

June 9th, 2020 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting via Zoom held by the LaFayette Town Board on June 9, 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
Steve Zajac, Councilor
William McConnell, Councilor
Melanie Palmer, Councilor
Carole Dwyer, Councilor
Jackie Bush Roorda, Town Clerk

Attorney Jeff Brown
Budget Officer Tom Chartrand
Bldg. & Code Enforcer Ralph Lamson
And several residents

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 May 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

R-46-2020 Councilor Palmer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to accept the May 12th, 2020 regular meeting minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Jackie Roorda. Motion carried 4 in favor 1 abstained.

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

4. PUBLIC HEARING – Amending the Zoning Code
Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that after several conversations with the Town board they have decided to postpone this until we are able to meet in person due to some residents not having internet access, and the quality of meetings over Zoom. As a Board we are hoping to be able to have this in July.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Employee Handbook Amendment regarding Employee Medical Related Absences.

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE TOWN BOARD AMENDING THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK TO CLARIFY THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PHYSICIAN NOTES VERIFYING EMPLOYEE MEDICAL RELATED ABSENCES

The Town Board of the Town of LaFayette in the County of Onondaga and State of New York met in regular session at the LaFayette Town Hall, 2577 U.S. Route 11, LaFayette, New York on June 9, 2020.

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Dwyer who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilor Palmer, 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, the Town's worker's compensation insurance carrier has advised the Town of certain specific information that the carrier requires to be included in notes from physicians verifying the need for medical related absences of employees, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board hereby desires to amend the Employee Handbook to reference this specified information.

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the General Policies, "Attendance, Call-In Procedures, and Excessive Absenteeism" section, second paragraph of the Town of LaFayette Employee Handbook is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Town reserves the right to require a note from your physician verifying the need for medical related absences. Such notes may be required to include, as determined by the Town, the results of any recent examinations, medical diagnosis, prescribed treatment and an explanation of why the employee cannot return to work. Such information shall be maintained confidentially by the Town as required by law."

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

R-47-2020 Councilor Dwyer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to accept the Employee Handbook Amendment regarding Employee Medical related absences. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

The resolution was declared adopted. June 9, 2020

B. Nagle Astro Turf Company Proposal #P-004045-3 for Stafford Park tennis courts LaFayette Agreement

R-48-2020 Councilor Dwyer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to authorize Supervisor Fitzpatrick to sign the agreement between the Town of LaFayette and Nagle Astro Turf Company to repair and resurface the tennis courts at Stafford Park. Motion carried 5 – 0.

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

R-49-2020

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE TOWN BOARD RECONIZING JOE AMBROSE AND DECLARING JUNE 11, 2020 as JOE AMBROSE DAY

The Town Board of the Town of LaFayette in the County of Onondaga and State of New York met in regular session at the LaFayette Town Hall, 2577 U.S. Route 11, LaFayette, New York on June 9, 2020.

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

WHEREAS, Joe Ambrose has served as an employee of the Town of LaFayette Highway Department since June 1985; and

WHEREAS, Joe Ambrose has been an invaluable member of the Town of LaFayette workforce for over 35 years, having served in various capacities for the Town Highway Department,

WHEREAS, during Joe’s tenure, the Town Highway Department has battled blizzards, floods, road improvement projects and park beautification projects, and the construction of a new \$3.2 Million dollar highway building,

WHEREAS, over three decades of service to the with the Town and its grateful citizens, Joe Ambrose has distinguished himself with his dedication to guaranteeing safe travel on all roads in the Town and beyond, throughout the many changing seasons in beautiful Central New York;

WHEREAS, the members of the Town of LaFayette Town Board, on behalf of the entire Community, wish to formally thank Joe Ambrose for his many contributions to his Hometown, the Town of LaFayette, over the past 35 years.

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of LaFayette Town Board hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to Joe for his distinguished service to the Town of LaFayette; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board wishes Joe continued success in all his endeavors and expresses our hope for his continued health, happiness, and prosperity; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in recognition of Joe Ambose’s long and dedicated service to the Town, the Town Board hereby designates June 11, 2020, as “Joe Ambrose” Day” in the Town of LaFayette.

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows: Motion carried 5 – 0.

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

R-50-2020

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE TOWN BOARD RECONIZING
ART GABRIEL**

AND DECLARING JUNE 11, 2020 AS ART GABRIEL DAY

The Town Board of the Town of LaFayette in the County of Onondaga and State of New York met in regular session at the LaFayette Town Hall, 2577 U.S. Route 11, LaFayette, New York on June 9, 2020.

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

WHEREAS, Art Gabriel has served as an employee of the Town of LaFayette Highway Department since January 1988; and

WHEREAS, Art Gabriel has been an invaluable member of the Town of LaFayette workforce for over 33 years, having served in various capacities for the Town Highway Department,

WHEREAS, during Art’s tenure, the Town Highway Department has battled blizzards, floods, road improvement projects and park beautification projects, and the construction of a new \$3.2 Million dollar highway building,

WHEREAS, over three decades of service to the with the Town and its grateful citizens, Art Gabriel has distinguished himself with his dedication to guaranteeing safe travel on all roads in the Town and beyond, throughout the many changing seasons in beautiful Central New York;

WHEREAS, the members of the Town of LaFayette Town Board, on behalf of the entire Community, wish to formally thank Art Gabriel for his many contributions to his Hometown, the Town of LaFayette, over the past 33 years.

