

March 13, 2024
Town of Lyme
Regular Monthly Meeting

Call to Order:

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

Those present included Supervisor Millington, Deputy Supervisor Donovan, Councilmember Farrell, Councilmember Bourquin, Councilmember Gosier, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson, Justin Bourquin, Jennifer Kingsley, Robin Grovesteen, Ken Kaser, Heather Lipczynski, Kathy Dyer, Susan Locy, Joseph Romanelli, Joseph Chernick, Josephine Johnston, Fred Jackson, Jennifer Stafford, Scott Radley, Chris Jerome, Greg Hubbard, Robert Locy, Karen Fitzgerald, Mark Thompson, and Lainie Taylor.

Privilege of the Floor

Karen Fitzgerald: The Lyme Parks and Recreation group is having a 5K race (Lake Monster Run) on Memorial Day weekend. She was present to ask permission to use Veteran's Public Park. There is also an insurance issue. When the participants leave the property for the run the insurance on the property doesn't cover the runners. Adam Fuller from Fuller Insurance Company has advised that they buy special event policy insurance. Mr. Fuller is willing to answer any questions the Town may have. Going forward Karen has asked the Town to consider the Lake Monster Run to be added to the Town Budget. This would prevent any insurance issues next year and it would be an entity within the Town. Councilmember Farrell asked if they could become a non-profit organization. Karen said that it is a very small group of people and there is only one run per year. There was further discussion regarding liability insurance. Councilmember Gosier said that if the park is finished the race can be held at the park. She will contact Adam Fuller to obtain details about purchasing special event insurance for the Lake Monster Race.

Scott Radley: Scott was present as the president of the Youth Commission. He stated that there has been recent legislation passed by Governor Hochul that any sports field/camp needs an AED on premise. This legislation is effective May 1, 2024. They will need one for each field because they have multiple sports being played at one time. The coaches will also need to have AED training. The cost for an AED is around \$2,000.00. There also is quality control and maintenance of the machines are also required.

Heather Lipczynski: Heather from the Chaumont Fire Department presented the Town Board with a quote to purchase 3 AEDs for the First Responders unit. They were \$2,507.00 per unit. She did research on refurbished AEDs but they are hard to come by. Jeff Call (Chief of the Cape Vincent Ambulance Service) volunteered to train everyone and these AEDs would be interchangeable with the Cape Vincent Ambulance AEDs.

Jennifer Stafford: Ms. Stafford stated that the AED pads need to be interchangeable with the ambulance. Hochul requires the AEDs to be in public place. The Town needs to get the ball

rolling. She mentioned the areas that will be required to have the AEDS including the school ballfields, bus garage, transfer station, fire departments, post offices, etc. She continued to express her concern for the Town to get informed on the issue and make decisions quickly because it is very important.

There was an extensive discussion on AEDS. Supervisor Millington will be working with Heather, Scott, and Justin Bourquin to come up with a quote to purchase AEDs at the next Town Board meeting.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution 2024-40: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the January Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilmember Farrell seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Resolution 2024-41: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the February Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilmember Farrell seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Pat Weston couldn't attend the meeting. Clerk Henderson reported that Pat would like the Board to move forward with the purchase of a new water truck. Davidson Ford said they couldn't match the price of Van Bortel.

Resolution 2024-42: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to purchase a 2024 F-250 XL Supercab 4x4 6.75' box 148 WB Truck from Van Bortel Ford for \$59,268.47; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Clerk Henderson stated that Pat would like to put the John Deere Brush Hog out to bid. It has been sitting outside of the highway garage for approximately 10 years.

Resolution 2024-43: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to put out to bid the John Deere Brush Hog to dispose of it; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Clerk's Report

Monthly Receipts were as follow: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$1,400.50; Total State County & Local Revenues: \$1,449.00 Total Non – Local Revenues: \$48.50

Resolution 2024-44: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report for February; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Tax Collector's Report:

Clerk Henderson stated that yesterday was the last day to collect taxes for the Town 3/12/2024. She will be paying the County their portion of the taxes on 3/21/2024.

Resolution 2024-45: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #5 + 6)

Resolution 2024-46: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve Abstract #5 in the amount of \$19,459.55; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution 2024-47: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve Abstract #6 in the amount of \$95,693.36 seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution 2024-48: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve February Regular Meeting Minutes; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution 2024-49: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve February 1, 2024, Minutes; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Old Business:

Letter of Recommendation for Jeff Call:

Councilmember Farrell asked why the Cape Vincent Ambulance First Responder SUV had both the lettering of Guilfoyle and Cape Vincent Ambulance. Heather Lipczynski responded that it is a joint Vehicle for both entities. Cape Vincent Ambulance paid for the vehicle and Guilfoyle pays for the maintenance and fuel for the vehicle. Fred Jackson stated that it can run for Guilfoyle or Cape Ambulance. The Board agreed for Supervisor Millington to write a letter of Recommendation to nominate Jeffrey Call to the New York State Emergency Council to represent the Municipal Tax Districts.

Resolution 2024-50: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion for Supervisor Millington to write a letter of Recommendation to nominate Jeffrey Call to the New York State Emergency Council to represent the Municipal Tax Districts; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Bi-Centennial Park Grant:

Supervisor Millington is working with Councilmember Bourquin to come up with the plan for Bi-Centennial Park. Councilmember Bourquin stated that the shoreline needs to have stairs and a handrail down to the water. It must be contracted services. The first step is to have someone determine where the highwater mark is.

Veteran's park Committee:

Supervisor Millington couldn't find Anne Harris' phone number to discuss the Park. He will try again for the April meeting.

New Business:

Barnes Bay Cemetery:

Councilmember Gosier would like to put a monument up at Barnes Bay Cemetery that lists everyone who is buried in the cemetery. You can't replace the monuments individually because they are unsure of where everyone is buried. She would like to put a row of limestone blocks with bronze plaques on the front. She is discussing several options with Harry Wilson. She will bring the information to the April meeting.

Resolution to accept 2023 Justice Court Audit:

Resolution 2024-51: Councilmember Gosier made a motion to approve the Justice Audit performed by the Town's Audit Committee and required by the Uniform Justice Court Act upon the examination of Town Justice Robin Curtis' Court Records and Town Justice Richard Wallace's Court Records for the fiscal year 2023; seconded by Councilmember Donovan. All information, documentation and figures were found to be in order and in compliance; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Ordering Law Books for Town Board:

Councilmember Gosier asked for Law Books from the Association of Towns to be ordered. The Town Board agreed.

Town Server Upgrade:

There was a long discussion on upgrading the Town Server. The Board requested Ben Rubacha to attend the April meeting to explain the differences between the two sever options.

Committee Reports

Town Board Report:

Councilmember Gosier said that there was a training held by Convergent Solar in 2022 with an onsite PowerPoint and video training. Both the Three Mile Bay Fire Department and Chaumont Fire Department were a part of the training. She is still missing one of the EFT notifications from Supervisor Millington.

The letter from the SPCA requesting Town Support was never responded to or brought to the Boards attention.

They never received the email regarding the GS&L interest in our CD.

There was a report sent to you about the Solar Fire the Board never received.

Supervisor Millington responded that he is now sending all his emails to the board.

Town Highway Garage:

There will be a tour of the Town Highway Garage and an information meeting April 6, 2024. The Public Referendum on the Bond will be held April 9, 2024.

Resolution 2024-52: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to have a tour of the Highway Garage and information session on the new construction of the Highway Garage April 6, 2024; and hold a Public Referendum on April 9, 2024 for the 5.2 million dollar bond for a new Highway Garage; and mail an informative postcard; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Councilmember Farrell is very concerned with the amount of legal fees that have been spent in the last two months. He asked Supervisor Millington to produce documentation on where he would cut costs of the Highway Garage. Supervisor Millington stated that he would cut the mezzanine and geothermal heating from the plans but had no supporting documentation. Councilmember Farrell responded that the Federal Government will reimburse the Town 30% of the cost of the geothermal heating system. Supervisor Millington stated that the Board never informed the public of what they were doing. Councilmember Farrell said this has been discussed in open meetings for months. Councilmember Gosier hopes to see a large turnout of residents at the information session to learn more about the needs of the Garage and why we are doing this project. Several residents requested to see Supervisor Millington's plan to save money on the new Highway Garage. There was further discussion in regard to the Town Highway Garage.

Resolution 2024-53: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to take a 10-minute intermission; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Millington resumed the open meeting.

Employee Recognition:

Councilmember Bourquin asked Supervisor Millington if he has done anything regarding Employee Recognition that was discussed in February. He also asked if the employees have signed the employee handbook. Supervisor Millington stated that no one has signed the document. Councilmember Bourquin said we need it in place in case anything happens. Every employee should receive a copy and sign that they have received it.

Assessor's Report:

There were no questions on the February assessor report.

Municipal Water Board Report:

NYS passed a law that requires municipalities to advertise for qualifications for engineering consultants' services for water and wastewater projects. The Water Board would like to advertise this to extend the water line from Swamp Road West up to Indian Hill and up to Milens Bay Road.

Resolution 2024-54: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to advertise a request for qualifications-engineering consultant services for water and wastewater projects; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Planning Board:

The meeting was cancelled in February.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA):

There was no report.

Youth Commission:

The meeting was cancelled.

ZEO/CEO Report:

There were no questions on the report.

TMB Cemetery:

Councilmember Gosier reported that Mark has started the spring cleanup of the cemetery.

Cape Vincent Ambulance:

The AED quote was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Privilege of the Floor

Fred Jackson: Mr. Jackson said that all employees of NYS has to take a training and watch a video every year on sexual harassment.

Jennifer Kingsley: Ms. Kingsley asked if the assessment re-eval is on the County Schedule for 2026. Julie said that the Town is signed up and we are doing preparations for it now.

Robin Grovesteen: Ms. Grovesteen told Supervisor Millington that it is very important for him to show the taxpayers what his plan is for the new buildings. Supervisor Millington said he can finish his preparation and give it to the people.

Justin Bourquin: Mr. Bourquin asked is the highway grant that was discussed was preconstruction or post construction. Councilmember Gosier said that it is post construction, but it is not a grant. It is a Federal Reimbursement program called Direct Pay.

Online Privilege of the Floor

There were several comments read from online privilege of the floor.

Adjournment

Resolution 2024-55: Councilmember Bourquin a made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk