

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on January 10, 2005 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: Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper
Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent
Sue Snavlin, DCO
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk
Anne Smith, Historian
Ralph Lamson, CEO
Madeline Despres, Dep. DCO

1. Supervisor Scammell called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
2. The Town Clerk took the roll. All present.
3. Pledge to our U. S. Flag led by Town Councilor Sandy Smith.
4. **Councilmen McConnell moved and Knapp seconded the motion to accept prior Organizational Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2005, as submitted by the Town Clerk. Voting was as follows:**

Supervisor Scammell	Aye
Councilwoman Smith	Abstain
Councilman Knapp	Aye
Councilman Bailey	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye

Motion passed.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. Residents. (Please sign in and give your name before you speak).

Councilman McConnell would like to take time to recognize and honor 6 more Servicemen and Servicewomen who will be added to the "LaFayette Salutes You" Board at the Town Offices.

2nd Lt. Daniel D. Bartholomew - U.S. Air Force. He is a 1997 graduate of LaFayette Central High School. He is a 2001 graduate of the University of Rochester and

received His Masters Degree at the University of Rochester. He is assigned to Hanscom AFB, MA as a Developmental Engineer at the Electronics System Center. Dan is the son of D. Skip & Sylvia Bartholomew.

Spc. Victor R. Scott – U.S. Army. He is a 1998 graduate of LaFayette Central High School. He is a Satellite Communications Specialist assigned to B Company, 303rd MI BN, 504th MI BDE at Fort Hood, Texas. Victor is married to Michelle and they have a son Victor and daughter Makayla. He is the son of Victor Scott and Carrie Abbott

Midshipman Kathleen E. Pauls – U.S. Naval Academy. Kathleen is a 2002 graduate of LaFayette Central High School. She is a 2003 graduate of the New Mexico Military Institute and is currently a sophomore at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Pfc. Joshua M. Brown – U.S. Marine Corp. Joshua is a 2004 graduate of LaFayette Central High School. On October 15, 2004, he graduated from Marine Corps Basic Training. He is assigned to Camp Pendleton, CA, as a Radio Field Operator. Joshua received an award for marksmanship. He graduated second in his class at Basic Training and received a perfect score in Basic Training PT. Joshua is the son of Linda A. Brown and Gregory L. Brown of Meeker Hill Road.

E-2 Airman Apprentice Tabitha Unger – U.S. Navy. Tabitha is a 2004 graduate of LaFayette Central High School and an October 2004 graduate of Basic Military Training at Great Lakes, IL. Tabitha is attending Aviation Electronics School in Jacksonville, FL.

Cadet Alicia J. Pauls – New Mexico Military Institute. Alicia is a 2004 graduate of LaFayette Central High School and is currently attending the New Mexico Military Institute. Alicia is awaiting acceptance to a U.S. Service Academy/R.O.T.C.

Supervisor Scammell thanked Councilman McConnell for this presentation. It's nice to have our service men and women recognized.

- **Mary Doster: Flower arrangement thank you.**

“Thank you for the beautiful arrangement. I am doing well after my back surgery. The arrangement sure made it nice to have while recuperating.”

- **John McCrea: Keough Tract speed limit sign postings.**

“...I wish to express my sincere appreciation to you, the Town Board, and Mr. Leon Cook for the positive and very timely response to my concern about the posting of the new speed limit signs for the Keough Tract.

It is my hope that the posting of the two area wide signs at the two entrances will satisfy the needs of all the Keough Tract neighbors.

Let me also thank you and the Town Board for giving to me and to a number of the Keough Tract neighbors the opportunity to express our views at the Town Board Meeting on October 25th. We all felt that you listened with interest, attention, and respect. We are indeed fortunate to have elected officials to the Town of LaFayette who truly care about and take the time to listen to the concerns of LaFayette residents...”

B. Onondaga County: Water District Special Assessment.

Councilman Knapp asked what this means.

Supervisor Scammell said you take your assessment and divide it into 1,000 and multiply by LaFayette's rate of .0888 and you will get the amount of your water tax.

It was noted everyone pays a line item on their taxbills for county water.

Supervisor Scammell said we don't have county water out here. There are those of us who work in businesses in the Syracuse area where county water is supplied.

C. Onondaga County: Mortgage Tax Apportionment.

Supervisor Scammell noted the apportionment for the Town of LaFayette is \$83,364.85.

Councilman Knapp asked what we set aside for this in the budget.

