

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the Town of LaFayette on December 13, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present: Gregory Scammell, Supervisor  
Sandra Smith, Councilwoman  
David Knapp, Councilman  
Thomas Bailey, Councilman  
William McConnell, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Others Present: Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent  
Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney  
Sue Snavlin, Dep. DCO  
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper  
Ralph Lamson, CEO  
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk  
Capt. Bronstad, Onon. Sheriff's Dept.  
Assemblyman Jeff Brown  
Heidi Smith, Dodge Rd.

1. Supervisor Scammell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Supervisor Scammell said Bill Royer passed away. He has served a long time on our Environmental Board. He wished to hold a moment of silence for Bill Royer.

Councilman Knapp said in WWII he quit college and was a B29 pilot over Japan where he flew several missions. He went back to college after completing his time in the service and was a great resident of the town.

2. The Town Clerk took the Roll. All else present.

3. Pledge to our U. S. Flag led by Town Councilor Tom Bailey.

Supervisor Scammell introduced Assemblyman Jeff Brown.

Assemblyman Brown said not a lot got done in Albany in his mind over the past year. He is around and available for whatever he can do to help us out as we are one of his 5 towns. He deals with Supervisor Scammell and Councilman Knapp quite a bit on some issues. They have worked together to try to get the hotel back up and running. He said please don't hesitate to call him. As far as an update of where things are, one of the major issues is the speeding fine money which is important to LaFayette as well as other towns. They have actually passed legislation to repeal this provision in the budget in both houses. Now it's a question as to whether Governor Pataki will sign it. He was for taking the money away all along. Finally this year the legislature agreed with it. Now they are working to see what the governor will do about it. He will contact them tomorrow morning and let Supervisor Scammell know where this is at or where it's going to go. The other huge issue is reform in Albany and changing how things will be done.

They passed a piece of legislature this year to set up a contingency fund in case they can't get their job done. That was vetoed by the governor and has not been overridden. There are negotiations still going on how to get a budget passed on time in New York State. This will hopefully be resolved in January. If not, he is willing to request a constitutional convention to give the power back to the people. He is pushing for jobs. He is taking the "Come Home to Syracuse" Foundation which he founded to push for more businesses to come here. There are local bills he can help out on too. The LaFayette School District came to him when the State Education Dept. overpaid them. He got a local bill passed in the Assembly to repay this over several years so it wouldn't have as big an impact on the taxpayers. He left some brochures telling people how they can get in touch with his office if they need to. He sends email from Albany to try to keep everyone up to date on what's going on there.

Councilman Knapp asked when the session would start in January.

Assemblyman Brown said January 5<sup>th</sup> is the Governor's Address and the following week the session begins.

Councilman Knapp said one thing that also hit us pretty hard is the State Retirement System which is going up dramatically.

Assemblyman Brown said the comptroller and legislature are going back and forth on how to handle this. He believes they need to come up with a long-term solution for this. He doesn't have specifics but he has to believe they will get something done.

Marshall Taylor asked if he sees any hope for the repeal of the free pension system for the folks in Albany. New York State gives the best of the best in Medicare for free. The local districts are getting stuck paying for it.

Assemblyman Brown said pension is one area that we need to look at. We might need a new tier to get rid of this. He thinks the real focus now is fixing the current problem and then they have to look at something else. Municipalities can't carry on with the costs. Regarding Medicare, we have the Cadillac version. We offer every extra benefit around under it. He has been out in front stating we need to change this. He proposes to have the state take over Medicare. Some say it benefits New York City more but he would recommend taking money from New York City to offset that. We need to stream-line Medicaid. The people that deserve it should be getting it. There are people now who hide assets to get it. That is where we need to look.

Marshall Taylor asked why the veteran's exemption isn't allowed on school tax.

Assemblyman Brown said he would be more than happy to look into this. He doesn't know the history on it.

Marshall Taylor said this is a question he gets asked a lot.

Councilman Knapp said we hear bits and pieces under HAVA that they may be pushing us to retire our voting machines and buy new ones. Our machines work beautiful and we are concerned about the cost.

