

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette on March 10, 2003 in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present: Gregory Scammell, Supervisor  
Norman Paul, Councilman  
Sandra Smith, Councilwoman  
David Knapp, Councilman

Absent: Thomas Bailey, Councilman (Arrived 7:05 p.m.)

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly

Others Present: Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney  
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper  
Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent  
Cindy Heckerman, Sentinel Hgts. Rd.  
Anne Smith, Historian  
Clay Smith, Eager Rd.  
Ralph Lamson, CEO

1. Supervisor Scammell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. The Town Clerk took the roll. Councilman Bailey was absent. All else present.
3. Town Councilman Paul led in the Pledge to the U.S. Flag.
4. **Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to approve the February 24, 2003, Town Board Public Hearing Minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Councilwoman Smith moved and Councilman Knapp seconded the motion to approve the February 24, 2003, Town Board Meeting Minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.**

Supervisor Scammell moved ahead on the agenda to Suggestions for Improvement & Positive Contributions. He presented Rev. Moody with a Certificate of Appreciation which read as follows:

“The Town of LaFayette, New York Erected April 15, 1825, by the New York State Legislature. Certificate of Appreciation for community service as a Town Historian. Resolved, on behalf of the residents of the Town of LaFayette, New York, the Town Board with respect and appreciation recognizes the time and effort Reverend Donald L. Moody has provided the community by actively serving as the Town Historian since June 10, 1985...”

Rev. Moody thanked the Board for the honor of this recognition. He reviewed the office of Historian. It was created in 1919 by the Assembly, however, it wasn't until 1955 that the Town of LaFayette had one. Mrs. Hall was the first Historian for 20 years and then Roy Dodge took over for 10 years. Rev. Moody was appointed to the position in June of 1985. He has served the position to the best of his ability for 17 ½ years. There are many ways a historian can serve his community and he did the best in the ways that came along his avenue. It was during his 10 years that the Grange Hall was converted into the Community Center that it is now. It was his suggestion that the second floor become a museum. As he leaves this office, he thinks his legacy will be the historical museum. He would like to thank the Board for making him Historian Emeritus. He is very happy with the selection they have made for his replacement.

Supervisor Scammell thanked him for everything he has done and presented him with a Town of LaFayette hat.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. There was no correspondence from the residents.

B. Association of Towns: 2003 Legislative Program.

C. Onondaga County Legislature 3.3.03 agenda.

“Calling public hearing on modification of Agricultural District No. 4 to include the Watson Greenhouse in the Town of LaFayette...”

D. Selective Insurance Group: Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

“Coverage for acts of terrorism is already included in your current Selective policy at no additional premium charge. It is important to note, however, your renewal policies may contain an additional premium charge for this coverage...”

E. OCRRA: 2003 Earth Day Cleanup.

“...OCRRA invites you to join in the county wide Earth Day litter clean up on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Thousands in our community will be going out that morning to pick up litter strewn in parks, on school grounds, and along our community's streets and highways. Working together, we have removed over one million pounds of litter since this community wide clean up program began...If your Municipality wants to recruit groups to work on April 26, you may do so. However, the groups will need to register with OCRRA. Please give the group contact the attached Community Group Sign Up Form...”

Leon Cook said the Highway Dept. is all set up. He gave Pat Keefe the information. He'll be talking to her and maybe they can get some extra groups together.

F. CNYRPDB: SPDES Phase II Stormwater Assistance Proposal.

“...The proposed assistance activities will take place over a twelve month period beginning 1 April 2003 and ending 31 March 2004. The total estimated cost for the proposed assistance program is \$60,855, of which CNY RPDB anticipates up to 75% will be funded through the NYS DEC. (604(b)). Each of the 30 MS4s in the Syracuse UA

will be billed \$500 if they choose to participate in this program (should only 20 MS4s choose to participate, the cost per MS4 would increase to \$750). The total MS4 contribution will make up the 25% local match required for 604(b) funding. CNY RPDB has applied for additional grant funding that, if awarded, will further offset the cost of this program and lower the requested MS4 contribution. Final determination of the cost per MS4 will be made in spring 2003 pending grant award notification. Participating MS4s will have until March 2004 to submit payment to CNY RPDB. The total estimated cost by task and possible funding sources are provided on page six of the enclosed proposal...”

