

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on April 24, 2006 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  
David Knapp, Councilman  
Thomas Bailey, Councilman  
William McConnell, Councilman  
Adrian Shute, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Others Present: Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent  
Ralph Lamson, CEO  
Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney  
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk  
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper  
Clay & Anne Smith  
Jim Moore, DCO  
Pete Paul, Dep. Supervisor  
Arthur Fritz  
Douglas Scholes  
John Lytle  
Regina Reinschmidt, Rec. Coord.

1. Supervisor Scammell called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. The Town Clerk took the Roll. All present.
3. Councilman Knapp led the Pledge to our U.S. Flag.

Councilman Bailey read the following statement: “Approximately 24 hours ago, a member of the New York State Police, assigned to the LaFayette substation, was tragically killed in the line of duty. Trooper Craig J. Todeschini, age 25, took decisive action and attempted to apprehend a motorcyclist traveling at excessive speed along State Route 91 in the Town of Pompey.

In an attempt to apprehend this perpetrator, the Trooper’s marked police vehicle apparently went out of control and struck a tree on Cherry St. in the Pompey hamlet.

Trooper Todeschini died at the scene. The unknown motorcyclist continued to flee.

Trooper Todeschini was a three year veteran of the New York State Police. Upon graduating from the state police academy, he was assigned to Troop D, and served in the Hastings substation in Oswego County. It was about one year ago that Trooper Todeschini became a member of our LaFayette community with a change of assignment to the LaFayette barracks.

Surviving family includes his wife Kristy, who is expecting delivery of their first child next month, his parents, and a sister.

Just to cite an example of this young man’s devotion to public service, when Trooper Todeschini was off duty, he was actively involved in the fire service, protecting his neighborhood in the Solvay/Geddes area where he lived. This volunteer duty went on for the last five years, earning him the rank of Lieutenant with the Solvay Fire Dept.

It is at this time that on behalf of our Town Board, and the entire LaFayette community, that we enter into a moment of silence in recognition of service that Trooper Craig J. Todeschini has brought us.”

4. The April 10, 2006 Meeting Minutes were reviewed.

Councilman Shute said he had the following amendments to the Minutes: On Page 2, first paragraph he would like it to read “Councilman Shute was confused as to the specific text of one motion in the previous Town Board Meeting” in place of “Councilman Shute is confused”; On Page 2 about ¾ the way down the page he would like it to read “Councilman Shute said to go ahead and accept the previous meeting’s minutes.” in place of “Councilman Shute said we can go ahead with this then.” Councilman McConnell said on page 20 it should read “56 participants at \$12 each” rather than “42 participants at \$12 each”.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to accept the April 10, 2006 Town Board Regular Meeting Minutes as amended above. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Supervisor Scammell</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Councilman Knapp</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Councilman Bailey</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Councilman Shute</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed.**

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.** None.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

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

- **Lorraine & Jerry Brown: doublewide vs modular definition.**  
Tabled until next meeting as Brown’s were unable to attend tonight.
- **Sue Myers: Persse Road blockade resiting.**  
Sue Myers was not present.  
Councilman Knapp asked what this is about.

Leon Cook said she would like us to move our Road closed sign back 20’ so she can have access to her property. She would like to build a house. She wants 20’ but when he went up and looked at it, it’s closer to 100’. It shouldn’t be a big problem.

**B. CNY Community Foundation: Grants for Green Spaces.**

“The Central New York Community Foundation believes that the life and vitality

of neighborhoods depend on the combined efforts of its residents. Neighborhoods that come together and work collectively toward improving their immediate environment ultimately strengthen the large community's quality of life..."

Councilman McConnell asked if we should forward this information on to the Optimist Club.

Councilman Knapp was going to suggest that.

Councilman McConnell wondered if we could apply for this for Bailey Park.

Councilman Knapp asked if we are 501(c)(3) status.

Tom Chartrand said yes.

Councilman Shute said he read this notice that one project from each community would have a good chance of getting through and the second project not so much. He spoke to Regina Reinschmidt earlier about having the Community Council put an application in.

Councilman Knapp said we certainly need this at the Beach.

Regina Reinschmidt said they are hoping to meet this week. The upper fields could use some beautification and so could Stafford Park which they use too. The Beach would be fine too.

Councilman McConnell asked if we are going to ask the Optimist Club too.

Councilman Knapp said personally he would have the Community Council lead so the two applications don't cancel each other out.

Councilman Bailey asked if the Apple Festival would be interested in something like this.

Councilman Knapp said they would but as Councilman Shute noted, he doesn't know how another application would go through. He said the Apple Festival Grounds are privately owned so they wouldn't qualify.

Councilman Shute said as long as the Board approves it, he will work with Regina on this. This notice sounded to him like we should pick one application that we really want to go through and then if we submit a second one, it would be less likely.

Supervisor Scammell said it's only for \$750. He said Councilman Shute is correct. At the end of the notice it reads "...To ensure that funding is available to as many neighborhoods/communities as possible, the Community Foundation reserves the right to consider a second or more grants from the same neighborhood/community on a case-by-case basis..."

Councilman McConnell said he will talk to the Boy Scouts to find out where they have taken the project at Bailey Park and then he will put this application together.

Councilman Knapp asked if we could have one marked as Application #1 and the other as Application # 2 in priority. Community Council would be #1.

Councilman McConnell said there might not be anything to apply for right now at Bailey Park. He will call Steve Kuhns and see where they left off.

Supervisor Scammell confirmed we are looking at two grant projects. One is with Community Council for Stafford Park and one is for Bailey.

Councilman Knapp said the one for Community Council would include the Beach.

Regina Reinschmidt said correct. This will have to be determined.

Leon Cook advised the Board that Susan Myers had arrived.

Susan Myers said the barrier is at the beginning of her property and she would like it pushed back as it blocks the entire front of her property. She spoke to Leon Cook to see if he could push it back so she could put in a driveway and have access to her property. He thought it had been abandoned. She is here to find out the status of the road. If it's been abandoned, she believes the property can be split between the property owners adjacent to it. If it has not been abandoned, could the barrier be pushed back?

Leon Cook said Mary Jo looked up in the Minutes why the road wasn't given to the landowners adjacent to it. If the town split the land between the landowners next to it, the Kurgan property would become landlocked. It's an abandoned road but the Town of LaFayette still owns the right-of-way. If she puts a driveway in, she would have to maintain her driveway to where the road is now as they cannot extend the road.

Councilman Knapp asked if the piece that is abandoned would be hers to maintain during the winter.

Sue Myers asked if the town owns it, is the town responsible for maintaining the road?

Leon said not on the abandoned part.

Susan Myers asked if it's abandoned, could she own it to the center of the road? It seems it should be one way or the other.

Leon said the road is abandoned so we don't have to maintain it. It was not turned over to anyone because if we had, we would have landlocked a property owner.

Susan Myers said it leaves the property in limbo. Right now it's pretty grown over. She asked if Leon had moved the barrier back.

Leon said no. He can't do anything until the Board gives him the O.K.

Susan said it would probably have to be cleared or smoothed out a little.

Supervisor Scammell asked where the barrier sits in relation to the abandonment.

Leon said it's on the line between what we didn't abandon and what we did.

Supervisor Scammell said if we move the barrier back, it's not a highway so it's not our responsibility to maintain and therefore Susan would have to maintain her driveway and the end of the road.

Leon said all she would have to maintain is her driveway until the time came when something might happen that the town would have to take the road back over. He never heard of this happening. Kurgan's still need to be able to access their land.

Councilman Knapp said legally we cannot landlock anyone.

Leon said Susan Myers said we have landlocked her now as the land she was given is landlocked.

Councilman Knapp said then maybe we should be maintaining the road.

Supervisor Scammell said people on the opposite side of Reidy Hill Rd. may be asking why we don't maintain their section of the road.

Leon said that road was never a town road. If the town opens a road, it doesn't have to be done to the town specs. What would be done is it would be graded off with a grader and some gravel would be put in there.

Councilman McConnell confirmed that as it stands now, part of the road is active and part is inactive. Since you have one named road in which one part is active and one is abandoned, it should be simple to change the abandoned part and then it becomes incumbent on the town to bring it up to specs and maintain it year-round. If the property owners on LaFayette Road would like access off the abandoned portion of the road, they

would have to approach the Board to see if it could bring it up to active status and maintain it.

Kevin Gilligan said correct.

Supervisor Scammell said he heard Leon Cook say that we wouldn't have to bring it up to town specs.

Marshall Taylor asked if the Board is saying they will be removing the gate or just moving it to the end of Susan Myers' property.

Councilman McConnell believes the request was to move it a short distance. Any further requests would have to come before the Board.

Marshall said if the gate wasn't there, there are two lots that could be sold as building lots.

Leon Cook said it's a barricade up there and not a gate.

The Board will look at the property within the next two weeks. Kevin Gilligan was asked if he needed any further information.

Kevin said no. If the Board decides they wish to do this, he will have to prepare the necessary paperwork.

Supervisor Scammell asked the Board to email him or Kevin of their findings.

Councilman McConnell asked Leon if he had an idea of the cost.

Leon said not at this time.

**C. Syracuse Post-Standard, 3.27.06: "Syracuse area points out: We're gaining jobs".**

"..The Syracuse area had the second highest job growth rate among the state's 24 metro areas between January 2005 and January of this year...The area had 4,000 more jobs in January than it did in the same month last year..."

**D. Syracuse Post-Standard, 3.30.06: February, 2006 employment picture.**

"The Syracuse area tied New York City for the highest job growth rate among the state's metropolitan areas in February..."

**E. Turn the Grid Green Sustainable Energy Campaign: grassroots energy conservation.**

"Turn the Grid Green Sustainable Energy Campaign (TTGG) is a collective, cooperative effort to significantly increase the use of green power throughout central New York. Green power refers to energy derived from solar, wind, small hydro and biomass sources...Turn the Grid Green is a grassroots organization composed of a core team and over one hundred on-site participants...Turn the Grid Green promotes sustainable power and mindful living...Turn the Grid Green increases awareness and increases electricity conservation...This past winter into spring, Turn the Grid Green focused heavily on Syracuse University..."

Supervisor Scammell asked Pete Paul if he is familiar with this at S.U.

Pete said not really.

Councilman Shute asked if they are requesting we do this.

Supervisor Scammell believes they are requesting we buy our electricity through them.

**F. Selective Insurance: recent claim.**

“This letter is sent to acknowledge receipt of your recent claim...”

Supervisor Scammell said this is over with as far as we are concerned. We are out of the loop. He hasn't heard anything further. Our insurance company will be handling it.

**G. Fabius Town Supervisor Bob DeMore: wood waste removal.**

“Enclosed please find a letter that I recently received from Dan Clancy regarding the service he'll be providing us for the removal of wood waste...”

Supervisor Scammell asked Leon if he was interested in this.

Leon Cook said no. If we have to shut down where we are taking it now, OCRRA has bought a more modern grinder. It's faster and cheaper to operate. It's \$25/load for brush. They have a clause regarding construction material too. It's only for brush.

Councilman Shute said that clause eliminates most of what was brought in at dump week.

**H. NYS Department of Labor: Workforce New York – Prevailing wage schedules.**

Discussed later in the meeting.

**I. NYS DOT: Extension of Route 20 35mph speed limit reduction and extension.**

“In response to your request, our Traffic Engineers have determined that the existing 35 MPH speed limit on Route 20 can be extended to a point west of the Interstate 81 southbound ramps and the existing 30 MPH school speed limit can be reduced to 20 MPH...”

The Board told Councilman Shute he did a great job on this.

**J. Onondaga County Planning: Street/road names.**

“...As I stated on the phone, this office has information in our files regarding the name change from Naomi Road to Thunder Road, including a letter requesting the change that was signed by the residents who owned property fronting on the street at the time (late 2004). For Porter Lane, please note that our file shows activity taking place in late 2005 and early 2006. This office was in telephone contact with and discussed the proposed new name with personnel at the LaFayette Highway Dept..”

Councilman Knapp said the system fell down as defined in the sentence which reads “The property owner who was building the new house submitted the name Porter Lane with the assurance that other affected property owners agreed...” He thinks that is what the letter Kevin Gilligan wrote stated.

Kevin doesn't think the Board will get much more from them.

Marshall Taylor talked about some of the other dead-end roads in the town that could end up with a similar problem.

Supervisor Scammell asked if there is anything we should do on this.

Kevin Gilligan said they have suggested we turn over the house numbering procedure to the county. They do this for virtually everyone but the Town of LaFayette.

Councilman McConnell would not agree to this. Maybe there is time to be more proactive in some way to help out our Planning Board. He believes we should keep our own rights.

Marshall Taylor said he talked to Karen Carney. At one time all these roads may be changed. If the town doesn't influence them now, it will receive a notice that the name of a road has been changed. He doesn't know what the Board wants to do. He doesn't know if it will happen this year, next year or 5 years from now but it will happen.

Clay Smith said there was a little road between Route 11A and Route 20 that was given the name of Carnival Lane. A funeral home was on the road. He and some others got the name changed to Field Lane. The name Carnival Lane was given by the county as they didn't have any affiliation to LaFayette. He thinks the town should hang onto this.

