no abstract will be provided.

10. Motion to audit & pay bills

General Fund	18778-18841	\$675,238.14
Highway Fund	18815-18829	\$18,800.73
Special District	18830-18840	\$349,574.16

R-41-2022 Councilor Palmer moved and Marzo 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
Jerry Marzo	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes

11. Motion to adjourn.

R-42-2022 Councilor Marzo moved and Palmer seconded the motion to adjourn Motion carried 4-0

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

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Colburn Deputy Town Clerk