

August 14, 2019
Town of Lyme
Regular Monthly Meeting 6:30 P.M.

Call to Order:

Supervisor Aubertine called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. opening the meeting with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present included Supervisor Aubertine, Deputy Supervisor Bourquin, Councilwoman Gosier, Councilman Jones, Councilman Villa, Town Clerk Ariana Matraw, Clerk to the Supervisor Robin Grovesteen, Warren Johnson, Dave Henderson, Assessor Carol Quencer, Shirley Williams, Terry Countryman, Anne and Jorge Zaula, Jo and Glenn Goldberg, Ute Mileus, Nicholas Mikos, Alisa van de Crommert and Gunther Schaller.

Privilege of the Floor

Jessica Waldrof NY Power Authority:

Jessica Waldrof of the New York Power Authority attended the meeting to present the Smart Street Lighting NY program. She began with some background about NYPA, including that the Authority's real job is to serve as an advisor to communities to inform them of alternatives. Over the last 5 years several things have been put in place in order to make possible community choice and participation in new street lighting initiatives, including the purchase and ownership of the community's light fixtures and the conversion to LED. Other benefits beyond the financial would accrue, with multi-functional fixtures capable of performing such actions as water meter reading and changeable wattages in certain weather conditions. Ms. Waldrof mentioned that the facility charges now imposed by National Grid are among the highest. Participation in the NYPA program would not only save on those charges, but would also save approximately 3 cents per kWh, with a possible cumulative savings of 14% overall.

If the Town of Lyme decided to enter into NYPA'S Smart Street Lighting program, we would be joining at least 17 other neighboring communities already enrolled. Ongoing maintenance of the street lights is the number one concern for most of these communities, but several options are available, including sharing bucket trucks between communities or putting out for bid the maintenance by a third-party company. Ms. Waldrof also explained future benefit for integration into diverse systems.

Councilman Villa stated his hesitation to enter into the program at present due to the small financial benefit to the Town of Lyme with its small lighting district of only 45 street lights with a taxpayer cost of \$54 a year. The savings seemed insignificant. Ms. Waldrof responded that the long-term investment would be a 10-12 year return. Robin Grovesteen asked if the Town will eventually be required to switch over to LED lighting and Ms. Waldrof responded that at this time, it is less of a State regulation and more an opt in/out program. NYPA follows National Electric Association Standards, but there are no standards for NYS at this time. Ms. Grovesteen also asked if most communities are signing up because of the current financial incentives and Ms. Waldrof said that many are looking at future possibilities for expansion and optional

functionality. Some towns are looking ahead to public parking lots or parks where lights may be needed and can be added as part of the project.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution 2019-102: Councilman Villa made the motion to approve the Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilwoman Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Highway Superintendent's Report

There was no report given.

Clerk's Report- June 2019

Monthly Receipts were as follow: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$3,939.92; Total State County & Local Revenues: \$4,036.42, Total Non – Local Revenues: \$103.50

Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #15 & #16)

Resolution 2019-103: Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #15 in the amount of \$52,387.82; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution 2019-104: Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #16 in the amount of \$102,143.53; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Approval of the June 12, 2019 Minutes

Resolution 2019-105: Councilman Villa made a motion to approve the June 12, 2019 Minutes; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Approval of the July 10, 2019 Minutes

Resolution 2019-106: Councilman Villa made a motion to approve the July 10, 2019 Minutes; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Committee Reports

Assessor's Report:

There will be two cases going to small claims court this year. Both are basing their cases on the fact that they paid less than assessment for their homes. All of the assessors will be attending a state mandatory ethics class on August 26, 2019 in Clayton from 8:30-4:00 PM.

Resolution 2019-107: Councilman Jones made a motion to allow the assessors to attend the state mandatory ethics class in Clayton; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Municipal Water Board Report:

The water quality tests were completed and a report will be provided when the results are received. There will be another EDU added in Water District #4 in the future.

Planning Board:

There was no report from the Planning Board.

Youth Commission:

There was no meeting this month. Summer soccer is going on right now.

ZEO/CEO Report:

Total Permit Receipts in July: \$720.00; Total RV Permit: YTD: \$1500.00; Total Permit Receipts YTD - \$5,251.00.

TMB Cemetery:

Councilwoman Gosier stated that there were three cremains burials and three grave sites sold. Everything is in order and that the highway department performed maintenance work, such as trimming trees and “made it look nice.”

New Business

Veterans Banners:

Dave Henderson suggested the Town of Lyme purchase and display banners honoring military veterans from the Town of Lyme. He has seen them in other communities such as Hudson Falls, and described that they bear the name and picture of individual veterans. Supervisor Aubertine said the banners we have now were from Downtown Decorations in Syracuse and that he would look into the cost. Mr. Henderson has sympathy for the Veterans because he is a former Veteran and said that he was willing to purchase some.

The Board was in support of the idea and Supervisor Aubertine plans to contact other towns with banners for more information. Mr. Goldberg mentioned that Pennsburg, PA has the most extensive set of veterans’ flags he has seen.

Old Business:

Warren Johnson- Naming the new park:

Mr. Johnson expressed his wish to name the new park “Veterans Memorial Public Park,” and the gazebo after Kim Wallace. He thinks that this would be a great honor. Supervisor Aubertine asked what the urgency was to name the park. Mr. Johnson would like to honor the Veterans and also want to see the town apply for grants and receive funding which relates to veterans. He also volunteered to be on the Park Committee once one is formed. Robin Grovesteen stated that the veteran park name would not, in and of itself, further grant funding but, rather, the activities and amenities of the park. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin suggested tying the Veterans Banners in with the park.

Resolution 2019-108: Councilman Villa made a motion to name the new park “Veteran’s Memorial Public Park”; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Aubertine informed the Town Board of a recent incident at the new park. Town Clerk Mattraw had called Supervisor Aubertine and told him she had observe a large camper parked at the property. She was concerned about the liability the Town might have. When Supervisor Aubertine visited the camper, he was told that Andy Williams at Wise Guys gave them permission to park there overnight. Supervisor Aubertine instead led them to the boat launch to stay for the night. The couple told Supervisor Aubertine they stay wherever they can without paying. They have been to several towns where campers are welcomed to stay for free in a designated area and suggested this idea to the Town of Lyme. It was agreed that these ideas should be kept in mind when planning for the park.

New Park Committee:

Supervisor Aubertine stated he believes we should wait on creating a park committee. He said that Sunshine Jenkins, the grants administrator, said that there could be further monies available with development. Ms. Grovesteen explained that there are additional grant phases that need to be identified in order to provide direction for any future committee, including such things as determining necessary infrastructure to support whatever facility may be erected. She suggested that the Board consider convening a work session to consider all requirements of the available grant programs in an effort to state the mission and set the goals for a committee to work from. A work session will be discussed over email so that Clerk Mattraw can publish notices as appropriate.

Klock Road Final Decision:

Supervisor Aubertine stated requests from residents on Klock road to maintain the road and culvert pipe on their property. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin stated that using monies from highway funds make it a public road. His suggestion was to pass a motion that it is a private road and that culver repairs will be funded with Transfer Site funds, performing the work solely for safety and liability purposes. Ms. Grovesteen clarified her earlier suggestion that all town-owned properties be inspected for any safety concerns and remedied as necessary, with Klock Road as but one of the properties so examined.

Councilwoman Gosier reminded the Board that at the last meeting her suggestion was to only use the stone that is needed to do the culvert work and they will provide the culvert pipe. She agrees with Deputy Supervisor Bourquin idea.

Resolution 2019-109: Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made a motion stating that because of safety issues the Town of Lyme Highway Department will provide the labor and supply stone as needed to replace the culvert pipe on Klock Road with funds coming out of transfer site contractual account (because it is on the transfer site property). The Town will not retrieve the culvert pipe, the pipe needs to be on premises; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; Supervisor Aubertine,

Deputy Supervisor Bourquin, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Gosier, AYE; Councilman Villa: NAY and the motion was carried.

Roof Repairs:

Supervisor Aubertine stated that something needs to be addressed concerning the leaking roof before winter.

Resolution 2019-110: Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to put out an RFP for contractors to come look at the roof and submit proposal; seconded by Councilman Villa; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Online Privilege of the Floor

There was no online privilege of the floor.

Privilege of the Floor

Glenn Goldberg: Mr. Goldberg stated he was aware that the REDI fund projects have already been submitted but he would like to propose that a new South Shore Road Extension be put in behind the row of houses. It would save the town a lot of headache and expense from the road falling into the lake. South Shore Road has been replaced in the past for this same reason. It would fall into the criteria of the REDI funding. Supervisor Aubertine said he would send Mr. Goldberg's idea to all of our legislators.

Warren Johnson: Warren Johnson voiced his concern about the erosion on County Route 125 and the trees falling onto the road. Mr. Johnson said that Pat Weston stated he would take a look the road but he has to get approval from Jim Lawrence who is not answering his phone. Pat would have to get approval to put the large stone down to prevent erosion.

Shirley Williams: Ms. Williams stated the Town of Lyme was a fun Town when she was younger. There was more to do back then. Today we don't utilize the history that the Town has. We have almost as much history as much Sackets Harbor and not many people realize this. We should combine the history of our Town with the new Veteran's park. Supervisor Aubertine stated we are trying to keep history in the Town. New York State Leak Detection researched the Bi-Centennial Park. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin stated that the old block house may have been located and they found several graves. New York State Leak Detection is going to produce a GPS map to show what they found. Councilwoman Gosier spoke to Tim Able recently who is a known archeologist in the area and he said when we get the report he would like to look at it. He doesn't think that it is a block house. Councilwoman Gosier stated we should check into it further and to try to discover exactly what it was.

Executive Session

Resolution 2019-111: Supervisor Aubertine made a motion at 7:50 to begin their executive session; seconded by Councilman Villa; all were in favor and the motion was carried

Item#8

Item#6

Return to Open Meeting

Resolution 2019-112: Supervisor Aubertine made a motion at 8:18 to return to open meeting; seconded by Councilwoman Julia Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried

Adjournment

Resolution 2019-113: Councilman Villa made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried; meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk