

## March 22, 2010 Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on March 22, 2010 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: Adrian Shute, Supervisor  
David Knapp, Councilman (arriving at 7:29 p.m.)  
William McConnell, Councilman  
Andrew Ohstrom, Councilman

Absent: Gerry Doolittle, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Carleen LaRonde, Deputy Town Clerk

Others Present: Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney  
Thomas Chartrand, Bookkeeper  
John Greeley, Deputy Highway Supervisor  
Ralph Lamson, Code Enforcement Officer  
Shawn Adam, Assessor  
Joshua Streichert, Resident

1. Supervisor Shute called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. The Deputy Town Clerk took the Roll. Councilman Doolittle absent, Councilman Knapp arriving at 7:29 p.m.)
3. Pledge to our U. S. Flag led by Town Councilor Ohstrom.
4. **Councilors McConnell moved and Ohstrom seconded the motion to accept prior Town Board Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2010 as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.** None
6. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

A. Residents.

1. Application for zone change from Joshua Streichert was discussed.

Mr. Streichert was present to continue discussion of his request. He is asking for an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow for a taxidermist in an Agricultural/Residential District.

Councilman Ohstrom asked if the taxidermy process would be done in a separate building or in the home.

Mr. Streichert said that the process would be conducted in a separate building.

Mr. Lamson said that if the process was in the home, it would not be allowed. Since this is in a separate building, it is OK. He cited a request about 10 years ago where someone wanted to repair musical instruments in a separate building.

Mr. Streichert said that he will not be advertising, and that business would be word of mouth, that they may call his home phone to see if he will be in his garage working. There might be 50 people a year using his services, and mostly during the fall season because of hunting.

Councilman McConnell felt that there would not be negative impact if the business dealt with 50 people a year and also asked if he checked with his neighbors to see if they objected.

Mr. Streichert said that he checked with his one neighbor and there was no problem with the neighbor and he had no other neighbors.

Councilman McConnell and Supervisor Shute both voiced their support.

Attorney Gilligan stated that he would draft a notice for a Public Hearing.

Supervisor Shute asked if it would be ready to bring up at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting and would it include similar wording as the crematorium.

Discussion went on about the limitation of minimum acreage and talk about a minimum of 8 or 9 acres.

Discussion continued with Kevin Gilligan and the drafting of the legislation. It might be due for consideration on April 26, 2010. There are timelines, according to Attorney Gilligan, that need to be met with regard to the advertisement of a Public Hearing. Even sending electronically to the newspaper, it takes 4-5 days till the newspaper publishes the notice. With time constraints, nothing can be promised.

Mr. Streichert thanked the Board and left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

B. Other

## **7. SPECIAL REPORTS**

## **8. REPORTS**

### **A. Departmental**

#### **1. Assessors.**

Shawn Adam reported that the Assessors are getting ready assessment time and that they will be preparing for Assessment Grievances.

#### **2. Building and Zoning Code Enforcement – Written report submitted.**

Ralph Lamson reported that the Code Enforcement at 3231 Webb Road is no longer an issue. Southern Hills Preservation has purchased the property, put a new roof on it and boarded up the windows.

The Thorpe property issue will be tried in LaFayette Town Court on May 6, 2010.

#### **3. Dog Control.**

#### **4. Highway Department – Written report submitted.**

Deputy Superintendent John Greeley reported that Superintendent Leon Cook is on the road to recovery.

- The department has fixed potholes
- Sweeping is continuing
- Vehicle maintenance has been done
- The 25-30 year old tractor worn.
- Met with Stephen Engineer Kevin Place. Recommendations are that the shelf should be free standing and not attached to the present building.

The tires are pushing against the inner wall of the building and could possible compromise the existing structure's integrity as the wall is now being pushed out.

- Got quotes for the yellow tractor
- Brush pickup planned, Earth Day, and Dump Day (5/1/10) discussed
- Supervisor Shute said the bike path needs to be staked out.
- Councilman McConnell discussed the four-corners and the re-pavement under the light. Also the Route 20 project was discussed.

5. Justice Court – Written February 2010 Report submitted.
6. Library Report – Written February 2010 Report submitted.
  - Supervisor Shute reminded everyone that Mary Jo's chili brought first place for the Town and the Library came in third place in the Chili Cook-Off
7. Recreation Director – Written report submitted.
8. Ropes Course
9. Tax Collector
10. Town Clerk
11. Town Supervisor – Written February 2010 Report submitted.
  - Discussion between Councilman McConnell and Bookkeeper Tom Chartrand ensued. It was determined that it is way too early to do a chart of expenditures and would not be reliable information for the budget. A monthly or quarterly graph was suggested by Councilman McConnell. Other possible cuts could be in energy reduction. A report at this time would not be meaningful, according to Mr. Chartrand and suggested that he could come up with something. There are over 200 line items in the budget.
  - Supervisor Shute said that they have already stopped computer spending. The AOL bill was around \$125 per month. Every little bit helps.
  - Councilman McConnell said that possible control on professional services and could be cut a little each year.
  - Mr. Chartrand stated that he could come up with something that showed last year to this year. He also said that he needs to do a transfer sheet regarding cleaning of the Library.