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of LaFayette Town Board hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to Art for his distinguished service to the Town of LaFayette; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board wishes Art continued success in all his endeavors and expresses our hope for his continued health, happiness, and prosperity; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in recognition of Art Gabriel’s long and dedicated service to the Town, the Town Board hereby designates June 11, 2020, as “Art Gabriel” Day” in the Town of LaFayette.

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows: Motion carried 5 - 0.

Daniel Fitzpatrick	Supervisor	Voted	Yes
--------------------	------------	-------	-----

Steve Zajac	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Melanie Palmer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Carole Dwyer	Councilor	Voted	Yes
William McConnell	Councilor	Voted	Yes

6. 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 May.

b. Transfer of appropriations.

R-51-2020 Councilor Palmer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to approve the transfers as listed below. Motion carried 5- 0.

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

GENERAL FUND

To:			
	A1620.2	Buildings	Equipment
			<u>\$2,000.00</u>
			TOTAL
			<u>\$2,000.00</u>
From:			
	A1620.4	Buildings	Contractual
			<u>\$2,000.00</u>
			TOTAL
			<u>\$2,000.00</u>

2. Attorney – Attorney Jeff Brown advised that on Monday, June 8th Governor Cuomo passed executive law #202.39 that extended to July 7th the time when we are allowed to have in person public hearings but he will keep the Board apprised of any changes.

3. Highway Superintendent – written report by John Greeley

Equipment: Respectfully request to surplus 1962 Yellow Tractor plate #: AG9889 – Vin #: 88A4839311. Vehicle will no longer be used and has become obsolete. Will be sold on Auctions International.

Roads: All brush pick-up for 2020 is completed. Residents can bring any limbs, sticks or branches to the landfill transfer station for drop off. Please call Highway for arrangements.

All 2020 road work will be reduced by approximately 20 % due to State budgetary issues. Basic Town services ie* ditching – some paving – Town clean-up days and roadside mowing will continue. Surface treating will be done on a limited basis.

Town clean-up days will be August 1st – August 8th. “E” waste will be accepted. Two TV's per household allowed and a \$10.00 surcharge will be added for any extra TV's.

Mulch is available for free at the Highway Garage and at the transfer site.

Thank you, Joe Ambrose and Art Gabriel, for their 30 years of service to the Highway Department. In recognition, they will be given a “comp” day on Thursday.

4. Town Clerk – Advised that her report is in the packet for the Board’s review. Things are pretty much running as normal. She has ordered the plexiglass barriers from a company out of Utica for the Clerk’s counter, the Tax Department and the Court. They are portable for easily removal, look nice and at a great price when compared to several other places she investigated.. We are on schedule for the Shred day, medication drop of and hopefully the Rescue Mission drop off, still waiting to hear back from them.

5. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer Ralph Lamson submitted his May building permit report to the Board and stated that his office is open for business by appointment.

6. Justice Court

Justices Reports Records were included for review by the members of the Town Board

A. Judge Shute had turned over \$11,495.00 (121 cases) to the Town of LaFayette for February; \$6,525.00 (78 cases) for March and \$163.00 (2 cases) for April, 2020.

B. Judge Perrin had turned over \$8,948.00 (107 cases) to the Town of LaFayette for February; and turned over \$8,948.00 (107 cases) for March and \$757.00 (9 cases) for April, 2020.

7. Library: LaFayette Public Library Board of Directors Minutes and Director’s Report were included for the Town Board’s review.

8. New Business:

9. OPEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC –

a) Jeannie Gleisner requested that she be able to present to the public a Conservation Subdivision Design between now & the next meeting. Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that because we are housed in the same building as the court,

we won't be able to have it here but we will try to figure something out. Town Clerk Roorda asked if she would be interested in using the Community Center, which she is. Chad Dawson, a resident, spoke in support of Jeannie's proposition.

b) Michelle (resident) spoke saying she was happy to hear that the town was postponing the Public Hearing and were aware of the public's lack of internet access. She wanted to know where the zoning change came from. Supervisor Fitzpatrick advised that this has been in the works since 2015/2016. Per Tom Chartrand it was originally budgeted for \$30K but so much time has been spent on this we are probably over that. This part of the process is to codify our laws which has been an extensive process. He thanked our town attorney for taking this on as part of his regular duties as to not have an added expense to the Town.

10. Motion to audit and pay bills.

General Fund	16072-16107	\$ 33,192.97
Highway Fund	16108-16115	\$ 32,683.47
Special District	16116-16117	\$ 8,116.72
Trust & Agency	16118	\$ 807.50

R-52-2020 Councilor Dwyer moved and McConnell seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills. Motion carried 5 - 0.

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

11. Motion to adjourn.

R-53-2020 Councilor McConnell moved and Palmer seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried 5 - 0

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

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at **5:23** p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda
Town Clerk