Assemblyman Brown said we will be required to do it by the 2006 election. There is a mandate. We got a waiver for this year. There's 100 million dollars out there to pay for these machines. You will not have to foot the bill yourselves. The county has already selected the machine they would like to have. He understands they will be purchased through the county. They will get something done by 2006. Barring any unforeseen change, there will be new machines.

Supervisor Scammell believes this is a complete waste of money from his perspective.

Assemblyman Brown said we didn't have the problems that Florida did.

Councilman Bailey asked if in 2006 it would be a soft launch using these machines.

Assemblyman Brown believes they are looking for a soft launch in 2005.

Marshall Taylor said almost 60% of all the property in New York State is tax exempt. He asked if Assemblyman Brown saw any of this changing.

Assemblyman Brown said realistically he doesn't see it changing.

Councilman Knapp said he would like to thank Assemblyman Brown who has spent a lot of time in meeting with the DEC for the hotel.

Supervisor Scammell thanked him for this too. He is always very responsive when Supervisor Scammell calls him and the Sr. Citizens are thankful for the grant he obtained for them.

4. Kevin Gilligan had a correction to the November 22<sup>nd</sup> Town Board Meeting Minutes. On page 11 under Longley Jones/Festival Gardens it should read "currently owe us \$19,021.75" instead of "\$19,021.25". **Councilwoman Smith moved and Councilman Knapp seconded the motion to accept the November 22, 2004, Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Supervisor Scammell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilwoman Smith</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Knapp</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Bailey</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**Motion carried.**

5. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

**A. Residents.**

**B. Dog Control Officer Jon Rogers: Declination of reappointment.**

"I Jon Rogers will not be seeking nor will accept reappointment of LaFayette Animal Control Officer for the year 2005."

**C. Syracuse Post-Standard, 11.19.04: CNY Unemployment.**

"The Syracuse area's unemployment rate fell in October as the area gained about 3,100 jobs compared with the same month last year. The jobless rate in Cayuga Madison, Onondaga and Oswego counties dropped to 5.1 percent last month, from 5.2 percent in September and 5.7 percent in October last year...It was the lowest jobless rate in the four-county area since August 2002, when the rate was 4.7 percent. October's numbers represent the fourth consecutive drop in the unemployment rate...Most of the area's job gains were in the service sector, which includes everything except manufacturing, construction, mining and agriculture...The national unemployment rate was 5.1 percent last month..."

**D. LaFayette Outreach: Holiday season donations.**

“Outreach is busy planning for the 2004 Holiday Season. At this time, there are many families who are in need of our assistance. As winter and the Holidays draw closer more families will need to avail themselves of our Outreach services.

The Outreach Program relies on the generosity of the community to provide “services to the elderly, the poor, and the disadvantaged who live in” LaFayette, Nedrow, the Onondaga Nation and other parts of Southern Onondaga County. We need that continued support for the Holiday Season and throughout the coming year. Once again, Outreach angels will be available at area churches. They will contain the necessary information to allow for the purchase of a gift. In the past, families and organizations have adopted an entire family for Christmas. We have families of various sizes so you can be matched to the appropriate size group.

There are other ways you can help. Cash donations are welcome as we can apply funds as needed. Donations of turkeys and other food items are used for both Thanksgiving and Christmas, and throughout the year. Volunteers are also needed during the Holiday season to prepare baskets and sort gifts, etc.

We are extremely grateful for your past and continued support. If you or your organization is interested in being part of this rewarding experience please call 315-677-5221. Outreach is successful because of a caring community. Cheryle Jepson, Director...”

**E. Onondaga Citizens League: OCL 2004 Study, “How to Increase Political Participation in Onondaga County.”**

Thank you for the Town of LaFayette’s corporate sponsorship renewal with the Onondaga Citizens League. The work of the Citizens League represents an important contribution to civic education and citizen participation in community issues. Your continued support enables the OCL to continue this fine tradition. OCL’s 2004 Study “How to Increase Political Participation in Onondaga County” is nearing completion...”

Councilman Knapp asked how we sponsored them.

Supervisor Scammell said we gave them \$100.