**Councilmen McConnell moved and Ohstrom seconded the moving of \$2000 in the Library budget from Contractual to Personnel for the purpose of cleaning the Library. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Committee

1. Community Development

Discussion was held on a municipal resolution regarding Town zoning code and comprehensive plan, critical to the farmland protection and preservation. The

Town is soliciting grant monies from the State in the amount not to exceed \$25,000 (75% of the total project cost) and the Town will commit an additional \$8,334 (25% of the total project cost). \$3,500 of which will be provided in cash from a dedicated fund established as part of this action through the establishment of a budget item for this purpose and \$2,334 of in-kind services from the Town and \$2,500 of in-kind services from Onondaga County. Councilman McConnell stated that this is prudent to do.

**Councilmen McConnell moved and Ohstrom seconded the motion to approve application to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for grant funding in accordance with the above discussion and authorize the Supervisor to act on behalf of the Town in all matters relating to the grant application and further authorizing the Supervisor to sign the full resolution which is attached to these minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

- a. On LaFayette Community Day, Supervisor Shute asked Ralph Lamson about the fireworks permit. Mr. Lamson said that you need one for 250 people, and is not sure about the amount of people. He will get a head count this year.
- b. Regarding the Streetscape Project, Councilman McConnell suggests that the Park and Ride signs be removed. We no longer have any stops in LaFayette. The nearest one is in Nedrow.

2 Emergency Response

3 Employee Policies and Benefits

4. Environmental and Conservation Advisory Board Hydrofracking article in next newsletter

5. Highway

a. Replacement of tractor discussion - \$65,625

6. Physical Plant

a. Town Offices

b. Supervisor Shute discussed the Community Center conditions. He stated that Phil DeSaw will paint west side of Center. There is heat loss, also. Windows are in poor shape, probably needing 8 replacements. Councilman McConnell stated that he'd get Jerry to look at it. Spoke to the original grant. Tom Chartrand stated that there is \$3500 budgeted for repairs.

7. Recreation and Youth

8. Safety

9. School District Liaisons

a. Councilman McConnell met with LaFayette Central School's Superintendent Peter Tigh as part of the Town School Liaison role and discussed upcoming budget issues for the school. Mr. Tigh has also submitted an application to name LaFayette as one of the best 100 places to live. The Town and School Districts have been accepted to now apply to seek this recognition. Councilman McConnell will be assisting on behalf of the Town.

- 10. Service Awards
  - a. Letter of intent for an audit of the Fire Department  
Discussion was held regarding Hilton & Powers CPA to conduct an audit of the LOSAP program for the LaFayette Fire Department.
- 11. SOTS & OCRRA
- 12. SPEDES

9. LITIGATION 7 OTHER LEGAL MATTERS

- A. LaFayette Beach
  - 1. Kevin Gilligan getting several documents regarding corporate status
- B. People of the State of New York vs. Tim Thorpe and Attorney Forward's reply
  - 1. Ralph Lamson said trial scheduled for May 6, 2010.
- C. Festival Gardens PILOT
  - 1. Discussion was held regarding the PILOT for the Festival Gardens for another five (5) years. Basically it is the same as the last five years. Nothing has changed. Continuing discussion between Councilman McConnell and Attorney Gilligan was held.

(Councilman Knapp entered the meeting at 7:29 p.m.)

Councilman Knapp stated he had checked with Mary Jo and payments were not a problem. Supervisor Shute met with the manager of Festival Gardens last week. The last thing we want is another empty building.

Attorney Gilligan said let them know percentage of increase, and Supervisor Shute will call them. Councilman Knapp said they need money for repairs. Tom Chartrand stated we may not get much even if increased, because school district gets 70% of the PILOT revenue.

Councilman McConnell is willing to sit down with Supervisor Shute and Jim Salinski, the manager of Festival Gardens. Supervisor Shute will contact him.

- D. Other

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ACTIVE PROJECTS

- A. Remove Community Development Grant application off agenda

11. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Rx zoning classification – Comprehensive Plan

- B. Review Draft Revised Zoning Map

Got map and delivered. Can't adopt. Supervisor Shute said wait one more meeting. Attorney Gilligan says this map may be a stopgap till Comprehensive Plan work.

- C. Community Center items of food nature.

Supervisor Shute said the food has been removed because of evidence of rodents. Verbal mention is given to everyone who uses the building to make sure they take out what is brought in.

D. Obsolete equipment

**Councilmen Knapp motioned and Ohstrom seconded to declare surplus printers as obsolete equipment. Motion passed unanimously.**

E. Other

**Councilmen McConnell motioned and Ohstrom seconded that the Town retain the firm of Hilton & Powers, CPA to conduct an audit of the LOSAP program for the LaFayette Fire Department and authorizing Supervisor Shute to execute the agreement with Hilton & Powers regarding same for the agreed upon amount of \$3500. Motion passed unanimously.**

12. Suggestions for improvement and positive contributions

13. Executive Session (if needed)

14. Motion to audit and pay bills

**Councilmen Knapp moved and McConnell seconded to pay the following bills:**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>#5511 - #5538</b>
<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>#5539 - #5542</b>
<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND</b>	<b>#5543 - #5544</b>
<b>TRUST &amp; AGENCY</b>	<b>#5545 - #5549</b>

**Motion passed unanimously.**

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

The Regular Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carleen LaRonde  
Deputy Town Clerk

Adopted 4/12/10