

**Town of Lyme
February 13, 2013
Regular Monthly Meeting
6:30 P.M.**

Supervisor Aubertine called tonight's meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present at tonight's meeting: Supervisor Aubertine, Councilmen Bourquin and Henderson, Town Accountant Cathy Satterley, Highway Superintendent Pat Weston, ZEO/CEO Jim Millington, Assessor's Marsha Barton and Roz Gotham, Planning Board Chairman Frank Congel and three others.

Councilwoman Harris and Councilman Villa were not present at tonight's meeting.

Officer's Reports

Supervisor's Report – Cathy Satterley

RESOLUTION 2013 – 13: Motion by Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Bourquin accepting the January 2013 Supervisor's Report as submitted by Accountant Cathy Satterley. Three ayes. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent's Report – Pat Weston

The Highway Department has assisted the Village with a water main break on 12E. Pat asked the Board if the Town should bill the Village for the work done by the Town or would they prefer it to be recorded under Shared Services. Costs associated with the project were \$2,247.52.

Councilman Henderson feels considering the time of year, that the charges should be billed to the Shared Services.

Councilman Bourquin stated that this past week the MEO's didn't have a lot going on anyway and he feels that it should be applied to Shared Services for now.

Supervisor Aubertine indicated that he is of the same opinion of the Councilmen and we should keep a “running tab” at this point. If the Shared Services program gets “lop sided” later on in the year it might be feasible to bill the Village at that time.

Superintendent Weston stated that the Village DPW was not in a position to take care of the excavation and leak problem. They did not have the appropriate equipment or manpower. Pat would like to wait to see how we make out with the Shared Services this year before we decide to bill the Village for this recent project.

Pat is using the Village DPW to plow when he needs them. They are plowing the Transfer Site, parking lots at the Town Offices and Highway Garage and also shoveling the sidewalks around the buildings.

Clerk’s Report – January 2013

| | |
|---|------------|
| Total State, County and Local Revenues: | \$1,607.15 |
| Total Local Shares Remitted: | 1,266.31 |

Audit of the Bills

RESOLUTION 2013 – 14: Motion by Councilman Bourquin and seconded by Councilman Henderson accepting Abstract #3 in the amount of \$1,326.00. Three ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 15: Motion by Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Bourquin approving Abstract #4 in the amount of \$88,242.94. Three ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION 2013 – 16: Motion by Councilman Bourquin and seconded by Councilman Henderson approving the minutes of the following meetings:

- January 9, 2013 – Organizational and Regular Monthly Meeting***
- January 10, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town and Planning Boards***
- January 15, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town and Village Boards***
- January 15, 2013 – Reconvening of the Joint Meeting of 1/10/13***

January 29, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town and Planning Boards

Three ayes. Motion carried.

Assessor's Report – Marsha Barton

Reval Update – The Assessor's are in the process of valuing the Village of Chaumont. It should be complete within a few days. There will still be some "clean-up" work to complete after that. The commercial valuations are nearly done. Impact notices should be mailed by the end of March.

A reminder that exemptions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 1st, with the exception of the Agricultural Land exemption, which is due by April 1st.

The Assessor's have found close to \$1,000,000.00 of docks, ramps and break walls that don't require a local permit. Marsha has requested that the DEC provide the information to the Assessors to assure accurate assessment updates for the Town's records.

Municipal Water Board Report – Marsha Barton

Water Use Law Update – A Draft of the Water Use Law with the changes has been given to the Water Board members for their review. They would like permission to send the Draft to Mark Gebo for his review and comments; then it will be presented to the Town Board.

They are also going to review the New Service application for any possible changes.

2012 Heritage Center Annual Report – Julia Gosier

This will be the fifth year the Heritage Center has operated as a State Registered, Not for Profit Organization. Julie submitted a comprehensive report for the activities of the Heritage Center for 2012. For a full report see the attachment ADENDUM A – 2/13/13.

Councilman Henderson commented on what an excellent report it was.

Planning Board Report – Frank Congel

Frank has provided to the Town Board a copy of the final draft of the Consolidated Renewable Energy Law.

Councilman Bourquin suggested that the Law should identify setbacks from roads.

Supervisor Aubertine would like to delete the areas in the Law where it indicates “5 acres” and leave the rest of the Law the way it is. It will then be submitted to County Planning to be put on their Agenda and Attorney Gebo’s Office for his review and recommendations.

Frank stated that the Planning Board has recently interviewed the five applicants who have submitted applications to the Planning Board to fill the existing vacancies. The applicants are five qualified people and it has been a difficult job in terms of choosing only two.

Frank would like to recommend Gail Miller as the full time member and Reggie Schweitzer, Jr. as the alternate member to the Town Planning Board.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 17: Motion by Supervisor Aubertine and seconded by Councilman Henderson TABLING the appointments of a full time and alternate member to the Town Planning Board until the March 13, 2013 Monthly Meeting. Three ayes. Motion carried.

Councilman Bourquin would like to ask County Legislator Bob Thomas what would be the possibility of bringing the natural gas line into Chaumont and Three Mile Bay.

New Business

National Grid – Remote Net Metering

Councilman Bourquin has been looking into the possibility of installing solar panels. The panels can be installed on one site and the proceeds from the energy being generated can be applied to a bill at another site. Donnie has been talking with Gus Withington of Fourth Coast about the panels.

Supervisor Aubertine and Councilmen Bourquin and Henderson feel that it is worth pursuing the possibility of installing solar power. Councilman Bourquin will continue to gather information associated with solar panels.

Appointment of Members to PSC

Supervisor Aubertine will wait to hear from Cape Vincent regarding their recommendations for the appointments to the PSC. Once BP submits their paperwork, the Towns have 15 days to submit those whom they recommend.

State Assembly – Foreclosure Bills

The Town recently received a letter from Assemblyman Michael Kearns regarding two foreclosure bills (A.88 and A.824) currently referred to the Judiciary Committee in the New York State Assembly. Last session the New York assembly joined the list of states that have passed foreclosure bills making it mandatory for banks to provide municipalities with contact information for property managers or other parties responsible for upkeep and maintenance of foreclosed or abandoned properties. Unfortunately, the companion bill in New York State Senate was referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and received no further action including no vote on the floor of the Senate.

Mr. Kearns is concerned that the notice of contact information bill (A.88) and bill (A.824) requiring “good faith” in obtaining a foreclosure will encounter considerable special interest headwinds this year. In anticipation of significant opposition to these bills, he is hoping that the Town of Lyme would provide a resolution, in support of these bills. The bills can be reviewed in their entirety at www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/michael-P-Kearns.

It is Assemblyman Kearns intention to make financial institutions and lenders more accountable to the surrounding community when homes and buildings are abandoned or foreclosure proceedings have started. A Resolution from our Town would add depth and reason to committee deliberations, as well as establish a robust and persuasive record based on the facts and needs of the people.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 18: On a Motion made by Supervisor Aubertine and seconded by Councilman Henderson the following was adopted:

Resolved to support New York State regarding the proposed Laws concerning contact information for vacant structures.

WHEREAS, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and

WHEREAS, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time and degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

WHEREAS, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures, do not always provide contact information of a responsible party; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembly Bill A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of reasonable parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyme Town Board supports the passage of said Bills.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Lyme hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represent constituents in the Town of Lyme support the passage of said bills.

ADOPTED

Supervisor Aubertine Aye

Councilman Henderson Aye

Councilman Bourquin Aye

Councilwoman Harris and Councilman Villa were not present at tonight's meeting.

Three ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business

Town Police Department Status

Supervisor Aubertine feels that with all the work involved in forming a Police Department, it's not really worth it any more. We have good coverage from the Sheriff's Department and the State Troopers. We certainly had the best coverage when the Wilson's covered the Town with police protection.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 19: Motion by Supervisor Aubertine and seconded by Councilman Henderson TABLING the topic of the formation of a local Police Department until the March 13, 2013 Meeting. Three Ayes. Motion carried.

Grant Writer Training

The Town will not be sending anyone to SUNY Oswego for the Grant Writing Classes being offered in March. The discussion of a grant writer will be TABLED until the March 13, 2013 Meeting.

Resolutions and Motions

RESOLUTION 2013 – 20: Motion by Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Bourquin approving the Annual Audit performed by the Town's Audit Committee and required by the Uniform Justice Court Act upon the examination of Town Justice Wallace and Curtis Court Records for the year 2012. All information was found to be in order and in compliance. Three ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 21: Motion by Supervisor Aubertine and seconded by Councilman Henderson scheduling a Public Hearing for the Renewable Energy System Law on March 13, 2013 at 6:15 p.m. The Hearing will be held at the Municipal Offices located at 12175 NYS Route 12E, Chaumont, New York. Three ayes. Motion carried.

Appointments to the Board of Assessment Review will be TABLED until the March 13, 2013 Meeting.

Youth Committee Report – Charlie Mount

Basketball is continuing on Saturday and Sundays at the School for 3rd thru 6th graders, there are approximately 40 children participating. Leo Wilson and Charlie O'Brien are volunteering their time for coaching. The program is working out very well.

Privilege of the Floor

Charlie Mount – Will be having access to the prisoners for helping with community projects and would like to have the prisoners help with the cleaning and maintenance of the Town's ball fields.

Bruce Kingsley – At the end of the President's Speech last night, he mentioned green energy. Bruce sent the Town Board a report earlier this month and wondered if the Town Board Members have had time to review his correspondence.

Supervisor Aubertine stated that he has checked with New York State Agriculture and Markets Law and he is of the opinion that Bruce will be exempt and can do what he would like to with his project.

A farm audit is being performed and Bruce has to await comments from NYS Ag and Markets prior to proceeding.

The Masons are having their annual fruit sale, the quality is always great and fruit will be shipped on March 2, 2013.

A Motion to Adjourn tonight's meeting was made by Supervisor Aubertine and seconded by Councilman Henderson at 7:47 p.m. Three ayes. Motion carried.

The Minutes of Tonight's Meeting are Respectfully submitted by,

*Kim Wallace
Town of Lyme, Town Clerk*

ADDENDUM A

2/13/13

2012 REPORT
 Lyme Heritage Center
 PO Box 285, Chaumont, NY 13622
 Old Grange Hall, 8718 Depot St,
 Three Mile Bay NY 13693
 For information call 315 - 649 - 5452

The Lyme Heritage Center's

board of trustees: President -

Margaret Rood, Vice President - Shirley Williams, Secretary - Priscilla Audo, Treasurer - Phyllis Putnam, Members, Barbara Constance, Wendy Hutcheon, Dawn Bartholic, Linda Bartnik, Audrey Hayton. Director Julie Gosier.

We had a very productive year. Some of the high lights are the following:

1. self published "The War of 1812" booklet
2. had 7 programs this year:
 - The April program was a video on the Sunken Ship, the Vickery.(4)
 - The May program was a slide show of items of local interest (11)
 - The June program was a slide show of 'the good old days (12)
 - The July program a slide show of pictures of North Country interest (13)
 - The August program was a video of the ice Storm of 1998 (10)
 - The September program was story telling of memories of old Town of Lyme (12)
 - The October program was an open house with a demonstration of the hay press, with music and refreshments (30)
3. held a raffle of some of our self published books and framed pictures. This was on display at the Citizens Bank of Cape Vincent. The winner was Marsha Barton.
4. signed on to the historical photos project. The project is an album of pictures from the postcard collection of Bilkey Moore. Lyme Central School is the lead agency.
5. became the Town of Lyme's official Historian.
6. conducted a very successful letter campaign to help meet our financial obligations.
7. purchased a new copier so that we can continue to self-publish books and to aid researchers.
8. sold our books at craft fairs.
9. purchased fabric to make new curtains for the windows to darken the room for the slide shows.
10. painted the bathroom
11. volunteer Dawn Bartholic continues to work on the inventory.

12. continue to assemble the Community Scrapbook.

13. Continue to label and assemble photo albums of old pictures
14. New York State put up a sign on 12E directing traffic to our building
15. purchased a new heater so that we can stay open later in the fall and earlier in the spring.
16. Our Director, Julie Gosier, answered 15 query letters.
17. added 15 new members this year.
18. had \$2511 in donations
19. sold \$1615 worth of our self published books
20. 123 people used the LHC facility.

Acquisitions

Historical picture from Richard Palmer
 Aerial slides from the Lances
 Hand-held slide viewer from Eric Lance
 Books of Genealogical and historical interest from Audrey Hayton

Future projects:

Install an outside light for the porch and lawn.

Landscape the lawn to make it safe, especially at night

Identify and place markers on graves of veterans.

Possible programs for next year:

seminar on genealogy
 decoy carving
 weaving demonstration
 how to clean tombstones
 scavenger hunt around Three Mile Bay

We welcome financial donations, or donations of items of genealogical or historical interest as they pertain to the Town of Lyme. If you would you like to volunteer to work with us, contact Director Julie Gosier at 315 - 649 - 5452

• 2013 dues of \$10.00 per year are now due. The Lyme Heritage Board of Trustees meets that 3rd Thursday of the month except for the cold months, at their facility in the Old Grange Hall in Three Mile Bay. You are invited to attend.