Leon Cook agrees. House numbering is coordinated with the county now. One problem with house numbers in the Town of LaFayette is you go up a road and the uneven numbers on the right side and the even numbers on the left side should run pretty close to each other but they don't. There are some of our roads where there is almost a quarter of a mile difference. Our roads were done years ago. Niagara Mohawk originally set up a grid sheet for us.

**K. Terry Moore: Deputy Dog Control resignation.**

"Do to my job requirement and probable deployment of the 174<sup>th</sup> fighter wing, I can no longer perform my duties as Deputy Dog Control Officer. This resignation will be effective May 1, 2006."

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to accept Mr. Terry Moore's resignation. Motion passed unanimously.**

A resume was submitted to the Board form Douglas Scholes for the position of Deputy Dog Control Officer.

Supervisor Scammell said he would presume he and Jim Moore have had some conversation on this.

Douglas Scholes said yes.

Councilman Bailey asked what shift he is on at the Jamesville Penitentiary.

Douglas said he is on the day shift. He has been there 23 years.

Supervisor Scammell asked if it's Monday through Friday.

Douglas said yes from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Councilman Bailey asked Jim Moore since he took over in January, how many weeks he has had a call every day?

Jim Moore said the calls are very sporadic. He can have one day where he gets 6-7 calls and another day where he doesn't get any. He thinks he averages 16-18 hours a week. He thinks this will change once the laws are posted in the next Newsletter.

Councilman McConnell asked Douglas Scholes if he is in for the long haul or short term.

Douglas Scholes said he has kids in the LaFayette School District. He plans on sticking it out with Mr. Moore as long as he needs him.

Councilman Bailey asked if the county corrections administration has a policy regarding secondary employment.

Douglas Scholes said yes they do. He must submit a form to them stating he wishes to do this job as a part-time job. He believes someone from the town will have to sign it stating they know the County of Onondaga is his primary employer and if they call him, he must go there and that we don't hold the county liable for anything he does while under the towns' employment.

Councilman Knapp asked if we have to advertise for this position.

Tom Chartrand said no.

Supervisor Scammell asked what we allotted for this position in the budget.

Tom Chartrand said \$1,670/year.

Supervisor Scammell asked if that was O.K. with Douglas Scholes.

Douglas said yes.

**Councilmen McConnell moved and Knapp seconded the motion to appoint Douglas Scholes as Deputy Dog Control Officer effective May 1, 2006. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **L. Other.**

Councilman Shute said he received communications from a few residents on Eager Road regarding cable and internet. They were told it would cost them \$8,000 to have cable run to their houses. He knows when we discussed this, it was due to density. He just wanted to pass this communication on to the Board.

Councilman Bailey said about a year ago we discussed this with Time Warner. It was the same issue on the lower end of Dodge Road. We received the same type of answer.

Councilman Knapp said the Board was advised there was a federal law that says if there are so many houses per mile, they have to provide service and if there isn't, they don't. They told the Board at the time what area of the town will not fall within those numbers yet. The thing is now with cable modem, phone, etc., it would be worth their while to string a little more wire.

Supervisor Scammell said when the gentleman from Time Warner came here, he advised it just doesn't work out with them as far as making money.

Councilman Knapp said he has a little piece that slides into his laptop and you tell it to connect and it does. It's through Verizon. When he hits the high school the reception jumps right up. It's about \$59/month for unlimited use. He doesn't know if it's as fast as roadrunner but it's faster than dialup.

Councilman McConnell said he received a phone call and fax that Walt Shannon did win the Intergenerational Volunteer Senior Working With Youth Award and it will be awarded during the Onondaga County Dept. of Aging & Youth's Annual Intergenerational Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Walt will also be asked to have his photo taken with County Executive Nicholas J. Pirro.

#### **7. SPECIAL REPORT. Girl Scouts.**

#### **8. REPORTS.**

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

**1) Assessors: Mary Doster, Marshall Taylor & Jim Munnell.**

• **Town wide property revaluation.**

Councilman Knapp asked if we are still looking at May 2<sup>nd</sup> for the tentative role.

Marshall Taylor said notices have to be to the assessors so they can mail them out by May 10<sup>th</sup>. That is the law.

Councilman McConnell said the Board discussed sending a letter regarding the reval at the last meeting. He has a corrected letter for the Board to review if they would like to. He took the input from Marshall Taylor and made the changes in his original letter. His original letter was a shell.

Marshall Taylor said he realized the original letter was a shell but didn't hear anything from anyone other than Councilman McConnell. His only question was on the percentage. It doesn't reflect the school. Those percentages are meaningless if you don't include the school and county.

Councilman McConnell said he chose not to as he doesn't sit on the school board. The information in his last paragraph in the letter was taken from a conversation he had with Supervisor Scammell and Marshall Taylor in Marshall's office one day.

Marshall Taylor said you only get what you ask for. All the assessor does is put a market value on people's homes so when the school or town makes a budget up, people are taxed accordingly. They assign a value. It means nothing in terms of money. The assessors have nothing to do with the taxes. If you don't have a budget, you don't have any taxes.

Councilman Shute said it matters to the property owner. It's your assessment relative to everyone else assessments in the town. If his assessment stays the same and everyone else goes up, his taxes will go down because his piece of the pie is smaller.

Marshall Taylor said the rate is set by the people who propose the budget.

Councilman Shute said people's taxes could go up or down based on the past reval.

Marshall said you need to look at what your budget is and the size of the town. The size of the town does affect the rate, however, if the budget goes up, the rate will go up.

Councilman McConnell said he offered to write the letter regarding the reval. If the Board is in favor of this, we can send it out with Leon Cook's letter regarding Clean Up Days or it can just be read tonight as part of the meeting minutes.

Councilman Shute doesn't believe what we are talking about is true. He does believe if the town doesn't do anything to its budget and we collect the same amount of taxes next year as we did this year, he thinks some folks tax payments will go up or down. He thinks what we collect in revenue does affect what folks pay.

Councilman McConnell read his letter into the minutes as follows:

“Dear Neighbors;

Many of you have inquired regarding the recent and on-going town wide property revaluation. Besides questioning your personal revaluation with our Town Assessors and the Fitts Appraisal Company, many of you have poised questions with regard to the need of such a process, who made the decision to go forth with this process, how does it affect your taxes, and how does it affect the town tax rates. This letter will hopefully give you those answers.

First, the need for such an assessment was identified by the Town Assessors in the spring of 2005 due to a town wide property valuation dropping from 93.2% in 2004 to 77.6% in 2005. Ideally, the New York State Office of Real Property Services (NYSORPS) hopes that each town would remain at 100%. Thus, each citizen is contributing their fair share. This drop to 77.6% was primarily due to home sales in LaFayette that are well above their previously current assessed value.

The LaFayette Town Board took this under consideration and debated it throughout the majority of 2005 and then voted to approve this process in August of 2005. However, it should be noted that the Town Board was approached in 2004 to accomplish a revaluation and voted to delay it until 2005.

Our last revaluation was completed in calendar year 2003 and there is no set period of time of which a new assessment should be done. Generally, it should be done when our town's assessment drops below 100% so as to keep the 'fair share' of taxes owed distributed according to the rise and fall of each and everyone's property value.

As far as hiring a contractor to complete the assessment, the town has chosen this method in order for you to receive an independent appraisal void of any bias.

How does it affect your taxes? Let's look at the big picture for the town by drawing upon the Assessment Disclosure Analysis as provided by the Executive Department of the NYSORPS. 1327 parcels of 57.03% of all town parcels will pay within 10% of last year's tax bill, 1082 or 46.50% of all town parcels will pay within \$100 of last year's tax bill, and 425 parcels of 18.26% will pay at least \$100 less in tax dollars, and 820 parcels or 35.24% will pay at least \$100 more in tax dollars. The worst case scenario today is that 143 parcels or 8.88% of residential properties will be increased up to 23% which may be up to \$500 or more in total year taxes owed over the previous year. This data may be reviewed at the Tax Assessors Office.

However, these changes are subject to change following the outcome of your meeting with Fitts Appraisal Company or the Town Assessors if you chose to pursue this course along with the adoption of next year's budget in December of 2006. The key point here is: if the Town Board approves a budget that increases our town's current tax rate, then yes, your taxes will go up if your assessment was increased. But, if the Town Board is able to build a budget that allows the tax rate to decrease, then your tax rate could increase, remain the same, or decrease depending upon the outcome of your property assessment value.

The purpose of this letter is to explain to you the decision process that was taken, the reasons to accomplish the revaluation at this time, and to point out the potential affects of this assessment process. You can also review the 2005 Town Board Meeting Minutes which will provide a detailed description of all decisions that were discussed. These minutes may be found at the Town Clerk's Office or on the Town's Web site located at: [www.townoflafayette.com](http://www.townoflafayette.com)."

Councilman Shute said he hates to sound like a broken record. The one thing that is not correct is if the Town Board raises the budget, your taxes will go up. If your assessment goes up a little and everyone else's goes up a lot, your taxes could go down. It's technically not true that if your assessment goes up, your taxes will go up.

Councilman Bailey said you could change would with could.

Councilman McConnell asked if the Board wished to send this out or just have it as part of the minutes.

Councilman Knapp said the more he has thought about this, it's such a difficult concept, he's afraid it will create more questions than we are answering.

Councilman McConnell said he can accept that.

Councilman Shute said he would agree.

Supervisor Scammell said he would like to put something in the next Newsletter regarding the reval.

The Board thanked Councilman McConnell for writing this letter.

Marshall Taylor tried to explain the assessment process and its meaning. The residents need to know how the system really works. The rate doesn't mean anything. It's the value of the budget versus the value of the role. What you do with the budget determines what people pay. The budget drives the whole process. The reval is about making it fair for everyone.

Pete Paul said a lot of people have been socked with a higher assessment and the letter is after the fact. He thinks the letter should have gone out before the letter from Mr. Fitts was received. He thinks Mr. Fitts letter is very blunt. He thinks a lot of this could have been prevented.

Supervisor Scammell said it doesn't help when the Post Standard writes an article stating an increased assessment increases your taxes. He discussed this with the person who wrote the article who advised him he didn't mean it that way. This is a very complex area. It's very hard to explain and to understand.

Marshall said he really thinks we need to explain the process to people to help them understand it.

Councilman Knapp said the other questions have been why do you have to do one periodically? Why do you have to be at 100%?

Marshall Taylor said when you get into the school districts, they do apportionment of value. The amount of the taxes passed on to you is based on the value of the role.

Councilman Knapp said if the school district was exactly contiguous with our town boundaries, it wouldn't be a problem.

Marshall Taylor said that is right.

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

**a) 2300 – 2330 Route 11 South, across from LaFayette Rural Cemetery, numerous violations.**

**b) Route 11N (just north of town offices) – 2 autos, visible from LPL parking lot, spring removal.**

**c) 2805 Route 11A. Business in A-R.**

**d) 3715 Eager Road – fire damage, unsafe building.**

Ralph Lamson said this has been demolished.

Supervisor Scammell asked about 2805 Route 11A.

Ralph Lamson said he talked to the owner about a month ago. He hasn't heard anything from her and when he went by there, it didn't look like she was running a business out of there. He will look into this again.

Ralph said there has been some progress on the remaining 3 items.

Councilman Knapp asked about Zangari's.

Ralph said he responded 2-3 weeks ago.

Councilman Knapp asked what his determination was.

Ralph said she gave him no new information other than the website. He called Mr. Carter and he said it was a mistake and he changed it.

Councilman McConnell said there was an ad in the Pennysaver with a 683 number.

Ralph said he does have some signs around with his home number on them but people often give their home numbers as contact numbers for their business.

A written report was submitted for March.

The Board returned to item number 6H under Communications.

“This is to inform you that all contracts or purchase orders let by a public entity awarding a public work contract must include a prevailing wage schedule regardless of the cost of the project. It is the responsibility of the Department of Jurisdiction, Letting Agency, to request this prevailing wage schedule and make it part of the contract...”

Supervisor Scammell said he gave this to Kevin Gilligan to review. He asked if this is for any public works contract regardless of the size.

Kevin Gilligan said yes. If you use any taxpayer’s money, you are subject to the prevailing wage.

Marshall Taylor said if something happens with the computer, we might have to call someone in.

Kevin believes they would be subject to the prevailing wage.

Marshall asked what this means.

Kevin said it means the NYS Labor Department will tell you what the prevailing wage is.

Councilman Knapp asked if there didn’t use to be a threshold.

Tom Chartrand said everyone use to follow the WICS Law a few years ago which was \$10,000. These letters that are being sent mean they want you to comply even if it’s \$5/hour.

Marshall Taylor asked about who has the authority to call if there is a problem with the network. Public works to him means a big project.

Councilman Knapp asked Kevin to get some clarification for this.

Kevin will get some information on this to the Board.

### **3) Dog Control: Jim Moore & J. Terry Moore.**

Supervisor Scammell said Jim Moore has suggested some amendments to our local law. He would like to add under Section 4 of our local law: “E. It shall be unlawful for any person whether a resident or non-resident of the Town of LaFayette to drop off or otherwise abandon a dog within the Boundaries of the Town of LaFayette.”

Kevin Gilligan said he will have to take a look at this to see if it’s something the town can do.

Jim Moore said he hadn’t had a chance to talk to counsel prior to tonight so he was going to table this until the next meeting.

Councilman Knapp asked Kevin if he will see if this is within the NYS statute of what we are allowed to do.

Supervisor Scammell under said Section 10 regarding Penalties, Jim would like the fine amount changed from \$250 to \$500.

Kevin said he has to see whether we are allowed to have this kind of fine for something like this.

Councilman Bailey asked Kevin with respect to the word misdemeanor, there are different classifications, does this local law need to be specific for what class it is?

Kevin believes it does. He also thinks when you get into misdemeanors, there might be a right for you to have a jury trial.

Councilman Bailey asked if it would be feasible to change the word misdemeanor to offense.

Kevin thinks it is and he will check into this.

Jim Moore asked if the emergency care contract was signed.

Supervisor Scammell said yes. They sent back an unsigned copy but faxed him a signed copy this afternoon.

Councilman Shute said Terri Grabowski contacted him as well as a few residents on Sentinel Heights Rd. They advised Jim had been up there regarding a pit-bull. The dog is still there.

Jim Moore said he couldn't find it when he went up there. He spoke to Terri Grabowski. He told the original complaint to call 911 and to get in touch with the Town of Onondaga Dog Control Officer.

Councilman Shute said he was just up there today. They identified the house where this dog is living. He thinks this might be a different situation.

Jim asked if it's in the Town of LaFayette.

Councilman Shute said yes.

Jim said if the dog is identified by the complainters, he can handle it as a dangerous dog complaint. He would have to coordinate this with the Town of Onondaga.

Councilman Shute asked why he would have to coordinate this with the Town of Onondaga.

Jim said because the original complaint was from a resident in the Town of Onondaga.

Councilman Shute said this dog cornered a child. Should they call Jim?

Jim said yes. Call him and he will go up there and handle it as a dangerous dog.

Councilman Shute said the owner refuses to keep the dog tied up.

Jim said he is sure the original complainter would like to sue this owner as she has over \$1,000 in vet bills.

Councilman Bailey said if there is a complaint from LaFayette, do not be afraid to cross the boarder to obtain evidence.

Kevin said it should be a LaFayette resident and LaFayette dog to trigger an action by our DCO. If it involves Onondaga, he could contact Kim Schnyder who is there DCO and work together with him. If there is to be a response, there should be a complaint within the town. If the complaints are both in the Town of Onondaga and the Town of LaFayette, Jim would want to work with the Onondaga DCO to bring the charges up.

Councilman Shute asked if the neighbors can call about an incident that happened two days ago or do they have to wait for something new to happen?

Kevin said no they do not have to wait for something new. They can contact Jim and get the paperwork started. He asked if anyone had been bitten.

Councilman Shute said no but one child was cornered.

Kevin said that is it. Dog identification will be important.

Jim said he physically saw the two dogs that were attacked and they are a mess.

Councilman Shute said he thinks this is great and it's the way it should be working.

#### **4) Highway Superintendent: Leon Cook.**

- **LaFayette Landfill – LFD Total Training Facility proposal (parking, engineer opinion, water retention) JD & KG feedback.**

Leon said he recommends for the Town to recommend forgetting about doing anything there as far as the training tower because of the restriction we have on the landfill.

Councilman Knapp believes it's a good idea but the wrong spot.

Leon asked who will tell the fire dept.

Councilman McConnell said he will be meeting with them tomorrow night regarding the Service Award Program and can pass this information along.

- **Clark Hollow & Cascade Road.**

Supervisor Scammell said Cornell Cooperative Extension is going to go talk to the farmer in question.

Leon asked if this is out of our hands now.

Supervisor Scammell said it depends on how he responds to Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Kevin said if he messes up the town road, Leon should call the State Troopers who can handle it as road obstruction.

Leon said since he talked to the farmer, the road has been kept pretty clean.

Councilman Knapp asked if since it's regulated by the State Agriculture Dept., would it still be regulated by the State Troopers?

Kevin said yes because due to the mud, etc. on the road, it's a hazard.

Leon said since the last meeting they haven't had any snowplowing. They have taken off two sanders. One on one of the big trucks and one on one of the small trucks.

Earth Day had a very poor showing this year. There were very few people who got out. Someone got out Sunday afternoon and dropped stuff off at the Highway Dept. which was a day too late.

They have picked up 36 loads of brush. It's supposed to be \$50 for a 10-wheeler load at OCRRA. If they had to take it there, they would let us do it for \$25/load. We would have to have a canvas cover if we took it there. After each load was loaded, we would have to take a chain saw to cut the load off even with the back of the truck.

Councilman Knapp asked if he was going to continue to take it where they have been.

Leon said yes. He said they have flushed out some driveway pipe. They had one pipe that had roots in it.

They are getting an awful lot of calls on the cleanup days. A lot more than usual. He suggested we get that letter out as soon as we can.

Councilman Knapp asked what most of the questions are about

Leon said what we will and won't take.

Supervisor Scammell said the Board has authorized the letter to go out so it's O.K. to send this out now.

Leon said he put in for some funding for work he wants to do this summer. If he gets it, he gets it. If he doesn't, he doesn't. They will be short this year on what they want to do. He called Senator DeFrancisco's Office and talked to someone there and was told to get the paperwork in. They can't disapprove or approve it until they see it. We will see what happens.

So far this year from January to date he has used 632 gallons less diesel fuel than last year from January through April. The cost is \$1,133 more. They used 632 less and paid \$1,133 more. They didn't have as much snow to push which gave them better mileage. The price of fuel is going to go up more yet. They are paying over \$2.34/gallon for diesel fuel. That is the state bid with no taxes on it. He is hoping we will get a little help from the other towns when we do our roadwork. He will have to cut down the fuel usage as much as he can. He doesn't think anyone thought it would go this high.

They are going to continue picking brush up. He is allowing people to put brush out through May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Cleanup Days will take them until about June to get rid of everything. It will be almost June before he starts oiling or stoning or doing any roadwork.

Councilman Knapp asked if he heard anything more from the DOT regarding the roadwork

Leon said the guy told him Route 11 was due for paving without anything being done in the Hamlet. It takes a good 2 years to get anything done.

Councilman Knapp asked why they are surveying up past the village on Route 20.

Leon said they have to survey outside the Hamlet area too.

Supervisor Scammell said the regional director has told him they will conduct public meetings and they will hold them fairly soon.

