

**February 1, 2024
Town of Lyme
Special Meeting 3:00 P.M.**

Call to Order:

Supervisor Millington called the regular monthly meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present included Supervisor Millington, Deputy Supervisor Bourquin, Councilmember Farrell, Councilmember Donovan, Councilmember Gosier, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson, Highway Superintendent Pat Weston, Jennifer Kingsley, Robin Grovesteen, Ken Kaser, Susan Locy, Chris Jerome, William Lipczynski (Chaumont Fire Chief), Jeff Call (Cape Vincent Ambulance), CB Kingsley and Richard Wallace.

New Business:

First Responders Budgetary Funds:

In the Town's 2024 budget the First Responder money was mistakenly removed. Councilmember Gosier stated that in 2023 the Chaumont Fire Department First Responders were given \$10,000.00. It was written in the budget and was an addendum to the fire contract.

Councilmember Bourquin asked what the First Responders wanted. Fire Chief Lipczynski explained what the money from the Town would be used for including training, EMS equipment and supplies. In 2023 they spent \$6,700.00 in supplies alone.

Jeff Call explained his proposal to purchase a new First Responder Vehicle that had been discussed at a previous date with Supervisor Countryman. The vehicle would be the Cape Vincent Ambulances and they would carry the First Responder status for the Town. The goal would be that any qualified resident could be First Responders. This would allow for more members to join, and it would be a Town wide vehicle. Now there are no funds appropriated in the 2024 Town budget for First Responders.

Councilmember Farrell said that the First Responders are a great asset to our town and must be funded. In the future if they can show what is spent from year to year it will be easier for the Board to budget the appropriate funds. Fire Chief Lipczynski said that they will keep one account at Watertown Savings bank that will show all their expenses for the year. At the end of the year, they can print out what was spent and bring it to the budget meeting.

Jeff Call requested that the Town update their AEDs which would cost around \$20,000.00 if the budget would allow it. One AED is around \$4,000.00. Councilmember Farrell suggested buying the AEDs separate from the allotted First Responders budget. He requested Jeff acquire a quote for the new AEDs. There was further discussion on how the First Responders Unit operates.

Resolution 2024-24: Councilmember Gosier made a motion to give the Chaumont Fire Department First Responders \$10,000.00 from the 2024 budget; Millington, Farrell, Bourquin, and Gosier AYE; Donovan ABSTAINED; Motion carried.

Fire Department Contract:

There needs to be a few amendments to the Fire Contract. The Three Mile Bay Contract needs the ambulance removed. The Chaumont Fire Department will keep the First Responders addendum for \$10,000.00 paid in March. The amounts that are paid each quarter needs to be increased to \$22,500.00 for each fire department. Supervisor Millington asked if each department needs to provide their income and expenses for the year. The Board responded that they do this at the budget meetings in October.

Highway Garage Petition/Special Election:

Councilmember Gosier stated that the Special Election for the Highway Garage needs to be 90-105 days from January 8th when the petition was received by the Town Clerk. The date of the election should be between April 8th to the 22nd. She will be putting an article in the Lyme light and would also like to send postcards to all eligible voters. There will be no absentee ballots. The informational meeting will be held on a Saturday and include an open house so that residents can tour the Town Highway Garage. If someone would like to see the Garage outside of the informational session they can call the Town Clerk. There was further discussion on the informational meeting, open house, and date of the vote. The board decided on Saturday, April 6, 2024, for the informational meeting and Tuesday, April 9, 2024, for the Special Election.

Adjournment

Resolution 2024-25: Councilmember Donovan a made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk