**May 9, 2023 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the regular Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on May 9th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at LaFayette Town Hall and live on Facebook.

Present: Mark Distler, Deputy & Acting Town Supervisor

William McConnell, Supervisor (via Zoom)

Steve Zajac, Councilor

Melanie Palmer, Councilor

Jerry Marzo, Councilor

Carole Dwyer, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney: Jeff Brown

Budget Officer: Marty Knapp

Others Present: Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement

Jessica Rice, Daphne Reyburn, Library Director & President

Sue Marzo, Information Officer

Luke Esposito & Adam Fumarola, Hanover Developers

and several residents

1. Deputy Supervisor Distler called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and Town Clerk Jackie Roorda took the Roll. Supervisor McConnell present via zoom, all other Board members present. Pledge to our U.S. Flag led by Councilor Melanie Palmer.
2. Motion to accept minutes of the Regular meeting on April 11th, 2023.

**R-89-23** **Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to accept the April 11th 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. 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**

1. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Hanover Real Estate Development progress update.

Adam Fumarola of Hanover Real Estate Development gave a lengthy slide show presentation with regard to the Crossroads Building Redevelopment which included;

History

Property Details/Map

Project

Feasibility Study

Physical Investigation

Market assessment

Program creation

Architectural work

Cost estimating

Use Analysis & Recommendation

Capital Planning

Questions/Discussion which included transfer of property via an IDA as the Town cannot deal directly with the developer; comparison of restoration versus demolition/park and cost estimations; restoration plans - Inn/Residential/Restaurant/Office; grant funding waiting period of 9-12 months and still not on national registry for historical designation and historic tax credits; concerns regarding parking, possible costs to taxpayers, well and on-site septic treatment system; other properties in the hamlet that may qualify for grants; accuracy of the plans as it appears sidewalk is infringing on to Route 20; DOT Route 20 plans for expansion.

B. Introduction of Local Law 2-2023 - Large Wind Energy Systems

Attorney Jeff Brown advised that his draft is much more comprehensive than the Town's existing code, regulating the installation and operation of large wind energy systems that tie into a power grid for sale to an electric utility. It also includes a Buy American provision and includes opting out of tax exemption that a developer would be eligible for.

**R-90-23** **Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to set the Public Hearing for June 13th, 2023 at 6:30pm for Local Law 2-2023 to amend Chapter 290 (Zoning) of the Code of the Town of LaFayette by adding new section 290-25.1 regulating the installation and operation of Large Wind Energy Systems. 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. Introduction of Local Law 3-2023 Volunteer Firefighter & Ambulance Worker Tax Exemption.

Attorney Jeff Brown advised that he drafted a local law authorizing volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers to recieve a real property tax exemption of up to 10%. Attorney Jeff Brown recommended that the Town Board decide on the service requirement between 2-5 years and the percentage amount of the exemption. Attorney Brown recommended researching what other towns are doing for service year requirements and percentage of exemptions. It was decided that Attorney Brown would do the necessary research, inform the Town Board and set the Public Hearing at the June 13, 2023 Town Board Meeting.

D. OCWA - Cardiff Water District 2022 Annual Operation Costs Report

Supervisor McConnell advised that this is information explaining expenses, budget and a follow-up of what OCWA has done to operate the Cardiff Water District. Our next move is to expeditiously decide on the long term strategy for providing water to Cardiff.

E. National Grid cost for new street lights & outlets. Deputy Supervisor Distler advised that an additional street light is requested as well as ten (10) extra outlets for holiday lights to be added to the original proposal for switching to LED lighting conversion already approved by the Town Board. This would be an additional $56 per month.

**R-91-23** **Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to approve the additional street light and ten (10) additional outlets and the additional monthly cost of $56.00. 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**

F. HealthTalk for Seniors/ A new free program offered by the LaFayette Public Library – A presentation was made by the Claire Jones and Jessica Rice about: (1) How to talk to healthcare providers (2) Patient rights (3) Medical Specialists (4) Family & Health issues (5) Resilience through self-care (6) Legalese (proxies, living wills/trusts) and (7) Specific Health Conditions

G. Motion to approve application to the Onondaga County Adult/Long Term Care Services for the existing Town Sr. Center up to $100k. These funds are able to be used at our current community center as it is utilized for senior citizen events.

**R-92-23** **Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to approve Supervisor McConnell to submit the grant application for the Onondaga County Adult/Long Term Care Services Sr. Center for up to $100K. 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**

H. VFW request for support for Memorial Day Parade

Deputy Supervisor Distler stated that the VFW is looking for monetary support as we have done in the past in the amount of $250.00.