Tom Chartrand said just under \$100,000. This is our second payment for last year. We are well over our \$100,000.

D. Voting Machine Service Center: AVM mechanical voting machines.

"During the last election, AVM mechanical automatic voting machines provided highly reliable, foolproof, accurate, and dependable voting results for millions of voters across United States. In fact, we are not aware of any serious problems with these mechanical voting machines. By contrast, many municipalities across the nation reported serious problems, despite spending millions of dollars for new electronic machines. In fact, Verified Voting Foundation, an independent non-profit organization, reported over 1,100 problems with electronic machines used during the Presidential election.... We hope that you are glad that your municipality did not spend thousands of dollars to purchase less reliable electronic machines, when your existing mechanical automatic voting machines can meet all your election needs..."

Councilman Knapp asked if everyone in the county uses these machines.

Kevin Gilligan is not aware of anyone who uses anything but these machines and they are happy with them.

Supervisor Scammell asked if the Board would like him to write to the Board of Elections.

Councilman Bailey said Assemblyman Brown said this would be a mandate.

Councilman Knapp said there is federal grant money out there but they don't know how it will be split up.

Anne Smith said they advised each machine would cost \$15,000. We have 5 districts. If you multiply this figure by the total 64 polling places, it's in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. It's going to be a big sting. These machines can be manipulated. The computer system in them is not reliable. There is enough older machines in the warehouse to get parts from if one of the current machines break down.

Kevin Gilligan noted you will have to train new people to work the new machines. They have to be moved back and forth to a storage center in the city.

Anne Smith believes it's worthwhile writing a letter to the Board of Elections from the Town Board to state how we feel.

Supervisor Scammell asked if there is an interest in the Board to go forward proactively to let the Board of Elections know the concerns expressed about this.

Councilman McConnell believes we could write a cordial letter as we did with the justice fines issue.

Supervisor Scammell said he can write the Board of Elections, Bob DeMore who is the president of the County Supervisor's, with a copy to Dale Sweetland, Congressman Walsh's office, etc.

Councilman Knapp said another piece of the puzzle that is causing a problem is that

the current machines aren't very handicapped accessible.

Anne Smith said the voters are allowed to have someone go in with them as long as that person doesn't influence them in any way.

Supervisor Scammell said he will engage in some steps to start some dialogue on this.

E. Office of NYS Comptroller: Repeal of Fine Distribution Method & Local Surcharge Authority.

"...On December 15, 2004, the governor signed A11845/S7757 into law (Chapter 740). This legislation repeals the change in vehicle and traffic fine distribution that had been enacted as part of the 2004 budget bills. With this repeal, the basis of distribution between local governments and the State has been restored to the method in place prior to August 20. The law also repeals a provision that allowed towns, villages and cities to enact a local surcharge of up to \$10 on convictions for certain vehicle and traffic violations. Information on the impact of these legislative changes is presented below..."

Councilman Knapp asked if we have to vote to repeal this or is it just null and void.

Kevin Gilligan will take a look at this. In the mean time, the Justice Court can not collect the \$10.

Councilman Knapp said they never implemented it as they got word that this law might be repealed.

F. Onondaga Citizens League: 2004 Study, "Disappearing Democracy? A Report on Political Participation in Onondaga County."

"On behalf of the Onondaga Citizens League Board of Directors and its 2004 Study Committee, I am pleased to transmit this copy of 'Disappearing Democracy? A Report on Political Participation in Onondaga County' ...One encouraging development is that voter registration in Onondaga County is at an all-time high. However, much needs to be done to make the voter registration and election processes more responsive to voters' needs, and to engage more potential voters and candidates in the electoral process..."

Supervisor Scammell said anyone who would like to look at the copy they sent him is welcome to.

G. Syracuse Post-Standard, 12.23.04: "State Gives Holiday Bonus".

"...According to the state comptroller's office, 1986 was the last year governments in the state – such as villages, towns and school districts – deposited Social Security contributions with the state. The following year, the Internal Revenue Service began collecting directly from employers. Before 1987, the local contributions were deposited in a state-controlled interest-bearing account until they were sent to the federal government. After each year was reconciled, the state refunded the interest. In 1988, a change to the state retirement and Social Security law locked up the interest from 1986 contributions in an interest-bearing account until federal limitations and adjustments to Social Security payments expired. Those restrictions recently expired, and the money was released..."

Supervisor Scammell noted the Town of LaFayette got \$73.83.

H. CNYRPDB: EPF Project Information.

“I am very pleased to announce that the EPF work scope has been finalized and submitted to the NYS DEC for technical and administrative review...As discussed during the November 17th MS4 meeting, NYS DEC is requiring MS4s to become more directly involved in developing and implementing all aspects of regional Ph. II programs...”

I. Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office, Captain Bronstad: local police contracts.

Supervisor Scammell said the information includes contracts from the Towns of Salina and Van Buren and a letter of intent from the Town of Pompey. If we decide to do this, we have to decide where the money will come from.

Councilman Knapp asked if we decide to enter into this, can we do it at any time?

Supervisor Scammell said yes.

Councilman McConnell said that was one of his questions and how much notice do they need? One of the neighboring towns has used their portion of the contract from Memorial Day to Labor Day. That is how they have budgeted their time.

Councilman Knapp said if we start having trouble at the pool again, we could do this.

Councilman Bailey would like to have Captain Bronstad get us copies of the deputies logs from Van Buren and Salina.

Supervisor Scammell will get this information.

Councilman McConnell believes it would be good to see the contracts from Pompey and Fabius too.

J. EBC Buffalo v. Time Warner Cable: WNYI signal.

Supervisor Scammell said this is about a complaint from EBC Buffalo, Inc. a licensee of WNY (TV) against Time Warner Cable for improperly refusing to carry the WNYI signal on Time Warner cable systems serving the communities within the Syracuse Nielsen Designated Market Area.

K. Onondaga County Legislature: 2005 Town Tax Rates, Fixed, Ratified & Confirmed.**L. Association of Towns of the State of New York: Justice Court Fines Distribution.****M. NYS DOT: Request to Lower Speed Limit on Commane Road.**

“Thank you for your November 30 letter requesting a lower speed limit on Commane Road between LaFayette Road and Sentinel Heights Road...”

Supervisor Scammell said this is one of the few where we have not submitted something with the request besides the minutes.

Leon Cook said the last he heard was they are going down to 45 mph. There’s going to be two places built up there with driveways coming out onto Commane Rd. They are picking the best spot for sight distance and giving the owners the O.K.

N. Time Warner Cable: Line Extension Survey Request.

“...6021 Commane Road – due to the sparse population of this road, this is not a

buildable area without use of the aid-in-construction formula.

As you may be aware, the agreement and state rules require us to use a formula when determining the cost of a line extension...

This survey provided us with the cheapest contribution-in-aid of \$2,050 from each of the homes passed in order to provide cable.

2) Lower Dodge Road between Apulia Road and Route 20 – due to the sparse population of this road, this is not a buildable area without use of the aid-in-construction formula...

This survey provided us with the cheapest contribution-in-aid of \$1,301 from each of the homes passed in order to provide cable..."

O. OCWA: 2005 Rate Increase.

"...by now you most likely are aware that the Onondaga county Water Authority will be implementing rate increases for 2005. As for the specifics of the increase, residential, commercial and municipal wholesale customers will see an 8% increase effective January 1, 2005. Industrial customers and private fire accounts will see rates increase 5% also on January 1, 2005. As for the municipal (public) fire protection, they will see a 5% increase effective September 1, 2005...the actual quarterly cost increase for an average residential user (using 20,000 gallons per quarter) is \$3.34 or \$1.11 per month..."

P. OCWA: Water Main Installations for Town Water Districts.

"As you are aware, for the past three years OCWA has worked diligently to obtain a change in the Authority's enabling legislation that would address the New York State Comptroller's opinion regarding a town's ability to contract directly with OCWA for the construction of a town water district. After many attempts, which saw the legislation passed by the New York Senate on three separate occasions, we have been unable to get the proposed legislation out of committee on the New York State Assembly side.

It has been made abundantly clear that the Assembly has no interest in moving the bill forward, in spite of the documented savings this program has generated for the towns and its constituents over the years. Accordingly, OCWA must regretfully inform you that starting in 2005 the Authority will no longer design, construct and inspect town water districts connecting to the OCWA water system. As such, from this point forward, when the residents petition for the establishment of a water district it will be up to the town's engineer to provide the project cost estimate, design the project, bid the project and oversee the inspection of the district construction.

While the Authority regrets that it must take this action, please know that OCWA is still willing to enter into an operation and maintenance for a newly built system..."

Q. Onondaga County Health Department: Laboratory Analysis Report.

"The enclosed laboratory report #384352 indicates that the water supply for the above mentioned facility was of a satisfactory, sanitary quality at the time of sampling on November 30, 2004..."

R. NYS Comptroller: Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Proceeds.

Mary Jo will forward this on to the fire departments.

S. Syracuse Post-Standard: November, 04 unemployment.

“Service sector industries continued their strong job gains in November, helping the Syracuse area gain 3,000 jobs over the same month last year...

Professional and business services, education and health services, and the leisure and hospitality industry were the job creation leaders in November...

There were 353,700 jobs in the area in November, the highest for any November since 2000...

Still, the Syracuse area – which spans Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga and Oswego counties – is still feeling the effects of the slump in manufacturing...”

T. Onondaga County Legislature: 12.30.04 agenda.

U. CNY Business Journal: POMPCO acquisitions.

“POMCO, a fast-growing, employee-benefits administrator fresh off two acquisitions in 2004, has a more in the works for 2005.

POMCO, based in Syracuse’s Eastwood section, will buy at least one benefit company in the next 12 months...

POMCO’s strategy is to aggressively pursue acquisitions in the Northeast that will allow it to continue its steady 15-percent annual revenue and profit growth...

Flood says POMCO doesn’t have the costs figured yet for 2005. In 2004, POMCO’s clients, on average, experienced a 9.4 percent increase in medical-care costs...”

V. Onondaga Citizens League: 2004 Annual Report.

“Enclosed is a copy of the Onondaga Citizens League Annual Report for the period September 2003 – August 2004.

Sadly, OCL mourns the loss of two pioneers in civic leadership connected with this year’s study report, Ann Michel and Helen Zych...”

W. Onondaga County Department of Emergency Management: Operations Update.

“...The first is the appointment of additional Deputy Coordinators and the restructuring of the North, South, East, and West sections into Divisions...

It was noted that LaFayette is in Division 7.

X. Xerox: Service agreement.

“...As you may be aware, the service agreement on your 5322ZTAS will expire at the end of March. Because this product has reached the end of its service life, we regret to inform you that we will be unable to renew your agreement...”

It was determined this is for the Justice Court copier. Justice Court submitted a memo dated 1/10/05 regarding a new Xerox copy machine.

Supervisor Scammell will speak to the Court Clerks to find out more about this machine and what they are looking for.

Y. Other.

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

7. **REPORTS.**

A. Departmental (4th 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.**
 - **2843 Route 11A – Apartments and uncontrolled livestock.**
- ##### b) **Parent/In-law apartments/additions.**
- **Attached vs. unattached structures.**

2) **Dog Control: Sue Snavlin & Madeline Despres.**

a) **Feral Dogs in Stillmeadow Road area.**

Jim Moore submitted a written report on this dated 12/29/2004.

Supervisor Scammell noted Jim's bill is for \$243 for 7 days. It's about \$35/day.

Nothing was caught.

Councilman Knapp asked if Mr. Turner had seen any more dogs lately.

Supervisor Scammell said he spoke to Mr. Turner at the Organizational Meeting. He hasn't seen them lately.

Sue Snavlin asked if he discussed with Supervisor Scammell that if he catches a dog, he expects her to come get it.

Councilman McConnell it was a similar arrangement that we had with Mr.

Kurtis.

Supervisor Scammell said if it's a dog, someone has to take it to the shelter.

Sue Snavlin doesn't believe a wildlife trapper should be catching domestic dogs. As Dog Control, she and Madeline can set up cages and try to catch a domestic dog that is causing a problem.

Councilman McConnell asked if she is saying we can't use Wildlife Trappers to trap a domestic dog.

Sue Snavlin believes that is true.

Councilman McConnell asked why she didn't bring this up earlier. Whether they are considered feral dogs or not, they are possibly causing a danger or are diseased. He believes Wildlife Trappers are able to handle this.

Sue Snavlin doesn't believe they should transport a diseased animal to the shelter.

Councilman Knapp asked what they do if someone calls them about a possible rabid animal.

Sue Snavlin said they don't deal with it. The person should call the state troopers.

Supervisor Scammell said you don't know what you are going to catch until it is caught.

Sue Snavlin said she doesn't have a problem with it. The DEC said there is no such

thing as feral dogs. She is just bringing this up because Jim Moore called her about transporting a dog.

Supervisor Scammell said Jim is concerned if he should catch a domestic dog, that as a Wildlife Trapper, he cannot transport the dog to the shelter.

Sue Snavlin said the only problem she has is if you catch a dog that has been out in the wild, it's not necessarily a bad dog. Whose responsibility is it to take care of this dog?

Supervisor Scammell believes it's the towns. There are 4 possible things we could catch in the trap if we are dealing with canines. One possibility is coyotes which wildlife animal control could handle. Rabid dogs would be handled by the state troopers. A dog that is clearly not going to be adoptable and other dogs. He asked about a diseased dog.

Sue Snavlin said if they pick up a diseased dog, they must go on the assumption that it belongs to someone so you will have to hold it for 10 days. Even if they are feral and unadoptable, you would have to keep them for 10 days. You would then have to be able to have them euthanized. It would cost \$200.

Councilman McConnell noted coyotes are in season for trapping until February.

Supervisor Scammell asked if a canine dog is captured, who should transport it.

Sue Snavlin said she is O.K. with it. It just seems like a lot of money for catching dogs that are unadoptable.

Supervisor Scammell asked if he had a constituent call and say there are 10 dogs at his house and he is afraid of them, would she like to be called?

Sue Snavlin said yes she would.

Councilman McConnell said in the cases we have seen over the past year, the people calling have referred to them as wild dogs. Does she want to do the trapping herself?

Sue Snavlin said there is always going to be stray dogs where we live. Everyone has the same problem but not everyone seems to find the need to have them trapped. She's not saying the Board can't do what they want to do but she thinks it's unnecessary and an extra expense.

Councilman McConnell said he is really confused. A year ago she never voiced a concern about trapping dogs that destroyed property at Myradecks home.

Sue Snavlin said she still has thoughts that there's a couple of dogs like the ones on Webb and Amidon Road that might be coyotes or wolves. This was different than the ones she picked up that were nice dogs.

Councilman McConnell said except for the fact that they had lived in the wild and were diseased.

Councilman Knapp said when we have a situation where there's a continuous issue and there are concerns about kids, etc., if we don't try to trap them, what would she recommend?

Sue Snavlin said she's responded to Mr. Turner's complaints regarding dogs on his property on Strong Road. He saw tracks on his land. She's just saying it seems like it's an added expense. If there is a domestic dog, she doesn't have a problem trying to catch it.

Supervisor Scammell said there was concern from the resident's that there were packs of these dogs. There was an additional level of threat.

Sue Snavlin said there were dogs and they were doing damage. She doesn't have a problem with this. She doesn't believe you will catch coyotes in the traps as they are too

smart. The dogs you catch will probably be just hungry dogs.

Supervisor Scammell said when he receives a phone call, he really doesn't know what he is dealing with.

Sue Snavlin asked if Mr. Turner has seen the dogs.

Supervisor Scammell said he has seen them but not lately. He did receive several calls within one week with people reporting the dogs were in packs. That is how we got started down this track originally.

Sue Snavlin said it's up to the Town Board but she thinks they can handle it under regular dog control.

Supervisor Scammell said when the calls were first coming in, he sensed this was of a different nature from any dog problems he had been called on before. He sensed an increase in danger that the resident's felt as well as the possibility of a pack of dogs traveling through.

Sue Snavlin said she hasn't received any calls that they have gone after any other pets or caused a danger to anyone.

Supervisor Scammell said if there is a pack of 6 dogs on someone's property, they get nervous.

Kevin Gilligan said especially when the dogs don't live on the road.

Sue Snavlin said none of those people have called her.

Supervisor Scammell said the calls he received were from people who were really frightened. Would she rather have these people call her? Another questions is what to do with uncontrollable dogs.

Sue said they haven't had that problem.

Councilman McConnell said if someone calls and has a perpetual problem, he doesn't believe she is qualified to handle it. He doesn't think right now the town is wasting the money when someone calls and says they need some help. Mr. Turner had 10 dogs on his property at one time. There are two problems which are dogs that stray from the Onondaga Nation and dogs that are dropped off.

Supervisor Scammell asked how big an animal they can trap in their Have-A-Heart cage.

Madeline Despres said they have a 6' cage. It takes two people to carry it.

Sue Snavlin said they can trap quite a large animal in it.

Councilman Knapp believes it comes down to communication.

Sue Snavlin is just saying she isn't sure that it's not just some dogs getting together and running. She spoke to the clinic today about the dog that was hit up by the high school. She will be picking the black lab up tomorrow. As of today, they have over \$5,000 in donations for the surgery. She thinks there is another \$300 yet to come in. The bill is about \$3,900. The office manager mentioned to her that there is a possibility that the veterinarian may knock something off of that price.

Supervisor Scammell said to have them send the bill to the town. This will be paid for from the donations. He asked if they had found a home for it yet.

Sue said it will be fostered by someone for awhile. They had tons of phone calls and notes. There were a lot of people with a lot of nice comments.

Madeline said the reason the dog was brought to the emergency clinic is because no one was on call from our shelter over the holiday weekend.

Sue Snavlin said another issue we never talked about is what should be done if a dog

is hurt and needs to be stabilized. What about the cost if we have to shelter it for 5 days? That would be a big bill.

Kevin Gilligan asked if it had a tag on.

Sue Snavlin said no.

Kevin Gilligan doesn't believe we would have to do that. If you can't identify the owner, he doesn't believe it becomes the towns responsibility.

3) Feral Dogs in Webb Road area.

4) Highway Superintendent: Leon Cook.

- a) **SPDES/MS4 Stormwater Phase II (see J. Dunkle list). Time & expense log.**
- b) **Keough Tract – area speed limit (complete).**
- c) **Cul-de-sacs – being lifted.**

5) Justice: Malcolm Knapp & Maureen Perrin.

- **A written report for November 2004 was received.**

Supervisor Scammell noted \$42,264 was turned over to the town.

6) Library Director: Scott Kushner.

- **Board of Trustees Minutes and Director Report for November 2004.**

Councilman Knapp asked about the building grant.

Supervisor Scammell said the library is looking to expand.

Councilman Knapp asked if they have had any success.

Supervisor Scammell said they are in the initial stages.

7) Recreation Director: Regina Reinschmidt.

- **Written report for November/December.**

8) Town Clerk: Mary Jo Kelly.

- **Written report submitted for November & December 2004.**
- **Year End Report**
- **Audit Town Clerk Cash Book.**

The Town Clerk Cash Book was audited by the Town Board.

9) Town Supervisor: Greg Scammell.

- **Intermunicipal Cooperation & Consolidation.**

B. Committee (2nd Monday).

1) Communications & Technology (MF/PK/MJ/MT/GS).

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

2) Emergency Response (TB/BM).

- a) **AEDs (Defibrillators) (TB).**
- b) **LFD house numbers: Being installed.**

c) LFD exhaust vents – grants available?

3) Employee Policies & Benefits (MJ/SS/MD).

- **Employee manual. Local holidays (Lincoln’s Birthday, Good Friday, Election Day) - floating holidays? Change Washington’s birthday to President’s Day or President’s Day/Washington’s Birthday.**

Councilmen Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to adopt the federal holiday schedule and change the holidays as follows: rather than Washington’s birthday it will be President’s day and for the 3 holidays of Lincoln’s Birthday, Good Friday and Election Day, they will be listed as floating holidays.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mary Jo will update the Employees Policy.

4) Environmental & Conservation Advisory Board.

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

Supervisor Scammell said this will be held at 9:00 a.m. at the Town Office Building.

5) Highway (PP/LC/DK/SP/CP).

6) Physical Plant (HS/DK/BM).

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

Councilman Knapp said this will be going forward.

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

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

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

Supervisor Scammell said last year there were huge amounts of ice over the kitchen that could cause damage. He will get estimates for this.

- d) **Estimate for light for illumination for Town Offices U.S. flag (~\$300 off the South wall).**

Discussion took place re: the increase in the driveway width with the expansion of the building next door.

Councilman McConnell believes until we make a decision about the lighting, the flag should be taken down as we haven’t got it lit at night.

Lighting options were discussed.

Councilman Knapp believes you can get lighting that can be adjusted if the pole needs to be moved.

Councilman McConnell asked if the lighting would be solar lighting.

Supervisor Scammell doesn’t think so.

Marshall Taylor said it would be like the lighting on the flag at the LaFayette

Cemetery.

Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion to contact Fred Taylor to install an adjustable light off the south wall of the LaFayette Commons Office Building not to exceed \$300. Motion passed unanimously.

7) Recreation & Youth (DK/SS/RR).

a) Bailey Park.

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

Councilman McConnell would suggest something the size of Jack's Shack for size. He would recommend getting prices to build it from some of the local contractors.

Councilman Knapp will talk to a few contractors about this.

Kevin Gilligan said there are state park grants for things like this. The Jamesville State Park Office can put you in touch with the person who is in charge of the grant money.

Councilman Knapp wondered if they had grant money available for repairs too.

Kevin Gilligan didn't know.

Councilman McConnell said YCIP's curriculum is set about 1 year in advance. There might be other clubs willing to help with this.

Councilman Knapp said the Winter Festival this year is on February 5th.

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.**

c) Stafford Park.

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

Councilman McConnell said there is room to do this if the Board really wants to do it. Does the Board want to pursue this and absorb the cost of the lumber, etc.?

The Town Board would like to have an estimate of the costs.

Kevin Gilligan said this might be able to be included in the grant request.

Councilman McConnell will get an estimate for this.

8) Safety (TR/SS/LC/RR).

There will be a meeting next week.

9) Senior Transportation & Housing (GS/BO).

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

10) Service Awards (DK/BM/JS/GH).

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

11) SOTS & OCRRA Liaison (DK/BM).

12) Water (GS/SS).

- 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 they recognize that the infrastructure in the Hamlet area is very old and they have patched it up. They do realize there are some severe problems there. Some of the problems are on private property which they are not going to fix.

13) Zoning Review (GS).

- 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).

Supervisor Scammell believes Dave has other projects he is working on.

Councilman McConnell asked if he had the go ahead to rent out the apartments.

Supervisor Scammell said he has the go ahead to put the septic system in and have it monitored for a time period.

Councilman McConnell asked if the system is already in place.

Ralph Lamson said the septic system is in place.

Councilman Knapp said part of it is. They have to install the monitoring meter, etc.

The heat equipment isn’t in there now so he thinks it won’t happen before spring. This is exactly the thing he and Supervisor Scammell proposed 3 years ago.

C. Drumm Road turnaround – appraisal completed.

This can be removed as nothing has been heard.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ACTIVE PROJECTS.**A. Time-Warner Cable TV franchise renewal (GS).**

- **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.

Supervisor Scammell noted a letter was sent October 12, 2004 by John Langey to the professional reviewing this application and he followed-up on the letter January 5, 2005.

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

The applicant has requested this be removed from the agenda.

E. ZBA request for mobile home inventory, including status.**F. Strategic Plan survey update.**

Councilman McConnell will have a complete update for the Town Board. He is trying to finalize the folks to be on the committee. The survey will be done in the fall. If the Board has any proposals, just email them to him.

Marshall Taylor asked how Councilman McConnell is determining what expertise he needs on the committee.

Councilman McConnell said there really is no expertise. He has asked a member from the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Sr. Citizens and Pete Paul as he resides in Jamesville, etc.

Marshall Taylor asked what the responses will be like. Will they be circle the answer or write-ins?

Councilman McConnell said they could be both.

Marshall Taylor asked what Maxwell's expertise is of the Town of LaFayette to ask these questions?

Councilman McConnell said he is working with them on this.

G. Assessors: 2006 Town-wide property revaluation.

Marshall Taylor said there is money in the budget for this.

Councilman McConnell said there is concern in the community of how homes are re-evaluated and what they do if they don't agree with the result. There is concern that their homes are raised due to a couple of sales in the area.

Marshall Taylor said he understands this. Most of the sales are well over what the properties are assessed at.

Supervisor Scammell said there is an appeals process.

Marshall Taylor said first they can talk to Mr. Fitts, then the assessors and then the Assessment Grievance Board of Review. After all this, they still have the option to take it to court.

Councilman McConnell said a resident advised him that they were limited to 15 minutes when they met with Mr. Fitts.

Marshall Taylor said that is the same as a person is limited with the Assessment Grievance Board of Review. If no one shows up, more time can be given.

Councilman McConnell believes a reval needs to be done to keep the sticker shock

down but there is concern as to the real value of someone's home.

Councilman Knapp said this is probably one of the most difficult things to try to explain to someone that just because your assessment goes up a little, it doesn't mean your taxes will go up.

Marshall Taylor said that is correct. It depends on what the school, town and county do with their budgets. His job is to be sure a home is assessed at full market value.

Councilman Knapp asked when Mr. Fitts would start looking at houses.

Marshall Taylor said he would start in October of this year and be done by February of 2006.

Councilman McConnell asked Marshall to put down some pros and cons for this and for the pictometry. Would having the pictometry allow the assessors to do a reval themselves without the services of Mr. Fitts?

Marshall Taylor said no. They physically go out and measure properties.

Councilman Knapp said he feels the benefit of pictometry is for zoning and planning.

Ralph Lamson thinks it's a good idea. He thinks it would be very beneficial for the Zoning and Planning Boards.

