

May 12th, 2020 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting via Zoom held by the LaFayette Town Board on May 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present via Zoom Daniel Fitzpatrick, Supervisor
William McConnell, Councilor
Melanie Palmer, Councilor
Carole Dwyer, Councilor
Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney Jeff Brown
Budget Officer Tom Chartrand
County Legislative Chair Dave Knapp

Absent: Steve Zajac, Councilor

1. Supervisor Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance. He then explained that due to the coronavirus the meeting was being held via Zoom and live streamed on the Town Facebook page. He then led the pledge of allegiance to United States of America.

2. The Town Clerk, Jackie Roorda took the Roll.

3. Town Board Meeting of March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

R-40-2020 Councilor Palmer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to accept the March 25th, 2020 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. A brief discussion regarding acquiring property for dog park from business owner took place however, Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that due COVID-19 the deadline for the Community Development grant process has been pushed back to September 1st.

B. Dog Park License Scanner/ Go Petie - Onondaga County would like the potential dog park to have some sort of security system to help ensure the dogs are licensed and vaccinated. The cost for the for the Go Petie scanner,

software, etc. is \$800.00 which could go toward the Town's required 25 percent project funding. Currently Salina and Fabius have signed on with Go Petie The County is increasingly concerned about the fact that dogs can pass COVID-19. The Go-Petie program would license dogs, and also provide a bar code that would allow secure access for licensed and vaccinated dogs into the dog park. The Town's requirement to qualify for the grant is a 25 percent investment towards the project which would most likely be in the form of work done by the highway crew. Legislative Chair Knapp and Supervisor Fitzpatrick are working on the land deal and are hopeful it will be a land donation. All of this is contingent upon receiving the Community Development Grant.

R-41-2020 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to authorize expenditure of \$800.00 for the Go Petie software contingent on receipt of the Community Development Grant. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

C. Employee Handbook Amendment to revert back to the pre-2019 rule regarding employee time off to vote – basically the laws have reverted back allowing for a flexible (2) two-hour window of time off to allow employees to vote.

R-42-2020 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to accept the amendment to the Employee handbook giving time off for voting. Motion carried 4 - 0.

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

R-32-2020 TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE TOWN BOARD AMENDING THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK GOVERNING TIME OFF TO VOTE

The Town Board of the Town of LaFayette in the County of Onondaga and State of New York met virtually via Zoom on May 12, 2020.

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Palmer, who moved its adoption, seconded by McConnell, to-wit:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette approved an updated Town of LaFayette Employee Handbook on April 9, 2019, and

WHEREAS, the Employee Handbook states that the policies contained therein may be added to, deleted or changed by the Town Board as necessary, and

WHEREAS, New York State recently passed legislation reinstating previous guidelines governing employee time off to vote on election day, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board hereby desires to amend the Employee Handbook to be consistent with these revised guidelines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Time Off/Voting Time section of the Town of LaFayette Employee Handbook is hereby amended to read as follows:

“New York State Election Law mandates that if an employee is a registered voter and does not have sufficient time outside of working hours within which to vote in statewide elections, they may take up to two hours of paid time off at the beginning or end of the workday in which to vote. If an employee has four consecutive hours either between the opening of the polls and the beginning of the workday, or between the end of the workday and the closing of the polls, this will be sufficient time.

You must notify your department head/supervisor, in writing, of the need for time off not less than two days before the election.”

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

The resolution was declared adopted.

Dated: May 12, 2020

- D. Amendment to LaFayette Fire Dept. Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) – a brief discussion was had and it was agreed that without further information the Town is not prepared to accept any changes to the LOSAP program. Councilor McConnell will reach out to Cyndi Comin’s at the Fire Dept. for further discussion / explanation of these changes.
- E. A discussion with regard to a letter received from the LaFayette Fire Dept and Ambulance Dept. took place about the purchase of gas and a discrepancy in the amount of billing. The Fire Dept is objecting to the \$0.25/gal above cost amount as they thought it was \$0.02/gal. Tom Chartrand gave a breakout of how he and Highway Superintendent John Greeley came up with this number (\$0.08 – additives that we have to add to fuel due to our climate; \$0.15 – use and maintenance of the equipment and \$0.02 – for administrative cost of billing

the Fire Dept. Councilor McConnell suggested that they meet with the Fire Dept and explain how this will work to come to a final agreement. Supervisor Fitzpatrick agreed. No forward movement will occur until a discussion with the Fire Dept. is had.

- F. Attorney Jeff Brown spoke about holding the public hearing with regard to the proposed amendments to the Zoning Code as a necessary precursor to proceeding with codification. Is the board ready to set the public hearing? Comments have been received back from County Planning and some adjustments have been made. It was agreed that a public hearing will take place at the June 9, 2020 Town Board meeting via Zoom and if the feedback is overwhelming the Board will not close the hearing and it will remain open until we are able to meet in person.

R-43-2020 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to set the Public Hearing for the proposed amendments to the Zoning Code for the June 9th 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

5. REPORTS

A. Departmental

1. Town Supervisor Report

a. Budget Officer Tom Chartrand submitted the Monthly Financial Report, and gave a brief verbal report for the month of April.

b. Transfer of appropriations.

2. Attorney – Attorney Jeff Brown advised that his only comment at the time is with regard to Grievance day and due date for filing the tax roll is typically May 1st but the Town has the option to push it back to June 1st and then 21 days after that we can set a grievance day date. Town Clerk Jackie Roorda advised that Assessor Sherry LaVancher has filed her rolls and is prepared for Grievance day on May 26th.

3. Highway Superintendent – written report by John Greeley

Equipment: Sanders have been removed on trucks. Broom attachment for Loader has been delivered. All equipment is active and ready for summer work. The Parks Lawn Trailer has been refurbished and painted.

Road: All stone for resurfacing has been stored. Brush pick-up continues. Milling and Filling operations continue on Route 20 from Route 80 to Pompey. This will include the Town four corners.

Snow and Ice Ops: The Highway plowed 3 times since last meeting.

COVID-19 update: Effective as of Monday, May 11th, the highway department resumed full staff operations.

The Highway department continues to offer PPE and practice safe distancing. Disinfecting at the end of day is also ongoing.

4. Town Clerk - Jackie Roorda advised that the April, 2020 Town Clerk report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Roorda also advised that the annual Shred Day and Medication drop off day will go on in conjunction with Dump Days on August 8th. The Town Clerk's office is running pretty much like normal despite COVID-19. She has been quite busy with marriage licenses, fishing licenses, turkey tags, processing building permits, etc.
5. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer Ralph Lamson submitted his April building permit report to the Board.
6. Library: The April 2020 Library Report was submitted to the Board for their review
7. New Business: Legislator Dave Knapp wanted to run an idea, that his wife Donna had, by the Town Board of changing the board in the lobby of the town offices that honors our military with the “new” heroes of our community during this pandemic to honor our medical staff, doctors, nurses, and E.M.T.'s. No board vote was required but it was agreed by all board members in attendance that it was a wonderful idea.
8. Motion to audit and pay bills.

General Fund	15954-15984	\$ 20,082.30
Highway Fund	15985-15999	\$ 60,791.75
Special District	16001-16002	\$ 550.60

R-44-2020 Councilor McConnell 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

11. Motion to adjourn.

R-45-2020 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to adjourn. 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 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk