

TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN ON LIMA,
November 7, 2023

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lima, NY, County of Livingston, State of New York, was held on Nov. 7 at the Lima Town Hall, 7329 East Main St., Lima, at 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Mike Falk, Town of Lima Supervisor
Bill Carey, Councilmember
Leta Button, Councilmember
Mark Petroski, Councilmember
Andy Torpey, Councilmember
John Sokolofsky, Highway Superintendent
Jennifer Heim, Town Clerk
James Campbell, Town Attorney
Charlie Floeser, Code Enforcement Officer
Barbara VanZandt, Deputy Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric Weiss, from CPL; Jason Molino of Livingston County Water and Sewer

The Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Michael Falk at 6:00, who led the pledge of allegiance. The agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved.

TOWN BOARD MEETING PROTOCOLS

Supervisor Falk read Town Board meeting protocols as follows: “The Town of Lima follows NYS Open Meetings Law procedures. All meetings of the Town Board are duly noticed and open and accessible to the public. The public is there to witness the proceedings only. In the event of a public Hearing, people may sign in and speak to the board and those assembled regarding the hearing topic for a maximum of five minutes once per board meeting. Speaking time belongs only to the speaker and may not be reassigned to someone else. Privileges of the floor may be granted to anyone who wishes to address the board on any topic at all. In order for the public to be properly noticed, the Privileges of the Floor must be applied for and approved five calendar days prior to the Board meeting date. Privileges of the floor are not to exceed 20 minutes. Approval authority for privileges to the floor is held by the Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor, if the Supervisor is unavailable. At the beginning of each meeting, the public may sign up to speak for 5 minutes on any posted agenda topic. Questions can be answered during the agenda discussion or logged for answer after research. At the very end of each meeting, the public may sign up to speak for 5 minutes on any topic at all. Questions can be answered or researched and answered later

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Councilperson Leta Button made the motion, Councilperson Mark Petroski second to approve supervisor’s report as distributed before the meeting. Supervisor Falk also announced that communications with the board included two FOIL requests, one for information on water testing results, and the other for all of the USDA data for Water District 5.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

Approval of Oct. 3 minutes, motion by Leta Button, second by Mark Petroski, unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS OF VOUCHERS

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #11 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Funds: No. 322 through 359 \$53,217.48

Highway Funds: No. 137 through 156 \$12,174.04

Unanimously approved.

WATER DISTRICT 5

Town Attorney James Campbell reported the petitions did not succeed, but there were pockets of areas with high interest. He commented that Lima would need to explore if they should seek some other type of water project, perhaps smaller in areas of high interest. (Eric Weiss of CPL had prepared maps to show where areas of interest are. Supervisor Falk handed out maps of areas of high interest.) The town received \$11 million from USDA, one of the highest awards given in New York State for this type of project; we could surrender that award back, but if we do that, it will mean Lima probably not have any water project within the next few years; perhaps Lima could use the \$11 million on a smaller project. Feb-Oct effort to collect signature probably gave the best data, tried to give everyone an opportunity who wanted to sign to sign. With the data and potential funding, Lima could have a more targeted area where it is wanted and needed. With the grant, county project on South Lima Rd, water district work in Avon, and Lima are in first round negotiations to providing us with lower cost Hemlock Lake water rather than the more expensive Monroe County water might make this an opportune time to continue with some sort of water project.

Eric Weiss suggested taking the map where the petition signers are, who want water, and come up with some alternatives and come back to December meeting with 2 or 3 options; make sure what our options are and that we have don't jeopardize the grant and move forward with a revised smaller district or districts. It won't be cheaper to wait, more people are applying for these grants, making them more selective, interest rates continue to climb. Jason Milano of the Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority agreed this is the time to move forward, especially since there are other municipalities that we can work with. Jim Campbell pointed out the board could move forward on this, without having to go the petition route again, using the data Lima already has.

Councilperson Petroski raised the question that, if, in the future, other districts were formed, would they benefit from the grant? According to Weiss and Molino, no, other than they could build on something already existing, but they would not have benefit of grant money.

About 17% of village water income comes from out of district users, mainly with Lakeland and Superior businesses, but other users complain there is sometimes lack of water pressure when those businesses use a lot of water. Mike Falk suggested that perhaps those places should be included, and water mains upgraded, etc.

Attorney Campbell advised don't slow it down, but don't rush it; new members are coming onto the board who may have differing opinions. The next decision should be what the preferred project is, and then decide on cost, and go to public again to have a public hearing. If the districts were smaller, only the people who benefited would be paying for the project.

Map handouts can be found online on the Lima Town website under town water.

CEO REPORT

Code Enforcement Officer Charlie Floeser submitted a written report, and commented there were four new house build permits in Lima. CEO Charlie Floeser did 61 fire inspections, has two months to complete the rest of them, Discussion followed about considering charging for the fire inspections, as other towns do, since the CEO did a time-consuming 136 inspections over a 3-year period. Councilperson Petroski said other towns charge, and Lima should consider the same. Supervisor Falk said we would have to come up with a fee schedule and have a public hearing to do that. Councilperson Andrew Torpey thought it might hinder businesses from doing business in Lima.

HIGHWAY MONTHLY REPORT

Highway Superintendent John Sokolofsky reported the post augur/pounder has totally broken down, for the second time, and a new one would be the most efficient way to put snow fence up. All trucks are inspected, ready for plowing, Cemeteries have been mowed, a groundskeeper's Red shed 5 x 8 wood frame building is empty at cemetery, not used for years, wants to load it up and take it away, consensus was if we're not using it, it's a liability, take it away.

Action

Highway Superintendent John Sokolofsky asked the board to appropriate \$3,970 dollars (lowest price of 3 suppliers) to order new post augur, since only 1/4 of snow fence has been put up for this year. Councilperson Petroski raised the question if it was really needed, and Sokolovsky replied that it was used mostly for snow fence, much more efficient than pounding posts in with bucket equipment, and snow fence which saves a lot of time plowing because it holds back blowing snow across roads. Motion by Councilperson Leta Button, second Councilperson Torpey, to appropriate money for a post augur/pounder.

Yays: Button, Falk, Carey, Torpey

Nay: Mark Petroski

Motion to purchase post augur/pounder carried.

SIEMENS ENERGY

Supervisor Falk commented that we are waiting for funding for the project.

DOG PARK

Supervisor Falk reported that the town board should have a public hearing next meeting to move money from the Dog Park Reserve to A8510.4. Motion to have the hearing next meeting made by Councilperson Carey second by Councilperson Button. Unanimous approval.

PAID FAMILY LEAVE

The proposed paid family leave policy was brought up by Highway Superintendent John Sokolofsky, who made a presentation, with handout, and suggested the town could cover the cost by moving money from unused highway maintenance budget to cover the \$1500 cost. If the town opts to offer paid family leave up to 12 weeks, 4 highway, clerk, library, code enforcement officer, would be eligible. According to Sokolofsky, he thought insurance already covered paid family leave but when an employee went to use family leave, he was told by insurance company, there was not coverage. (Employee took vacation leave). Cost for insurance of this type \$1500 to fully cover. To collect, an employee has to fill out a packet and submit it to insurance company. Paid family leave could be funded by employee or employer, but board has to decide if town will pay for it, or employee pays for it. Discussion about whether offering it would encourage people to take off, perhaps 2 or 3 at a time, which would cripple things. Councilperson Petroski was against, Councilperson Torpey said he was torn, Councilperson Carey said he was in favor. Supervisor Falk indicated he was concerned about the possibility of multiple people taking off at the same time. Petroski proposes tabling. Supervisor Falk suggested the insurance company be contacted for details and how people can use it, and to do more research on the proposal before taking action.

SUMMER RECREATION 2024

A copy was handed out to board members earlier, the number of campers is declining from Lima, but Mendon campers had almost tripled. Councilperson Petroski made a motion to adopt the agreement as presented, Councilperson Carey second, unanimous approval.

OVERRIDE TAX CAP

No action.

COURT AUDIT

Councilpersons Button and Carey will be doing an annual court audit.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Councilperson Petroski made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m., seconded by Councilperson Bill Carey. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

All documents mentioned in the Town Board Minutes are available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara VanZandt
Deputy Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Name	Address
Steve Werner	7280 Kober Drive
Marty Gardner	7400 Corby Rd
Cathy Gardner	7400 Corby Rd
Barb Finckel	6790 Teaks Rd
Ginny Baker	7155 W. Main St.
ERIC BAKER	" "
Kristy Shafer	Woodruff Road
Mike Neenan	1601 York St
LEE DEKRAMER	2009 DEPAUL ROAD