Leon said they can't have a public meeting until they know what they are going to do.

Councilman Knapp said there is concern by some residents that they may be straightening out the curve on Route 20 going towards St. Joseph's Church.

Councilman Bailey said near the concession stand parking lot at the ballfields along the Route 81 fence there are some tree branches that have fallen onto the fence. He asked Leon to take a look at them because a child could climb a limb over the fence to Route 81. The tree is at the end of the parking lot.

Leon said he may have to get permission from Mr. Gazotis if it's on his property.

##### **5) Justice Court: Malcolm Knapp & Maureen Perrin.**

Written reports were submitted for February and March.

**6) Library Director: Scott Kushner.**

• **Written Director Report and Board Minutes for March**

Supervisor Scammell noted they will be holding their annual book and bake sale Wednesday, May 3, to Monday, June 5.

**7) Recreation Director: Regina Reinschmidt.**

Regina Reinschmidt said they had a very successful baseball and softball clinic at the high school. He thanked Councilman McConnell for doing this.

Regina thanked the Board for approving Paul Puttkamer to open and close the ballfield bathrooms.

Councilman Shute confirmed they are open now as he received a couple of complaints from the tennis team.

Regina said yes. Next year we may have to open them a week earlier. She gave Paul Puttkamer a key.

They have 12 teams for baseball and softball. They have enough sponsors and plenty of coaches.

Jamie Manley is replacing Brad Palmer in doing the fieldwork.

Councilman Knapp asked if we need a motion for this.

Tom Chartrand said no as he is already working for Leon.

Councilman Knapp said he works for Leon at one rate and for Community Council at another.

Leon said he knows about this and is happy for the work.

Regina said lacrosse is practicing now. Their games will begin in June. Paul Dwyer fixed any spots in the box lacrosse that were unsafe. They will start to use it for practice next week. They will need the bathrooms opened or a port-a-john put in.

Leon said he can turn the water on and get it going. The Health Dept. said they need to have hot water. That will be an expensive item.

Supervisor Scammell asked about solar hot water.

Councilman Knapp asked if they had one of the instant hand sanitizers would it work?

Regina said she doesn't know. She suggested this and they haven't gotten back to her on it yet. She would like to have the bathrooms opened. The After School Program asked her if the volleyball posts that were knocked down to fix the septic could be put back up. We had to move the volleyball posts at the Beach to do the septic.

Leon will take a look at it.

Councilman Knapp asked if they are practicing at the Apple Festival Grounds.

Regina said yes.

Councilman Knapp asked if they need port-a-johns there.

Regina said she will have to let him know. The field was really torn up from parking last year.

Leon Cook said Bill has been working on his own time trying to smooth this out.

**8) Tax Collector: Teresa Mech.**

**9) Town Clerk: Mary Jo Kelly.**

A written report for March was submitted.

**10) Town Supervisor: Greg Scammell.**

- a) **Intermunicipal Shared Services/Cooperation & Consolidation, 2005 Onondaga Citizens League study (revised due date mid-2006), Southern Onondaga County towns.**

b) **Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program, 10% matching.**  
A written report for March was submitted.

**B. Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday).****1) Agriculture (DK/MK).****2) Communications & Technology (MF/PK/MK/MT/GS).**

- a) **Town Website.**
- b) **Transition to Digital Towpath.**
  - **Parallel operations.**
  - **Website – townoflafayette.org (now is townoflafayette.com). Secure additional .gov?**
  - **Town email addresses (tolxxxxx@aol.com to tolxxxx@??) – conversion & new.**
  - **File transfers.**

**3) Economic Development (BM/GS).****4) Emergency Response (TB/BM).**

- a) **LFD exhaust vents – '06 AFG grants (TB).**
- b) **Onondaga County Department of Communications - OCICS.**
- c) **NYS PSC – TSP (Telecommunications Service Priority) (BM).**

**5) Employee Policies & Benefits (MK/AS/MD).**

- **Implement employee-share healthcare premium increase.**

**6) Environmental & Conservation Advisory Board (RB, BF, KF, WG, EG, NM).**

- **2006 Tent Caterpillar assessment.**
- **SPDES subcommittee – tba.**

**7) Highway (PP/LC/DK/SP/JG).**

- a) **Long term capital equipment forecast.**
- b) **Road maintenance schedule.**
- c) **Spring Cleanup Program – no wood burned.**
- e) **Computer terminal in highway garage.**

**8) Physical Plant (HS/DK/BM).**

- a) **Heating/Cooling system alts & new temperature controls, Ph. 1 report, Clay Smith, P.E.**

Clay submitted a write-up to the Board of what he covered at the last meeting. By

spending \$8,000 for a new heating system, we will be saving almost \$20,000. He would recommend proceeding with the specs for having contractors bid on it.

There were no objections.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion to put this out for bid and to include the prevailing wage. Motion passed unanimously.**

**b) Energy usage reduction program, MEGA & town buildings (BM).**

**9) Recreation & Youth (DK/AS/RR).**

**a) Marion Bailey Park.**

- 1. Pavilion - local estimates, future park design.**
- 2. Install grills – Spring, '06.**

**b) LaFayette Beach.**

- 1. Evaluate survey/transfer LaFayette Beach from LCC to town.**
- 2. Roof over sandbox (Herb Salladin). Bids. (DK).**
- 3. Repair/move lacrosse box.**

**c) Fred Stafford/Optimists Park.**

- 1. Lacrosse facility – estimates (\$5K – materials only), (re)location possibilities.**
  - Tully-\$12k – materials only (all volunteer labor).**
- 2. Geese & feeding – signs (PP) (DK).**
- 3. Bird problems – remove light (see PP) (DK).**

**d) Park designs.**

- Parkitects.**

**10) Safety (TR/AS/LC/RR).**

**11) School District liaisons (BM/PP).**

**12) Senior Transportation & Housing (BO/GS).**

**13) Service Awards (BM/DK/LP/NV).**

- Firefighters Tax Exemption Law (Onondaga County Supervisors Association memo).**
- Requirements for service awards & tax exemption reconciliation.**

Councilman McConnell said there was a question from Councilman Shute at the last meeting about a bill and if it would be an annual fee. Part of it is and part of it won't be. He spoke to David Rogers and Ed Holihan today and they will be getting together to discuss a way to streamline costs.

Councilman Shute said the speaker they are going to have at the next Chamber of Commerce Meeting has a business which is setting up services like this.

Councilman McConnell gave Mary Jo some paperwork and the Service Award Program Report for July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 for the file.

