

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette on April 23, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building on Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present: Norman Paul, Deputy Supervisor
Thomas V. Dadey, Jr., Councilor
Sandra Smith, Councilor
David Knapp, Councilor

Absent: Gregory Scammell, Supervisor

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Others Present: Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent
Ralph Lamson, CEO
Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk
Cindy Heckerman, Resident
Mary Lou Murphy, Character Education
Jon Rogers, ACO
Nancy Baker, Library Director
Regina Reinschmidt, Rec. Coord.
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper
Capt. Bronstad, Sheriff's Dept.
Debbie Knapp, Resident
David Hess, Niagara Mohawk

1. Deputy Supervisor Paul called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Town Clerk took the roll. Supervisor Scammell absent. All else present.
3. Councilor Smith led in the Pledge to the U.S. Flag.
4. Councilor's Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to accept the April 9, 2001 Public Hearing Minutes on Adult-Usage as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor's Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to accept the April 9, 2001 Public Hearing Minutes on the Industrial Moratorium as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor's Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to accept the April 9, 2001 Town Board Meeting Minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. corrected the spelling of "Wolfe" to "Wolf".
Motion to approve Minutes as amended passed unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

Residents.

There were no communications from any residents.

Letter from Kevin Gilligan re: Festival Gardens.

Letter from Kevin Gilligan re: Additional Mandatory Requirements for Special Benefit Assessments and Special District Formation and Extensions.

Kevin said they picked this information up at the Association of Towns Annual Meeting. If you have any special districts, you must do this.

Marshall said he faxed this letter to Karen Carney for her input.

Kevin said if we decide to form a trash district, every single year we would have to notify every single property owner in writing about when the Board of Review is.

Marshall said you would probably be sending out 2,000 notices every year.

Kevin said this case would apply to the fire protection districts, water districts, etc.

Marshall said Karen felt since they were already established prior to this, it might not apply to them.

Kevin said this case applied to a district that was already established. Because they failed to give direct notices, the party was absolved of the assessment because they were not given written notice. He thinks the water district and West Shore Lighting District would apply to this.

Councilor Knapp asked about the fire districts.

Kevin said this applies to the creation and already established districts. The Court of Appeals is doing what they have to do. This is an incredible impact on municipalities.

Councilor Knapp asked if the fire district, lighting district and water district notices could be combined.

Kevin said yes. You can do one notice for all three.

Deputy Supervisor Paul asked if a fire district would be a separate district.

Kevin said yes. We should start thinking about this and get a ruling from the comptroller's office whether fire districts apply.

Tom C. said we have been putting it in the Newsletter every year.

Marshall said this wouldn't matter because there are property owners who live out of state.

LaFayette VFW – Donation request for Memorial Day Parade.

Councilor's Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to donate \$250 which is what we donated last year. Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Supervisor Paul thinks it would be a good idea to have a couple of Town Board Members form a committee to review donation request so we aren't just giving what we did the previous year but are looking into the requests more.

Councilor Knapp asked Leon if he was still working with the Parade Committee.

Leon said no. They have new people in there doing it.

6. REPORTS:

Departmental (4th Monday).

1) Animal Control – Jon Rogers.

The Board will return to this upon Jon's arrival.

Code Enforcement – Ralph Lamson, CEO.

A written report was submitted.

3) Highway – Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent

Leon said for the snow plowing he got 121 trips for the total year. It was 92 trips through the end of February and another 33 in March. This is from November on. He had 1134 overtime hours. They went through 5,000 ton of sand and salt mixed. He thought he was going to run short so he had 2 tractor-trailer loads of salt come in and some more sand. This will be covered and used next year. On April 8th they had a flooding problem on Newell Hill. The shoulder washed out. It was just enough to make a mess. It washed down over the bank on Pat Keefe's property and he got it detoured until he got equipment up there. Commane, Smokey Hollow, Palmer, Walburger and Route 20 all had water going over them in parts but it didn't last long. They had 22 loads of brush so far. They are brooming and trimming shoulders where needed. His foreman, Cliff, is being sent to a class in Baldwinsville in the Town of Lysander. They

are having a class over there for ditching. By OSHA regulations, they have to have a competent person on the crew who knows a little about ditching and the soil, etc. This deals with ditches over 5' deep which we don't have many of. Last Wednesday he went to a meeting at Onondaga Hill which was a meeting to cover who to write letters to and how to write them properly for grant money and their CHIPS money. It was recommended to write a few letters. He will get together with Mary Jo tomorrow to get some out. They are talking about the budget not being passed until September. Our grant money is going to be in the budget but we won't be able to get any of the grant money until the budget is passed along with the CHIPS money unless they make some drastic changes. On the 6 different roads they were suppose to do under the grant, they will wait and decide if they will be able to do the roads this year or not. The roads do need it. We will get by if it doesn't pass. At that meeting, they gave him a book ½" thick on letters. He hopes everyone remembers the 28th is Earth Day.

Deputy Supervisor Paul asked about the class action suit information they received tonight. Kevin believes the only part of this the town can apply for is the cash alternative of \$100.

4) Justice – Malcolm Knapp/Maureen Perrin, Town Justices
Written reports were submitted.

5) Library – Nancy Baker, Library Director

Nancy said they have recently heard they will be getting access to full text magazines online in the public library and in the school libraries. They will be receiving this free through New York State. Many of the articles are geared towards school age children so it will help in supporting their research.

Councilor Knapp asked about the \$20 per capital mentioned in the article.

Nancy explained it.

Councilor Knapp asked Tom C. the budget for this.

Tom C. said \$101,950 total for the library.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if she knew why circulation was down about 10%.

Nancy said it was for one month. They think it was largely due to the weather this year. Overall, the library circulation was up 2.5% for the year 2000 over 1999.

Councilor Knapp asked about the purchase of the new computers.

Nancy said they are in the process of still doing some research. She expects to be ordering them shortly.

Councilor Knapp asked if they have to follow the town guidelines for this purchase.

Tom C. said if they use their own grant money they don't have to follow the town guidelines when purchasing them but if they use the budget money, they do.

Nancy said they would probably be purchasing one off state contract anyway.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked about the \$20/capita.

Nancy said this information is based on an article in the paper. They used the actual figures based on LaFayette's 1999 fiscal year. All they said was based on population, here is the amount of money raised from tax money and here is the per person or per capita for the public library which is \$16.85. There were 411 libraries that have been identified as getting less than \$20/person.

Tom C. said this doesn't take into account all the building money the town covers for the library.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if they were doing something with the state to try to get more money.

Nancy said New Century Libraries is proposing a 95 million statewide for the budget.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said it looks like Onondaga Public Library is ranked number one and we are part of this and the Fairmount Community Library is ranked two. We are ranked 3rd. On a per capita basis, it seems we are doing better than a lot of our counterparts.

Nancy said yes and a lot worse than some as well.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said we are already part of the Onondaga Library System. He doesn't want to come away from this with the idea the Town of LaFayette doesn't do enough for its library. He asked if this was what Nancy meant.

Nancy said this is only showing libraries under \$20/person. Yes, we are part of the Onondaga County Library System. In Onondaga County we share items with other libraries. She doesn't know if their funding figure is based on county money or not. She doesn't know if the LaFayette money is grouped into the 9 million for Onondaga County. This is not the report we should be analyzing. This is a

newspaper article. These figures need some explanation.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if she thought our figure would be \$20/capita or less based on her knowledge.

Nancy said that figure is mathematically correct.

Councilor Knapp said but it's 2 years old.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said you use the population and the funding to come up with the per capita. His question is if we are under utilized and actually getting more than \$20 per capita or less. If these facts are incorrect, in what way are they incorrect?

Nancy said she doesn't know enough about everyone's financial situation in the county to say. The funding and population come from columns in the NYS report.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said this recommendation of \$20/capita is from the regents board. He believes the Town of LaFayette is doing much better than the other libraries in the county.

Nancy said for under \$20/capita, yes. She asked if he would like a list of the libraries over \$20/capita.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said he would.

Nancy believes she might have a list now. She will bring it to the next Town Board Meeting.

Councilor Knapp asked if Tully Library was on the list.

Nancy said yes. They show they are getting \$7.74 per capita.

Tom C. said they receive tax dollars from 3 areas, the town, the village and the school referendum.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said it states the Town of Onondaga spends \$115,700 on their free library. There are 15-20,000 residents.

Kevin believes 22,000.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if it was the only library there.

Kevin said yes.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said his point is we are doing pretty well compared to some of the other libraries.

Kevin said Onondaga Library is set up as a free library. They get a little bit here and a little bit there.

Recreation – Regina Reinschmidt, Rec. Coord.

Regina said she is busy with baseball and softball. The teams are organized and have started practicing. They have had several league meetings and are working on the game schedules. They started their field cleanup. Last Saturday they had volunteers for the building cleanup and she hopes to have volunteers for the field cleanup. They have found someone to work on the fields.

Councilor Knapp said Trevor Diefendorf is 15 and will be 16 in the fall. He stopped into the insurance company to be sure Trevor's age wouldn't be an issue. Their position is as long as he is paid by the town he is covered by our workmen's compensation. It will be under \$600 so the tax implementation won't really effect us.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked Tom C. if he agreed with this.

Tom C. said as long as he is paid by voucher and it's under \$600, it will be find.

Councilor Knapp doesn't see him even coming close to \$600.

Councilor Smith asked if he would be supervised.

Regina said most of the time he will be independent.

Councilor Knapp believes he is a good choice and he has worked on the farm with equipment. He wouldn't be using any equipment here but he is responsible.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked Regina about the bathrooms at the Beach.

Regina said the last time they met on this was in December. She isn't sure where it stands at this time. They are suppose to be meeting as soon as Supervisor Scammell gets back.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if we need another facility down there.

Councilor Smith said we need something down there until a facility can be built.

Regina said they open the 3rd weekend in June.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said it's a lot of work to put the bathroom in place. We are looking at making a long-term commitment down there to upgrade the restrooms and changing facilities.

Councilor Smith thinks it's beyond repair.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said so we are looking at new construction.

Councilor's Smith and Knapp said yes.
Councilor Dadey, Jr. said this will serve the residents.
Councilor Smith asked Regina what the health department has said about the facility.
Regina said they barely passed. They have been written up for several years.
Councilor Dadey, Jr. said we also use this for box lacrosse.
Councilor Smith said and volleyball and people who just go down there.
Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if the box lacrosse relocates if the facility would go away.
Regina said no. It gets more use for the water than for anything else down there. The lacrosse teams have started. They do have a girls team in the Brine League now.
Councilor Smith asked Mary Jo when the dumpsters are put in place.
Mary Jo said as soon as the Board authorizes them.

Councilor's Smith moved and Knapp seconded the motion to have a 1 yard dumpster placed at the pavilion and a 95 gallon can at the concession building as soon as possible and to remain there through September. Motion passed unanimously.

Regina asked about the cleaners for the bathrooms at the park.

Councilor's Knapp moved and Smith seconded the motion to hire Shari Wheatley to clean the bathrooms at the park. Motion passed unanimously.

Mary Jo will have Shari contact Regina.

Town Clerk – Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

A written report was submitted.

Town Supervisor – Gregory Scammell, Town Supervisor

A written report was submitted.

Bonding was discussed.

Tom C. submitted an indebtedness schedule.

Kevin said the original resolution covered everything.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked the cost to do this.

Kevin said the cost would be for drafting the documents, the legal opinion and the interest rates.

Acting Supervisor Paul returned to Animal Control on the agenda as Jon Rogers had arrived.

Jon said he picked up 2 very little puppies and a couple of cats. It's been very quiet. He expressed concern in Mike Moltion's resignation letter indicating he was the only person taking the calls. He believes Mike was hired for daytime calls.

Acting Supervisor Paul doesn't know if it was specifically determined. He knows Mike had a construction business at the time.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said Mike advised he had a beeper and Jon felt this was the reason we hired him.

Councilor Knapp asked if Mike had done anything this month.

Jon said he doesn't know because Mike didn't return his calls.

Deputy Supervisor Paul asked if Jon had any problem covering everything even after Mike is done.

Jon said he has been doing it pretty much by himself. He hasn't received a report from Mike in 2 months so he doesn't know what he's done.

Deputy Supervisor Paul said that is the way the Town Board tracks what's going on and that is why they request the written report.

Jon said he never returned his phone call last month either.

Councilor Knapp asked when looking at replacements for Mike, is Jon working days or nights now?

Jon said he rotates.
Deputy Supervisor Paul asked what the rotation is.
Jon said 1 week. He's been staying off the 3rd shift.
Councilor Knapp is just trying to find out what hours would be more important for coverage.
Jon said probably the day shift is when he needs more coverage. During the summer he rotates more often.

Councilor Knapp had nothing new to report on OCRRA other than his report last meeting.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to accept Fred Groth's proposal for repairs and construction at Community Center not to exceed \$2,500. Motion passed unanimously.

Kevin said they have done a referendum and sent it to Dale Sweetland regarding the security system false alarms that basically says local government should be exempt from fees and penalties. He explained the difficulties we have been having. We recognize that these costs are being transferred onto the taxpayers.

Councilor Knapp asked what Dale's attitude was.

Kevin said he agreed.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if this makes it on the agenda for the county legislature, to please let him know.

Kevin will. If it makes it on the agenda, our neighbors should also contact their legislators with the same request.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked about the article in the paper regarding the lacrosse box.

Councilor Knapp said they had an intern for 2 weeks and she contacted him to ask about the lacrosse box. She made it sound in the article like we are a little further ahead than we really are.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said to be sure there is a balance between volunteers and involvement from the town.

Councilor Knapp made it very clear that because of the volunteer efforts that went into the construction of this box lacrosse, we didn't want to insult anyone and make sure there wasn't any incorrect feelings there.

Kevin said when he spoke to Dale Sweetland, he was very anxious to contact Community Development for some money. He thinks Dale would like to work with Councilor Knapp to get some funding for this.

Deputy Supervisor Paul asked for any information on the for sale sign that is up in front of the Robinson property.

Kevin said Robinson has agreed to a foreclosure with Interbay. Apparently they have worked out some sort of agreement. They haven't been able to get a response from Interbay. The real estate agent has been hired by Interbay. He doesn't believe they have foreclosed yet. The bottom line is the auction is going forward. They haven't got any inquiries. He doesn't know if Councilor Dadey, Jr. has gotten a chance to talk with the fellow who purchased it last time. Interbay could bid in at the auction.

Ralph said he called the number on the sign and the girl couldn't even find it in the computer.

Councilor Knapp said the insurance for the women's softball league is all set. Our insurance company has the certificate so the women's and men's are both on the same policy and are all done. This can now be taken off the agenda.

Councilor Smith said they are going to start bringing in some woodchips at Bailey Park to cushion the equipment down there.

Ralph asked where they were getting the chips from.

Councilor Smith said Leon.

Councilor Paul said we have the notarized statement from John Harper regarding the posting for the Service Award Program.

Councilor's Dadey, Jr. moved and Knapp seconded the motion to authorize the Deputy Supervisor to sign

the authorization form from Penflex. Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Supervisor Paul introduced Mary Lou Murphy from the Character Education and David Hess from Niagara Mohawk.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if Niagara Mohawk has a policy where they allow municipal organizations to use the poles for banners and flags.

Dave asked if the school district is responsible for the banners or the town. If it's the town, it's easier.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said there's a few organizations who might be involved with using the poles for banners.

Dave said the first thing he needs is a letter of request from the school district or the town. He needs to know each pole they want to attach a banner to.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if Dave could get a map of the poles.

Dave said yes. Just let him know the scope.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said from the Town Offices south passed the L.F.D. From the intersection east to the old L.F.D. and west to McDonalds.

Dave will get the map for this area.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said we aren't going to use all these poles.

Dave said he needs to know the exact description of the banners. They will approve almost anything except naming corporations.

Mary Lou asked if they could have business names on them as they might purchase the banners.

Dave said no. He will need the exact dates of when the banners go up and when they will come down. The fixtures can stay up year-round. He said you need a million dollar liability policy which he believes the town has. He will need to know the weight and dimensions of the banner.

Deputy Supervisor Paul gave Mary Lou material on brackets and flags.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked Councilor Knapp if he remembered how many flags the Optimist Club put up.

Councilor Knapp thinks there was about 8 in each direction.

Mary Lou doesn't know how many now because they can't have businesses purchase them. She is hoping to start out with 6 boulevard banners.

Dave said they will go out and review the poles.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. said the town can help with coordinated efforts when she has an amount of brackets and banners she needs. Maybe some of the other organizations in town would be interested.

Councilor Knapp said regarding the security system, a phone has been hooked up. He will give them the new phone number to call and Mary Jo is going to make another effort to get out the password.

Marshall said all the phones are hooked up. They did have another false alarm last week,

Deputy Supervisor Paul thanked Marshall for his work on this.

Marshall said hopefully the new Xerox machine will be in this week.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if individual council people have voicemail now.

Marshall said anyone who has a desk has voicemail.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if the system has the capability for this.

Marshall said yes.

Councilor Smith said May 6th is the date for Family Day at the ropes course. Their first workshop is this weekend so hopefully the money will start coming in.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked Tom C. if we are all set up now for revenues.

Tom C. said yes. It will show up as a separate line item.

Councilor Dadey, Jr. asked if Councilor Smith anticipated we would be generating revenue for the town on this.

Councilor Smith said the money will be used to keep tax dollars down. Tax dollars hopefully will not have to be used. Grants and donations have covered the entire cost to date.

Tom C. said that sounds right. There is overhead for any government agency.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTIVE PROJECTS:

Leon said they had a Safety Meeting and Tom Rezsnyak wanted tests done on the water. Thursday Regina and he will go around to sample the water at the Highway Dept, Community Center, the

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