**R-93-22** **Councilor Dwyer moved and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to approve the VFW’s request for support in the amount of $250 for the 2023 Memorial Day Parade. 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**

1. COMMUNICATONS FROM THE PUBLIC – No comments from the public were voiced.

1. REPORTS
2. Departmental

1. Town Supervisor

*a. April Monthly report*

Budget Officer Marty Knapp advised that Justice fees are on track to be at least $15k more than last year. Our NYCLASS interest rate is at 4.8%, we earned about $6,800 in interest last month. He advised that the JCAP grant came in and Court Clerk Carleen LaRonde is utilizing those funds to order new chairs for the bench. He advised that is going to be working with the software company to customize our reports to condense them so they are not unnecessarily 68 + pages long. Lastly, advised that there were no transfers this month.

**R-94-23 Councilor Marzo moved and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to approve the Supervisor's report as submitted by Marty Knapp. 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. Audit of Supervisor's monthly report

**R-95-23 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion that a positive audit of the April, 2023 bank reconciliation of the Supervisor’s account as completed by Councilor Palmer 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**

2. Attorney –

a. Swim Contract – The Intermunicipal agreement between Tully, Fabius & Pompey for participation in the Tully Summer Swim program. Previously done with Pompey at Cazenovia College. Attorney Brown advised that he would approve this contact contingent on their being sufficient funds in the budget*.*

**R-96-23 Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor Dwyer seconded the motion to approve the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Tully, Pompey & Fabius contingent on sufficient funding. 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’s Report April 2023

Roads: No snow and Ice operations since the last Town Board meeting. 85% of town roads have been swept in preparation of summer road work due to minor break downs.

Brush pick-up will be complete by May 16th.

Town Clean-up Day began on Saturday May 6th and will end on Saturday May 13th.

Preparations for paving and surface treatments will begin on May 22 to Webster Road, Nichols Road, Bear Mt. Road and Tully Farm Ext.

4. Town Clerk

a. Monthly report for April 2023

5. Building & Zoning Code Enforcement/SPDES

April 2023 Building Permit Report submitted

6. Justice Court

April 2023 Justice Reports:

Judge Perrin had 73 cases and turned over $8,563.00 to the Town of LaFayette for April 2023.

Judge Shute had 140 cases and turned over $12,501.00 to the Town of LaFayette for April 2023.

7. Library Director submitted by Jessica Rice

8. LCC Report submitted by Kim Tingley

9. LaFayette Fire Department - Chief Sean Doolittle submitted an email reporting they had 21 fire/rescue calls. The Open house was Saturday, April 22nd.

B. Committee Reports

1. Community Development – discussed earlier in the meeting.

a. NYS Restore Round 7 Grant - Response June ’23

b. Onondaga County Main Street Grant – Response: May ’23

2. LACC Report submitted by Mark Distler, Chair

*3. Safety & Facility Maintenance-.*

a. Facilities - Town Councilor Jerry Marzo thanked Highway Superintendent Steve Robson, Councilor Dwyer, Dave Prince, and Deputy Supervisor Mark Distler for all the work preparing for and during the Arbor Day evert. He also thanked his wife Sue Marzo for the photographs. He reported that this was all done in conjunction with the Optimist Club Park cleanup day where they were able to clear up all of the brush & down trees throughout the park.

1. NEW BUSINESS – Councilor Dwyer inquired about any updates on the Community Center refurbishment. Councilor Zajac advised that they met with Jeff Palin of C & S Engineering who is preparing RFP’s (Request for Proposal) on the hardwood flooring & heating projects. Codes officer Ralph Lamson reminded everyone of the need to get permits per NYS. The Town Board can waive the fees but the permits are necessary.

1. Motion to audit & pay bills

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Fund | Check #’s | Total |
| General Fund | 20806-20828, 20845, 20850, 20852-20853, 20856-20859 | Fund Total: $ 30.271.89 |
| Highway Fund | 20829 -20844, 20844-20849, 20851, 20854 | Fund Total: $11, 609.72 |
| Trust & Agency | 64 | Fund Total: $244.30 |
|  |  | **Total: $42.125.89** |

**R-97-23** **Councilor Palmer moved and Councilor 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**

1. Motion to adjourn

**R-98-23 Councilor Dwyer moved and Supervisor McConnell seconded the motion to adjourn. 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**

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda

Town Clerk