Councilman Knapp asked how we can give this to them.

Tom Chartrand said it’s a subscription.

**F. Time-Warner Cable: Price change for services, starting 1.1.05.**

“This letter will serve as official notice that Time Warner Cable will implement price changes on some services beginning January 1, 2005. The last price change was implemented on January 1, 2004. We have enclosed a copy of the rate increase notification that is included in our customers’ statements this month.

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> and reflected on next month’s statement, the monthly rate for Basic service will be \$6.05 and the monthly rate for Standard service (which also includes all Basic channels) will be \$48.40...”

Councilman Knapp asked if Supervisor Scammell heard anything back from them.

Supervisor Scammell said he hasn’t heard a thing.

**G. NYS Senator John DeFrancisco: Traffic fine policy.**

“This is to follow up on my previous letter concerning the effort I and other members of the Senate Majority were making to reverse the new traffic fine policy contained in the State Budget...before acting on any other unresolved Budget veto or funding issue, gave final passage on November 18<sup>th</sup> to S.7757, legislation that will repeal this new policy and reinstate the prior distribution of fines. In order for the measure to take effect, however, it must also be approved by the Governor. I would encourage every town and village to quickly express to Governor Pataki the need to sign the bill into law...”

Supervisor Scammell said we did write this letter and it has been sent.

**H. Assessor Marshall Taylor: Real Property Tax Law 502, 503 (updating tax maps and assessment rolls to reflect subdivided lots).**

“An assessor should update tax maps and assessment rolls to reflect subdivided lots, regardless of whether the subdivision received local zoning or planning approval, because a failure to do so could compromise the enforcement of any taxes levied thereon...”

Marshall Taylor just wanted to provide this information to the Town Board so they could see that the assessor must create the subdivision lots whether it’s been done locally or not.

Councilman Knapp asked how he knows if a sale has been made.

Marshall Taylor said the county advises him of the deed being filed.

**I. NYS DEC: Proposed Plan Announced for Onondaga Lake Site.**

“...A Remedial Investigation which was completed in 2002 investigated the nature and extent of contamination in Onondaga Lake...The proposed remedy is estimated to include the dredging of up to 2.65 million cubic yards of sediment from the portion of the lake in which water depths range from 0 to 30 feet – with most of the dredging being performed in the southwest portion of the lake. It would also include the use of isolation capping over an estimated 425 acres of this area...The estimate present worth cost to implement the remedy is approximately \$451,000,000. The cost to construct the remedy is estimated to be \$414,000,000 and the estimated average annual operation and maintenance cost is \$3,000,000...”

Councilman Knapp said there’s a big argument going on as to whether it’s better to dredge it and stir it all up or just to cap it.

**J. CNYRPDB: SPDES Stormwater Phase II Construction Permit Education.**

Ralph Lamson said they sent him a bunch of brochures on this.

Councilman Knapp said this is for new construction.

Supervisor Scammell said yes.

**K. Tennessee Gas Pipeline/El Paso: Emergency Personnel List.**

“Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company owns and operates a network of more than 19,000 miles of natural gas transmission lines....Enclosed please find Tennessee Gas Pipeline’s Emergency Personnel List indicating who to notify in case of an emergency...”

Supervisor Scammell said this is filed in his emergency folder in his office.

Ralph Lamson asked if the fire departments got a copy of this.  
Capt. Bronstad said he got one so he would think the fire departments did too.

**L. Onondaga County Legislature: 12.7.04 agenda.**

“Amending the 2005 County Budget and authorizing an agreement with the Town of Fabius for the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office to provide enhanced police services (\$10,000). Amending the 2005 County Budget and authorizing an agreement with the Town of Pompey for the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office to provide enhanced police services (\$15,000). Authorizing the Sheriff’s Office to accept an automated external defibrillator purchased on its behalf by Central New York E.M.S. Inc. through the rural access to Emergency Devices Grant Program...Expanding the membership of the City of Syracuse/County of Onondaga Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission...”

Councilman Knapp asked Councilman Bailey if he had ever heard of the Emergency Devices Grant Program.

Councilman Bailey said no.

Supervisor Scammell said this might be helpful.

**M. NYS Senator Joe Bruno: Justice fines.**

“Thank you for your correspondence in opposition to the provision included in the 2004-05 State Budget regarding the disposition of local Justice Court fines.

I am pleased to report that my colleagues and I in the State Senate passed legislation that would repeal the provision in the 2004-05 State Budget which shifted traffic fine revenues from localities to the state...

The legislation, S.7757, also passed the State Assembly (A.11845) and will now be sent to the Governor for his consideration...

As you may know, the traffic fine provision was part of a 45 page budget bill (S.6056B) that covered a multitude of programs ranging from consumer protection to aid for small cities. While my colleagues and I were supportive of a vast majority of that budget bill, the Senate had serious concerns about the fine collection ever since it was proposed in the Executive Budget. We recognized that the revenue loss could have a negative fiscal impact on local governments, but at the same time, we were trying to restore funding cuts to many programs and avert a host of proposed taxes and fees...”

**N. Town Clerk Mary Jo Kelly: New Health Insurance payroll deductions.**

“Beginning with your payroll deductions for health Insurance in 2005, there will be an increase of 34 cents for the Family Plan and 13 cents for the Individual Plan. Dental Insurance will remain the same.”

A letter was received from Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board.

“Open enrollment for the addition of viable farmland to existing certified agricultural districts in Onondaga County is set for January 1, 2005 to January 31, 2005. In 2003 the New York State Agricultural Districts Law 24—AA was amended to allow agricultural property owners the opportunity to request that their land be added to a certified agricultural district annually, rather than having to wait until the district is up for review. Viable agricultural land is land highly suitable for agricultural production. Land

that is enrolled should be parcel(s) of more than seven acres with annual gross farm sales of \$10,000 or more or less than seven acres with annual gross sales of \$50,000 or more. A property owner can enroll farmland if the land is rented to a farm operator with a gross farm income of greater than \$10,000 or \$50,000 depending on size of acreage...”

**O. Syracuse Post-Standard, 12.2.04: Health Insurance Rates.**

“Central New York’s largest health insurer will raise rates by an average of 13.7 percent on Jan. 1 for many of its members...The larger increase reflects higher claims expenses in 2004...Two other area insurers will impose even bigger rate hikes Jan. 1. Health Now is raising rates by an average of 33 percent; MVP Healthcare is planning a 16.3 percent increase..The Excellus rate hike is slightly higher than the 11.3 percent average increase employers nationwide are expected to see next year...”

“MVP has about 150,000 members in Central New York...his company’s increase reflects rising prescription drug costs, new costly procedures, overuse of radiology and imaging services, hospital expansions and technology upgrades...HMO coverage for one person is about \$561. That will rise to about \$673 on Jan 1...Rate increases for experienced-rated groups, which make up most of Excellus’ business in Central New York, will vary from employer to employer....Of every dollar spent on benefits expense, Excellus said, doctors get 34 cents; hospitals get 22 cents for inpatient care; 21 cents pays for outpatient services; 18 cents pays for prescription drugs; and 5 cents is spent on other items, such as durable medical equipment and ambulance service...”

**P. Syracuse Post-Standard, 12.2.04: Health Costs Outpace Wages.**

“Although the increase in spending remained below double-digits, health costs for each privately insured American rose by 7.5 percent – almost the same pace as last year, driven largely by steeper hospital rates...health care costs are likely to continue growing faster than workers’ income for the foreseeable future..”

**Q. Marshall Taylor: Computer for LaFayette Community Council.**

“Attached you will find a quote from Dell and a purchase offer to buy a new computer to be used by the Community Council. This is a one time payment with no lease Tom Chartrand explained to me that the Community Council has 2000 dollars in their 2004 budget as of December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Community Council did not include any money in their 2005 budget for a computer purchase. If the Town Board wants to honor this request, they need to pass a motion allowing the surplus dollars in the 2004 budget to be used for purchasing a computer. This computer is a mid-level high quality system that includes the Microsoft Office Basic Edition software. Most of the computers in our office cost about 2500 to 2900 dollars, this computer costs 1333 dollars.”

Councilman McConnell asked if the Community Council came to him to bring this up.

Marshall Taylor said actually they went to Tom Chartrand who came to him and he said he would work something up.

Councilman McConnell asked why the Community Council can’t just use their money for this.

Marshall Taylor said this is money they haven't spent in their equipment budget. They can't use the left-over money for this computer unless the Board approves using the money for it.

Councilman McConnell asked if this was an oversight on their part that they didn't spend it on what they wanted to use it for.

Marshall Taylor said actually they started having trouble with their old computer. Regina Reinschmidt mentioned to him that they needed to possibly purchase a new one. She talked to Tom Chartrand and then came back to him and asked him to please order her a computer.

Supervisor Scammell said this is a replacement for their old computer.

Marshall Taylor said the old computer will become surplus. No one would want this computer.

Councilman Bailey asked if the service contracts are standard.

Marshall Taylor said yes.

Councilman Knapp asked if it comes with the monitor.

Marshall Taylor said yes, a 17" flat screen.

Councilman Knapp said there would be an initial year of service and then an extended 2-year agreement.

Councilman Bailey asked if there were any incidental costs for transferring old files to the new computer.

Marshall Taylor said no. He doesn't think there is much to transfer. Regina Reinschmidt uses the computer at the town offices for her letters, etc.

Councilman Knapp asked if this includes shipping.

Marshall Taylor said yes.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion to authorize the supervisor to sign the computer sale agreement to purchase a new computer for Community Council. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **R. Other.**

A letter was received from Maureen Perrin and Eva Palmer dated 12/13/04 requesting to attend the 2005 Association of Towns Meeting in New York City and to advance them \$700 each for expenses.

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to approve Maureen Perrin, Eva Palmer, and Councilman Bailey to attend the Annual Association of Towns Training School and to advance them \$700 each for expenses. Motion passed unanimously..**

Capt. Bronstad was present to discuss the deputy patrol. Salina and Van Buren also participate in this program. There is one deputy for this area. Every town has its own unique problems. A car is sent to the area but he can't guarantee how long they can stay here. You tell them what you would like them to do while they are working for you. The time spans are whatever you want to set up. You stop paying when they leave the township to help another officer or for an emergency. It's a contract. The Town of Salina has written their own traffic laws so all the fines the deputy writes go right to the Town of Salina and nothing goes to the state. You are actually paying a deputy on overtime to work your township for whatever you want done.

Councilman Bailey asked what the parameters are of the supervisor superceding the requests of the towns.

Capt. Bronstad said there is none.

Councilman McConnell asked whose vehicle they use.

Capt. Bronstad said theirs. They are covered under their insurance, etc. There is no liability to the town.

Supervisor Scammell said its \$40/hour.

Capt. Bronstad said it's closer to \$50/hour.

Supervisor Scammell asked how the contract would read.

Capt. Bronstad said he will get a copy of one to Supervisor Scammell to review.

The town can set aside money and spend it as or if they want to.

Councilman Knapp asked how far ahead the Sheriff's Dept. would have to know.

Capt. Bronstad said about 1 month ahead of when you need the deputy. The town would get a printout of what the deputy has done while in the town.

Supervisor Scammell asked if there is a minimum time-frame.

Capt. Bronstad said it's generally 3-4 hours per visit.

Councilman Knapp asked if you can spread the shift into different areas of concern.

Capt. Bronstad said it's whatever you folks would want the deputy to do. If the town isn't happy, he would replace the deputy. It would be someone who is familiar with the area.

Councilman McConnell said when the officer's aren't working the cars are sitting idle. Is that how they can supply the cars for the deputies to use?

Capt. Bronstad said yes. They have enough to cover their shifts and enough left over for this program.

Councilman McConnell said Fabius uses this program seasonally.

Capt. Bronstad said that would be up to the town. He will send a copy of the contract to Mary Jo for distribution. It's a pretty standard contract from town to town.

Councilman McConnell said the town can decide how many hours.

Capt. Bronstad said correct.

## 6. **SPECIAL REPORT. Town Historian Anne Smith: Annual Report.**

A written report was submitted.

## 7. **REPORTS.**

### A. **DEPARTMENTAL (4<sup>th</sup> Monday).**

#### 1) **Building & Zoning Code Enforcement: Ralph Lamson & Jack Sutton.**

##### a) **Junk vehicle status.**

- **Prioritized (multiple vehicles and long standing violations) spreadsheet listing (in process).**
- **4137 Route 91. Multiple autos.**
- **2171 LaFayette Road, 1/2mile North of Route 20. Abandoned red auto on east side.**
- **2300 – 2330 Route 11 South, across from cemetery, multiple autos.**

**b) Parent/In-law apartments/additions.**

Supervisor Scammell asked the board if they had any thoughts on what they would like to do re: in-law apartments.

Councilman Knapp believes it's a good idea but he just isn't sure about the tightrope we need to walk to keep it from being abused or from creating problems 10 years down the road. He asked if additions are allowed.

Ralph Lamson said not if they have separate living quarters.

Kevin Gilligan asked what triggers separate living quarters.

Ralph Lamson said a separate kitchen, etc.

Further discussion took place.

**2) Dog Control: Jon Rogers, Sue Snavlin & Madeline Despres.****a) Feral Dogs in Stillmeadow Road area.**

Supervisor Scammell advised Jim Moore has contacted Mr. Turner about this.

**b) Lake Country Veterinary Clinic contract.**

Kevin Gilligan said there is still too much mention of adopting of the animals. This does not deal with the town. He doesn't believe it's up to the town to determine what dog is adoptable and what dog isn't.

Supervisor Scammell believes we are only responsible for the sheltering for 10 days.

Councilman McConnell believes changes need to be made to the contract. He believes it should be changed to read "after 10 days the dog is no longer a responsibility of the town".

Kevin Gilligan believes the towns responsibility ends after 10 days. He suggested the following wording: "The town's responsibility to dogs ends after 10 days". It was also decided it the contract should read "claimant or person adopting the dog".

Supervisor Scammell will make the necessary changes and initial them and send the contract to Lake Country to initial and send back that they agree to the changes.

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to authorize the supervisor to sign the contract with Lake Country Veterinary Clinic as amended. Motion passed unanimously.**

**3) Highway Superintendent: Leon Cook.****a) SPDES/MS4 Stormwater Phase II (see J. Dunkle list). Time & expense log.****b) Keough Tract – area speed limit.**

The area speed limit signs are all up.

Leon Cook said the old signs are all down and in the shop. He advised he has a lot of brush to cut.

He had to get a permit for Butternut Creek off of Dodge Rd. They got the beaver dam out. The trapper is still trying to catch what is left of the beavers. He finally got the permit from the DEC for Walburger Rd. He has to get a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. They are waiting for the water to go down as their permit reads they have to do it at low water.

The contractor is supposed to accept delivery of the pipe on Friday for the Scammell Rd. and Route 11 intersection. Route 11 will be closed starting next Monday (the 20<sup>th</sup>) for two weeks. He notified LaFayette and Tully School Districts about the road closing.

He's had a lot of trouble with the furnace at the Highway Dept. He had Bush Oil work on it. The motor went and they put a new one in which didn't last 3 days. They took it back to where they bought it under warranty. Bush Oil advised him that he needed to get an electrician. They ended up running 220 from the furnace through a relay. It's working good right now.

Councilman Knapp asked if the resident's would be notified about Route 11 being closed as they probably don't know anything about it. He asked about a sign being put up.

Leon Cook will talk to the state about this and see if they can put a portable sign up advising of the road closing.

They have made all the necessary repairs to the 92 Chevy. They picked up almost 50 tires that were dumped on a woman's property. She brought them all out to the road.

There was a dead tree on Markland Rd. that they were afraid would fall into the road with the wind we've been having. There were paint cans dumped by the tree. There were 16 1-gallon cans and they all were full. There were a couple of tar cans too. When the county has their paint collection, in the spring, he will take them in.

#### **c) Driveway sight distances.**

Supervisor Scammell noted John Dunkle sent some information on this. Apparently the 10' for each mile is an outdated standard that no one is really using. John Dunkle recommends we use the NYS guidelines which is what the county uses.

Leon Cook said he was told by a state engineer that you can't deny someone access to the road from their property. Doug Drumm is thinking of buying the property across the road from Mr. Murray and will also be looking for a driveway onto Commane Rd. He has been using the county standards. We never officially adopted the county's rules or laws for sight distance. The state engineer said you can't legally deny a landowner access to the road.

#### **d) Cul-de-sacs.**

Leon Cook said the developers like to put in a cul-de-sac as they can get 5 building lots off of them. On a cul-de-sac you are limited as to where you can put the snow because of the driveways.

Supervisor Scammell asked Ralph Lamson if he saw any reason to limit the cul-de-sac.

Ralph Lamson said the only area of concern he has is emergency vehicle access. The Town Board decided they were moving in the direction to lift the 1,000' restriction on cul-de-sacs.

- 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.**

A written report for November was submitted.

- **Intermunicipal Cooperation & Consolidation.**

**B. COMMITTEE (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday).**

**1) Communications & Technology.**

- **Town Website & email - Digital Towpath evaluation.**

**2) Emergency Response.**

**a) AEDs (Defibrillators).**

Councilman Bailey said the application process is going to continue into 2005 as far as distribution of the grants.

Councilman Knapp said the L.F.D. has gotten a couple of new radios with more on the way under this grant.

**b) LFD house numbers: Being installed.**

**c) LFD exhaust vents – grants available?**

**3) Employee Policies & Benefits.**

- **Election Day designation as a holiday.**

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to amend the Employee Policy making Election Day a floating holiday. Motion passed unanimously.**

**4) Environmental & Conservation Advisory Board.**

- **Forest Tent Caterpillar & Gypsy Moth – Informational meeting, Feb. 5, 2005.**

**5) Highway.**

**6) Physical Plant .**

**a) LaFayette Commons/Library: Leaking over library circulation desk. Resheet rock when complete.**

Supervisor Scammell said he checked on the leak in the library on Saturday. There was no leak at that time.

It was decided to go forward with the sheet rocking.

**b) LaFayette Commons/Library: Heat tape to be installed in valley over library entrance.**

This was completed and can be removed from the agenda.

**c) LaFayette Community Center: Insulate or heat tape over the kitchen area to prevent ice buildup.**

It was decided to get a price from Fred Groth on this. Councilman Knapp will contact him.

d) **Estimate for light for illumination for Town Offices U.S. flag.**  
Supervisor Scammell will check with Fred Taylor to get an estimate and ideas for this.

e) **Herb Salladin – U.S. Flag duty (half staff holiday(s)).**

f) **Upstate Temperature Control, Mechanical Service contract.**

The Board reviewed the contract.

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to approve the Upstate Temperature Control, Mechanical Service Contract for 2005. Motion passed unanimously.**

## 7) **Recreation & Youth.**

### a) **Bailey Park.**

- **Charcoal grills. Order & install (Spring, '05).**
- **Pavilion (estimates needed).**

### b) **LaFayette Beach.**

- **Survey/transfer LaFayette Beach from LCC to town.**
- **Options for limiting vandalism (lighting, etc.).**
- **Options for noise control from lacrosse box – reinforced panels.**

Councilman McConnell said the portable john is still at the Beach and it has been vandalized.

Mary Jo will contact Portable John Rental about this again. She will also send a letter advising them if the port-a-john isn't removed within 30 days, the Highway Superintendent will dispose of it.

### c) **Stafford Park.**

- **Lacrosse facility – estimates, (re)location possibilities.**

## 8) **Safety.**

Councilwoman Smith said they have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow night. Leon Cook said the Highway Dept. came down to the town offices and Tom Rezsnyak showed them two safety films.

## 9) **Senior Transportation & Housing.**

- **Grant from Assemblyman Jeff Brown. Application submitted.**

## 10) **Service Awards.**

- **Amendment to Fire Service Award Program.**

Councilman Knapp said John Harper called him. He has been in touch with Penflex. If this is something we would like to pursue, Penflex will write the resolution and wording for how it needs to appear on the ballot for \$150.

Councilman McConnell said he will be meeting with John Harper on this.

Kevin Gilligan said the resolution that was passed calls for \$485/qualified fire fighter. If you change that amount, it must go out for referendum.

The Board discussed putting this on the ballot at the next election.

**11) SOTS & OCRRA Liaison.**

**12) Water.**

a) **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/Jamesville Reservoir – Preliminary Restoration Plan complete, seeking nonfederal (NYSDEC) sponsor for \$6M.**

b) **Village of East Syracuse Water District.**

c) **Hamlet drainage study – request submitted to NYS DOT.**

Supervisor Scammell said the study has been requested.

**13) Zoning Review.**

a) **Simple/small subdivision Guidelines – Under Review.**

- **Cul de sacs (see highway).**
- **PB/ZBA/CEO/CCF input.**
- **TB review (JL).**
- **Fee schedule.**
- **NYS Comptroller’s opinion (what constitutes a subdivision?).**

b) **Ad hoc committee for Review of Planning and Development processes (form letter complete).**

c) **Corridor Plan.**

d) **Digitized zoning map.**

**8. LITIGATION & OTHER LEGAL MATTERS.**

**A. People v. Claire Watson.**

- **NYS Ag & Markets letter – response.**
- **DeWitt Court, postponed.**

**B. LaFayette Hotel/Mr. Muraco’s project at the four corners & DEC septic approval (engineering study complete).**

**C. Drumm Road turnaround – appraisal completed.**

**D. Longley Jones/Festival Gardens: PILOT agreement & balance due.**

This has been completed and can be removed from the agenda.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ACTIVE PROJECTS.**

**A. Time-Warner Cable TV franchise renewal.**

- **Resident feedback from TWC analysis.**

**B. Speed limit reduction requests.**

- **Commane Road (awaiting NYSDOT findings).**

**C. Cram Communications, WVOA-AM towers – professional consultant sought from Clough Harbor for: impact (detuning) on Groth Road Communications Tower, site being evaluated for archeological sensitivity.**

**D. Zone change request for Route 20 & Tully Valley Extension (referred to PB).**

**E. ZBA request for mobile home inventory, including status.**

**F. Strategic Plan survey update.**

Councilman McConnell will be meeting with them Wednesday to start putting together a survey to be reviewed.

**G. Assessors: Town-wide property revaluation.**

Councilman McConnell believes one question is do we only need to do this every 3 years?

Marshall Taylor thinks the equalization rate this year will be between 85 & 87.

**H. Assessors: Pictometry.**

Marshall Taylor said the Board will probably have to make a decision by April on whether they want to do this or not or how many miles they would like done. He thinks they will do the pictures in/around March of the following year. The Board will have to decide if they want the high or low density pictures.

Councilman Knapp thinks it would be good to have something that shows how the town looked on a certain date.

Marshall Taylor thinks the next flyover will be in 2006 as they are trying to get people on board for this now. April of 2005 will be when you have to say if you are interested or not, what type of pictures you want taken and how much of an area you want done.

**I. Other.**

Councilman Knapp said the Christmas Tree Lighting was held. The crowd was pretty good and the weather wasn't too bad.

**10. NEW BUSINESS.**

**A. Other.**

There was a request for employees paid on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday to get paid the sooner due to the Christmas holiday.

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to pay employees who are paid the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month 1 week earlier. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion authorizing the supervisor to make any necessary budgetary transfers at the end of the year. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion for the Town Board to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and to include the town attorney. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Town Board went into Executive Session at 9:45 pm. and Supervisor Scammell called the Regular Town Board Meeting back to order at 11:10 p.m.

**11. Suggestions for improvement & positive contributions.**

**12. Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to audit and pay the following bills:**

<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b># 2381 - 2397</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b># 2398 – 2434</b>
<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b># 2435</b>

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**13. Executive session (as needed).**

Done earlier in the meeting.

**14. Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion to adjourn.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The Town Board Meeting adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly  
Town Clerk