Supervisor Scammell said he reads this as they are looking for us to participate in this. It will cost us between \$500 and \$750.

Councilman Knapp asked if the town is considered a MS4.

Supervisor Scammell said yes.

Kevin Gilligan thinks this also satisfies a number of the educational items on the NO1 recently submitted.

Councilman Knapp asked if this is something we should do.

Supervisor Scammell said yes.

Councilman Knapp asked if this would actually cover construction type things or more of the engineering things.

Supervisor Scammell read: “...the services proposed by CNY RPDB are grouped into three categories: Education, Outreach, Public Participation/Involvement and Training (EOPP/IT); Research Assistance; and Intermunicipal Cooperation and Coordination Assistance. Tasks proposed under the EOPP/IT category address specific requirements under the following minimum control measures (MCMs): Public Education and Outreach; Public Involvement/Participation; and Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping. Tasks proposed under the other two categories will aid compliance efforts under all of the minimum control measures...” He said this will help with the education part of this. He would guess most of the municipalities would be participating in this.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Paul seconded the motion to authorize the supervisor to sign any agreements needed for us to join the CNY RPDB grant request not to exceed \$800. Motion passed unanimously.**

G. NYS ORPS: Residential Assessment Ratio.

“Residential Assessment Ratio – 87.30...Time Frame of Sales – 7/1/2001 through 6/30/2002...The Residential Assessment Ratio was established as the median ratio in the list of ratios of assessment to sale price sorted in ascending order. The ratios in the list were calculated by simply dividing the total assessed value by the total selling price of each sale...”

Councilman Knapp asked the difference between this and the equalization rate.

Supervisor Scammell believes the equalization rate is town-wide and this is more individual residents. He wrote a letter to Mr. Kominoski asking whether or not the real estate fees are included in the price as the fee is not included in the value of you home. This is an additional 7%. He is waiting to hear back from him.

H. Request from Anne Smith to attend Spring Historical Conference.

“The Association of Public Historians of New York State is holding a Spring Conference from April 13 to 15 in Ithaca. I would like to attend and am requesting permission to be present at the sessions on Monday, April 14. I am especially interested in the session for new historians and how to create a database. The cost of registration is \$25 and meals for one day \$50.00. Please find enclosed a copy of the registration form. Thank you for your consideration...”

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to approve Anne Smith to attend the Spring Conference for a registration fee of \$25.00 and meals for \$50.00. Motion passed unanimously.**

I. Other.

Anne said she wanted to get the Board’s permission to do a little bit of town historical work in the Meeting Room and the hallways. The pictures do not all hang straightly. At the Chamber of Commerce Building in Skaneateles they have the historical photos but they have put them inside molding. They slide in and can be changed or shifted around. We could do the same thing here. She doesn’t know what the cost would be but she would be glad to research it.

The Town Board was in favor of this.

Anne said they are going to start the stretching classes again for Sr. Citizens. Could they use this room on Wednesday mornings? If they have more than 15, it’s hard to move around in the Community Center.

Supervisor Scammell asked about how many are usually in the classes.

Anne said they will be starting about the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April and they have been getting 15 and up. She doesn’t know exactly how many they will have. They have had an average of 10.

Anne said the students of Fowler High School have designed a memorial for the space shuttle Columbia. It was part of their program to put the ant farm on the Columbia. They will have bricks for sale that will lead up to the memorial. The cost of a brick is \$50 and will have the name of the organization/person purchasing it on it. There are 7 trees with a silhouette of the space shuttle in the middle. The Historical Society is thinking of purchasing a brick with their name on it for this memorial.

6. **SPECIAL REPORT**. None.

7. **REPORTS**.

A. Departmental (4<sup>th</sup> Monday).

1) Dog Control: Jon Rogers & Sue Snavlin.

2) Building & Zoning Code Enforcement: Ralph Lamson & Jack Sutton.

- South Syracuse Motel – Route 20 W – planned demolition (1.27.03).
- Farwell residence – Reidy Hill. Boarded up.

- Former lumber company office on Route 11 N – septic review.
- Jamesville Grove Grandstand permit needed? – review when weather permits.
- Junk vehicle status.
  - Former Craw Farm on Jamesville-Apulia – review in the Spring, when weather permits.
- Sunset Hills.
- Webb Road vehicle parking (2).

3) Highway Superintendent: Leon Cook.

- Safety Footwear.

4) Justice: Malcolm Knapp & Maureen Perrin.

5) Library Director: Scott Kushner.

6) Recreation Director: Regina Reinschmidt.

7) Town Clerk: Mary Jo Kelly.

8) Town Supervisor: Greg Scammell.

B. Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday).

1) Communications and Technology.

- Digital Towpath – Demo & Testing in process (GS).

2) Emergency Response.

- Defibrillators.

Councilman Bailey advised he is still waiting to hear back from some businesses.

Councilman Paul asked if there is any backup power in this building.

Councilman Knapp said there is one UPS backup downstairs.

Tom Chartrand said it's for the phones.

Councilman Knapp said there is no generator.

- Annual Review of Disaster Preparedness Plan – pagers & subset.

## 3) Employee Policies and Benefits.

- Employee Medical Plan contributions.  $\$9,637/\text{year} \times 1\% = \$96.37/\text{year} = \$3.71/\text{pay period}$  (currently \$2/month).

Supervisor Scammell said Leon Cook had advised the Highway Dept. wasn't in favor of increasing their contributions. He asked if all the Highway Dept. employees opposed contributing an increase from \$2/month to \$3.71/month or just some of them.

Leon said it was all of them.

- Holiday schedule (Federal holidays vs. employee handbook).
- NYS Disability Insurance. ~\$4/month – males, \$8/month – females. Review at budget time.

## 4) Environmental and Conservation Advisory Board.

## 5) Highway.

- New EPA ditching/storm water management requirements (SPDES).

Supervisor Scammell said the NO1 is in so we are all set.

Leon said their expenses for this winter will be a lot higher than what was budgeted. He took \$5,000 out of last years budget to lower taxes and he kept that \$5,000 out of his winter expenses for sand, salt and fuel. They will be O.K. The fuel and the overtime are totaling \$8,202 more than in 2000-2001. He estimates we are going to be using 1,500 ton of sand and salt mix more than last year. He had 2,200 ton left over from last winter otherwise we would be in trouble. This fall at budget time he will have some good sound figures for next winter. He thinks he better come up with a new item in his budget so the general fund doesn't have to worry about the things he has to get for safety. The taxpayers will be paying for it whether it's in the general fund or highway fund. He will come up with the money amount for shoes and classes they need and have it in this account. He has the safety meetings set up for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of April at the Tully Offices.

Councilor Knapp asked if they had purchased the shoes yet.

Leon said he has it set up for the guy to come in. He will give a report at the next meeting.

Supervisor Scammell and Councilman Paul attended a meeting last night at the Town of Manlius. Currently their employees contribute 20% and they are dropping it down to 15% this year.

## 6) SOTS &amp; OCCRA Liaison.

- Amend local law re: R. DeMore's suggestion.

Councilman Knapp said they will be getting a letter out within the next 7 – 10

days. Leon has been working with Feher re: our roads. The refunds for people who made changes are going out. Some went out last Friday and a bunch went out tonight. They should be wrapping those up shortly.

Councilman Paul asked if Feher has to have a permit.

Councilman Knapp said yes. He advised the \$2,000 the Town forwarded SOTS is also being refunded.

Regarding the suggestion to amend the local law, Kevin said he spoke to one of the other attorneys and they agreed we all should be doing the same thing. He would like to see their proposal.

Councilman Knapp said whenever we do it, we do it.. Waste Management or Syracuse Haulers aren't gong to come out here for one customer.

Kevin will look into this further.

#### 7) Physical Plant.

- Town Offices Directory. Installed.
- Roof/ceiling leaks: Library (repair & assessment) & Community center (new side roof estimate).
- Community Center cleanup (downstairs office, etc.).
- Recreation Director relocation (phone, painting, etc.)
- B&H A/C contract.

Supervisor Scammell asked what the danger is for us to continue doing service with them.

Kevin said the danger is, we can't send the money to B & H, it would have to go to the attorney.

Mary Jo advised they are under a new name now.

Kevin said to send a copy of their contract to him so he can look at it.

#### 8) Recreation and Youth.

a) Bailey Park.

b) LaFayette Beach.

- Fencing needed around pool: Insurance (SS).

Councilwoman Smith said this doesn't need to be done now as long as the signs are up. This can be removed from the agenda.

- New facilities (SS).
- Survey/transfer LaFayette Beach from LCC to town.

c) Stafford Park.

- Fencing needed: Insurance (SS).

Councilwoman Smith said this doesn't need to be done now as long as the signs are up. This can be removed from the agenda.

9) Safety.

Councilwoman Smith said they are having a meeting tomorrow night. They checked the emergency lights again and fixed those that needed to be fixed.

10) Senior Transportation and Housing.

- F.I.S.H.

Supervisor Scammell said this is still on schedule.

Councilwoman Smith said there is a meeting Wednesday night on this.

- LCSD transportation for seniors for groceries, etc.

Supervisor Scammell has turned this over to Beverly Oliver and Mr. Henderson.

11) Service Awards.

Councilman Knapp said they have had the list posted for 30 days and it would be nice if the list could be approved tonight. There was one appeal that they expected and there's a letter stating they agree with her and that she qualifies for the 50 points. There are two buyouts. They are supposed to be faxing us an affidavit of the posting.

The Board will return to this later.

12) Water.

13) Zoning Review.

- Digitized zoning map.
- Industrial zones to business zones update.
- Misc. review: Communications/Cell Towers & Private (single horse) horse stables.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ACTIVE PROJECTS.**

A. Litigation and other legal matters.

1) Onondaga Nation land claim.

2) LaFayette Central School District renovation/drainage.

Supervisor Scammell said he had a meeting with the school and they seemed



receptive to the towns concerns.

3) Developer Fees & Planning Process Evaluation (SS & DK).

4) Watson v. Town of LaFayette.

- Developer deposit.

5) Groth Road Communications Tower – AT & T.

Kevin spoke with them at 4:50 p.m. this afternoon and their legal people and home office people are still looking at it. They are still wrestling with the numbers and language. They plan to co-locate on the Town of LaFayette's tower and Shanahans.

B. Other Active Projects.

1) Town of LaFayette urn & tile display case (GS).

2) Time-Warner Cable TV franchise renewal (GS).

3) Town holiday lighting.

4) ZBA member appointment to replace J. Butkus.

5) Alternate ZBA and Planning Board member appointments.

9. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. Other.

Supervisor reviewed the increase in town properties due to the recent reval.

10. **SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT & POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS.**

- Certificate of Appreciation for Rev. Moody.  
(Presented earlier in the meeting.)

Councilman Knapp said last Thursday, the Optimist Club had their Annual Oratorical Contest and Supervisor Scammell was one of the judges. He did an admiral job under tough circumstances. The participants discussed why they are optimistic for the future. Supervisor Scammell said a few words at the end of it.

Supervisor Scammell said he was really pleased with it. We have some talented kids here.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion for the Town Board to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and a matter of litigation and to include the Code Enforcement Officer and Town Attorney. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Town Board went into Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. and Supervisor Scammell called the Regular Town Board Meeting back to order at 7:54 p.m.

The Board returned to the Service Awards.

An affidavit of posting was faxed over.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Paul seconded the motion to authorize the supervisor to sign the form authorizing PENFLEX, INC to use the data herein submitted about active volunteer firefighter Service Award Program 2002 records. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion authorizing the buyouts for Philip Field and John Wise. Motion passed unanimously.**

**11. Councilmen Paul moved and Knapp seconded the motion to audit and pay the following bills:**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b># 8517 - #8549</b>
<b>HIGHWAY FUN</b>	<b># 8499 - # 8516</b>
<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b># 8550</b>
<b>TRUST &amp; AGENCY</b>	<b># 8551 - # 8554</b>

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**12. Councilmen Knapp moved and Paul seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Regular Town Board Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly  
Town Clerk