Councilwoman Smith asked if they fly over one time and take pictures of the entire town.

Marshall Taylor said yes. They divide the area into grids. He advised Tom Chartrand said this could be done within the budget without a problem.

Councilman Knapp asked if there would be any notice before they flew over.

Marshall Taylor said yes. On the pictometry there's a drawing feature that allows you to find out the area of a site. The Board needs to decide before April 5, 2005 if they want to go forward with this.

Supervisor Scammell asked Marshall Taylor to find out what would happen if the town committed to this and at the last minute there wasn't funding for it for some reason.

Marshall Taylor will find this out.

Councilman McConnell said there are other avenues for similar information. There are already data bases out there that you can use at a cheaper price. He thinks we should research some comparison prices. He asked if the representative from the County, Don Jordan, would be willing to come to a Town Board meeting to discuss this.

Marshall Taylor said he will ask him. He is a county employee and deals with pictometry. He asked the Town Board if they wanted to do the reval.

Councilman Knapp said his only concern is 3 years is a short period of time for some people. Some folks were hit 3 years ago and now might get hit again.

Marshall Taylor believes down the road it will be mandated that annual revals are done. He could put an article in the next Newsletter about why this needs to be done.

Councilmen McConnell moved and Knapp seconded the motion to go forward with the reval for the 2006 tax roll. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion authorizing the Supervisor to sign the contract with Mr. Fitts for the reval. Motion passed unanimously.

H. Assessors: Pictometry (by 4.01.05, HD vs LD).

This was discussed above.

I. Other.

Marshall Taylor said the Community Council computer came in and it's all set to go.

Leon Cook said C.P. Ward from Rochester is doing the job on Route 11 South. They are very disorganized in his opinion. They have to have a crane to set the pipe. The state did allow them to unload the pipe but will not allow them to set it with the crane because they didn't apply for a lifting plan. A lifting plan depends on the weight of the pipe, the radius they will be reaching with the crane, etc. They are going to file for a lifting plan now. The state has to approve it. There's a telephone cable in the way of setting the pipe. They never asked the phone company to move it. Today is the first day the guy from the phone company was up there. He told the superintendent it might be a week or two before they get the line moved. Leon talked to the guy and advised him of the problem that people have whereas they have to go miles out of their way to get home. He asked him to see what he can do to get the cable moved in a hurry. He said the Town Board is really concerned about this road being closed and so is he. The guy said he would do the best he could and get the cable moved as fast as possible. He doesn't think they will be able to set the pipe before next Monday.

Marshall Taylor said they haven't even got the tar off Route 11 yet. He talked to the field representative today who said he didn't know if it would be done by the end of February.

Councilman Bailey said there could be setbacks due to bad weather.

Leon Cook said the state can make them wait 34 days before they put traffic on concrete which they will have to pour unless they plan on replacing the concrete with pavement in the summer.

Marshall Taylor said no one is working on the site at 2:30 when he goes home. After 2:00 p.m. the workers are gone. He has to go all the way to Tully to get home.

Supervisor Scammell asked about emergency access.

Leon Cook said they have it set up that Tully will handle this area while the road is closed. This was set up before the road was closed off.

Councilman McConnell asked if there would be any benefit if the Town Board or Supervisor contacted the person in charge.

Leon Cook said he would doubt it.

10. NEW BUSINESS.**A. Other.**

It was noted the town has received notice that Independent Wireless filed bankruptcy.

Kevin Gilligan said it's a reorganization. They are up for renewal in September. Under their agreement, they have to pay us or they will have to leave. He doesn't think this is going to impact us.

Notice of Claim has been filed with the Town of LaFayette by the Davis family in regards to the accident which occurred on Bull Hill Rd.

Councilman Knapp asked why they are including the Town of LaFayette in this when the road is in the Town of Onondaga.

Kevin Gilligan said because the lawyer doesn't realize this part of Bull Hill Rd. is not in the Town of LaFayette. Our insurance carrier may retain counsel and have that counsel make notice of a 50H hearing which might take us out of it all together.

11. Suggestions for improvement & positive contributions.

12. Councilman Knapp moved and Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion to audit and pay the following bills:

GENERAL FUND	# 2541 to 2591
HIGHWAY FUND	# 2518 to 2540
SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND	# 2608 to 2609
TRUST & AGENCY FUND	# 2610 to 2616

Motion passed unanimously.

13. Executive session (as needed).

14. Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

The Town Board Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly
Town Clerk