**14) SOTS & OCRRA Liaison (DK/BM).**

**15) Water (GS/PP).**

- a) **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/Jamesville Reservoir – Preliminary Restoration Plan complete, seeking nonfederal (NYSDEC) cosponsor for 33% share of \$7.2M.**
- b) **Northeast LaFayette Water and Smokey Hollow Service Improvement districts.**
  - **Grants and low/no interest loans.**
- c) **Hamlet drainage study – request submitted to NYS DOT.**
  - **NYS DOT notified of subsidence behind M. Amidon’s property.**

**16) Zoning Review (GS/MK).**

- a) **Jamesville Reservoir Preservation District/JRPA change.**
- b) **New instruction sheet for subdivision, variances & controlled site approval (note riparian rights/drainage, SOCPA meets every 3 weeks, public notification of neighbors, applicants without counsel/surveyor/engineer, meeting frequency, include Onondaga County subdivision filing requirements, riparian rights) .**
- c) **Corridor Plan.**
- d) **Digitized zoning map, correction & amendments.**
- e) **Density (rezoning from A-R to Rn).**

**9. LITIGATION & OTHER LEGAL MATTERS.**

**A. Onondaga Nation land claim & land rights.**

**B. William May mobile home on Jamesville Reservoir. County court rules in town’s favor.**

- **NYS Supreme Court petition.**  
Kevin Gilligan said it will be held Thursday.

**C. Robert Shute – Route 11 – Judge Gideon, Town of DeWitt Court rules in town’s favor.**

Ralph Lamson said he was found guilty.  
Kevin said we are waiting to see if they appeal it or not.  
Councilman Knapp asked if they have 30 days.

Kevin said yes.

Councilman Knapp said they have found in our favor but haven't done any sentencing yet.

Kevin said correct.

Councilman Shute asked if this will probably result in a fine or will he just be told to clean up the property?

Kevin said a fine and possible jail time.

Ralph said it has actually gotten worse in the last month.

**D. Street names – SOCPA.**

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ACTIVE PROJECTS.**

**A. FOCUS 2010 - Strategic Plan.**

**B. Crime coverage – awaiting document review list (TC), certification letter, review of town books.**

**C. LaFayette Hotel (executive session).**

- **Historical status rejected.**

**D. School speed limit signs (AS/BM).**

**E. Community Development Grant app.**

**1) Water district.**

Councilman Shute said at the last meeting we went through John Dunkle's 5 motions to do for the funding for this. In retrospect, he came away still a little uncomfortable with # 4. The more he reflected on what we had done, the more it seemed the Town Engineer was setting town policy for how we were going to handle this. Number 1 of this resolution says the two water districts shall combine their efforts to seek grants, financial assistance and other financial assets needed to complete construction of the two water districts. Number 2 says any money and financing obtained shall be applied proportionately between the districts to make the typical costs the same for both districts. Number 3 seems to contradict Number 2 as it says any Community Development Funding that comes in is not to be applied to the Northeast LaFayette Water District but only to the Smokey Hollow District. At the last meeting the Board discussed this. John Lytle said it was the intent of the entire committee for the money to be distributed to bring the cost even. It seems we just used John Dunkle's motion to set the policy for any money that comes in and we shouldn't have relied on one persons agreement that that was the intent of the entire group as to how the money would be distributed.

Mary Jo said she believes the Community Development Grant was submitted only for the Smokey Hollow District as that was the only District formed at the time so it was

the only one that could apply for funding. The Northeast LaFayette District had not been formed yet.

Kevin Gilligan said the application for Community Development was for Smokey Hollow only as they were the only ones eligible at the time. The other thing about the funding split is that he and John Langey were not a part of it and they were relying on those that attended the meetings. John Dunkle advised them that the goal was to get everyone paying the same and that was the agreement of everyone. He also questioned this and was told it was all supposed to be so everyone ended up equal.

Councilman McConnell said the Smokey Hollow group left that night and then came back and advised they wanted to be included in the boundaries and constraints.

Kevin said the way he originally had this set up was that Smokey Hollow gets the Community Development Funding and then everything is split equally and if we don't get the Community Development Funding, Smokey Hollow could drop out and we would go on with the Northeast LaFayette District.

Councilman McConnell said he would agree with Councilman Shutes comments.

Councilman Shute said his purpose in bringing this up tonight is to be sure the Board is aware that they had passed a course of action to get it on record the reasons we approved this was mainly because John Dunkle said this is the way the committee wanted to go. When the money comes in, he wants to have something to go back to stating this is why we decided this and how it was decided.

Kevin said the Board might want to keep in mind that any resolution can be reversed until you sign a contract.

Councilman Shute said he spoke with Captain Bronstad at the Onondaga Sheriff's Dept. who informed him our agreement with the Sheriff's Dept. has expired and if we wish to use them, we need to recontract with them. If we are going to do this, we want to do it now rather than later as the Sheriff's are getting a new contract and the cost will go up significantly. We need a motion to do this. Do we have this in the budget this year?

Tom Chartrand said we have a line item for \$2,500 for this.

Councilman Knapp asked since we are moving the sign in the next couple of weeks, should we let people get use to it before we have the Sheriff's there?

Councilman Shute said there are two elements to use the Sheriff's Dept. One is the speed limit and the other is Capt. Bronstad said where this has been used in other towns, it more than pays for itself. He thinks we ought to use it in front of Grimshaw as soon as the signs are moved back. He assumes most of the people who travel the road in the morning, travel it every morning and if we do this for a couple of weeks, it will sink in.

Councilman Knapp asked Councilman Bailey if he thought there was a possibility of getting one of the signs that tells you what your speed limit is when the signs are first moved.

Councilman Bailey will check with Capt. Bronstad about this.

Councilman Knapp said he would just like to get the word out before the Sheriffs are there.

Councilman Shute said the basic part of this is do we want to renew the contract.

**Councilmen Shute moved and Knapp seconded the motion to renew the contract with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Dept. for \$2,500. Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilman McConnell asked when Councilman Shute would like to use the Sheriff's Dept.

Councilman Shute said personally he thinks they could be used before the signs go up. If the intent is to safeguard the children at Grimshaw, it's really about raising the awareness.

Councilman McConnell said at the next meeting, we should have a pinpointed date of when the signs will be changed so we can see if Councilman Bailey can get the speed limit sign put up a couple of days prior to that.

Leon Cook said once the crew gets the order it doesn't take them long.

Councilman Shute will try to find out what the exact date will be.

**2) Water district hookups.**

Councilman Knapp asked when we normally start hearing anything about the Community Development Grant.

Kevin Gilligan said after the Steering Committee meets. Usually in May or June. The legislature votes on the projects for the year in September.

Councilman Knapp asked if they give you notice from the Steering Committee. Kevin said no. We could touch base with Nina.

**3) Park designs (SU &/or playground equipment manufacturers- Parkitects)**

- **Bailey Park.**
- **LaFayette Beach.**
- **Stafford Park.**

**4) Neighborhood/Transportation infrastructure.**

**F. Groth Road Communications Tower – neighboring towers & wireless carriers.**

**G. '07 Budget.**

- **Crash bar on front door (safety – AS).**

This has been completed.

**H. SPDES – MS 4 Phase II, in kind.**

**I. NYS Unified Court System – Justice Court Assistance grants (DK).**

Councilman Knapp will follow-up on this.

**J. Association of Towns, 2006 Legislative Program (review 19 resolutions).**

Councilman Bailey said this can come off the agenda unless the Board has any specific concerns. There were none.

**K. Onondaga County proposal for centralization of tax collection.**

**L. Other.**

Councilman Knapp said at the last meeting the Board approved Paul Puttkamer starting a week from today. After he talked with Regina Reinschmidt, he would like this motion amended to have Paul start today as opposed to next week.

**Councilmen Knapp moved and Shute seconded the motion to amend the previous motion by having Paul Puttkamer begin work April 24, 2006 and not May 1, 2006. Motion passed unanimously.**

Leon asked where the Board wanted the “Don’t Feed the Geese” signs to go at Stafford Park.

Councilman Knapp said he will have Paul Puttkamer call Leon about them.

**11. NEW BUSINESS.**

Councilman Knapp said he had a couple of coaches approach him about the possibility of putting up a flagpole at the upper fields. Right now we have the really nice one at Stafford. They have been trying to play the National Anthem at the games so they wondered if something could be put up. They could light it from the corner of the building. With the Board’s permission, he will go out and get some prices.

Councilman Bailey asked if it would be seasonal.

Councilman Knapp said yes.

Marshall Taylor said he would suggest having the flagpole at the ballfield be the same as the one at Stafford Park. It’s right off Route 81. He thinks it’s extremely important for our young people to have this.

Councilman Knapp said he will get various price estimates and he has volunteers to put it in.

Mary Jo Kelly sent the Board a Memo regarding the Minutes. The Memo said if Minutes were going to be taken the way they are now she is requesting a recorder be used and made part of the record so there is no confusion as to what was or was not said and how it was said. If the Board is not in favor of this she can do like other Town Clerk’s and only record resolutions and motions. Anything other than those attending, date, place, time, motions and resolutions is not required by law. She submitted an example of Meeting Minutes with required information only.

Councilman Shute thinks the way the minutes are done now is fine. He thinks they are done well now and he thinks it’s his and any other Town Councilors job to make sure what is in the minutes is what was said. He doesn’t believe it’s Mary Jo’s responsibility.

Councilman McConnell would hope we would continue with the same quality that we have gotten.

Councilman Knapp agreed. He thinks Mary Jo does a good job.

Mary Jo said she doesn’t agree with minutes being changed because someone doesn’t like the way it looks or sounds in print. If she had a recorder, it would eliminate this from happening. Tonight the Board approved changes to the minutes and she asked if they were sure the changes were accurate.

Councilman McConnell said he had a correction.

Mary Jo said when there is a typographical error she has no problem with it. It's when changes are made because they might not like the way it looks in print. When there are corrections to the minutes because someone doesn't like them, it makes her look bad. When these minutes are put out on the website and people read of numerous corrections, it makes the person who took the minutes look like they are not doing a good job and she doesn't want to go through this every meeting.

Councilman Shute said he has been concerned about some of the motions that they have passed when they show up in the minutes and there are some things that are substantial that they did not discuss. He understands the purpose of putting them in that way is to be sure they are in the proper language. He doesn't believe we should be adding amendments to motions in the offtime.

Mary Jo said if the Board determines there should be amendments to the motions they could wait to vote on them when the amended motion is before them at the next meeting.

Councilman McConnell asked if Mary Jo had priced a recorder.

Mary Jo said no.

Councilman McConnell said he would hope the meetings would stay as robust as they are if a tape recorder is needed.

Councilman Shute felt at the previous meeting he was quoted speaking about a motion that when he saw it in print didn't match what the Board had talked about at the previous meeting.

Supervisor Scammell said he has been happy with the way the minutes have been.

Ralph Lamson said he has sat in meeting and it's very seldom Mary Jo misrepresents what someone says.

Mary Jo said she would ask the Board when they approve amendments to conscientiously ask themselves if they are sure the amendments are accurate.

Supervisor Scammell thinks the way we have been doing them is O.K. with him.

Councilman McConnell agrees but Mary Jo hasn't given the Board a choice.

**Councilman McConnell would move to continue as we are with the minutes but to purchase a tape recorder for the Town Clerk to continue in the same fashion as she has in the past. Councilman Bailey would second the motion if the Town Clerk feels this would help in getting every word.**

Mary Jo said the tape recorder is not for the purpose of getting every word. She is not a court stenographer. She takes shorthand and it is impossible to get every word said especially if more than one person is talking.

Councilman Knapp stands by what he said before.

Supervisor Scammell said by going with a recorder it will mean the Board will have to identify themselves when they speak. Microphones will be needed.

Councilman Knapp is not in favor of a recorder.

Councilman Shute agrees with them both. Up until tonight's meeting, he has not had a problem with what's gone on. He does believe it is each of their responsibility for the motions they put forward to be recorded accurately. He agrees with Mary Jo that the discussion behind them may not be appropriate for changing unless something is recorded wrong. He has taken it upon himself to start keeping track of the discussion behind the actual motion that goes through so he can keep track of what is being said.

Councilman Knapp asked if any of the other towns record their meetings.

Tom Chartrand said the Town of Tully does. The recorder picks up most of the Board but doesn't pick up the audience well. Pompey has a sophisticated recorder that they must send out for transcribing.

Mary Jo said the Board can put the purchase of a recorder on hold for now. She would only ask that in the future when amendments are proposed, the Board conscientiously ask if they are accurate amendments before approving them.

**Councilmen McConnell moved and Bailey seconded the motion to withdraw their above motion.**

Councilman Knapp said he asked Mary Jo to put together the phone numbers the Board received tonight.

Councilman Shute said his cell phone # 727-8012 can be added to the list.

**12. Suggestions for improvement and positive contributions.**

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

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

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:01 p.m. and was called back to order by Supervisor Scammell at 10:25 p.m. No action was taken.

**14. Councilmen McConnell moved and Knapp seconded the motion to audit and pay the following bills:**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>#5385 – 5423</b>
<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b># 5425 - 5426</b>

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**15. Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Regular Town Board Meeting adjourned at 11:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly  
Town Clerk

Adopted 5/8/06