

Town of Lisbon
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Lisbon Town Hall

- A. **Call to order** 6:37 pm, all Town Board Members still present.
- B. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** Approval of previous meeting minutes: Moved by Councilmember Dumas seconded by Councilmember McNeil to approve the minutes of November 11,2021 Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried. Moved by Councilmember McNeil seconded by Councilmember Dumas to approve the minutes of December 8,2022 Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried. Moved by Councilmember Dumas seconded by Councilmember McNeil to approve the minutes of December 29,2021 Supervisor Nelson pointed out a typing error in the date Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried.
- C. **Public Comment Period** - Citizen participation:
Richard Dawley retired Highway Employee asked why the health insurance plan had been changed and why he had not been notified. Supervisor Nelson responded that everyone was given a 60 day notice along with the new information, if you have any questions you need to contact Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mr. Dawley responded that he had not been given 60 days' notice or received any information from the Town. Mr. Dawley was not aware of the Insurance being changed until he got the new insurance cards in the mail, he phoned Blue Cross Blue Shield and was informed the policy had changed. Mr. Dawley stated the Town had no right to change the Insurance policy. Supervisor Nelson said that the Town was notified that the present Cadillac plan the Town has would have a premium increase. The Town Board has a responsibility to the Taxpayers to keep cost down, so Blue Cross Blue Shield was contacted to see what the Town's options were. Blue Cross Blue Shield got back to the Town with a policy that would save the Taxpayers money but also had the same coverage. Mr. Dawley disagreed that the coverage was the same, stated that his deductible on prescription's had increased and if he had to go to the hospital, he was responsible for the first \$5,000.00.
- Patrick Green updated the Town Board on the information he had requested from Lisbon School. Mr. Green has concerns about the circler that is being taught at Lisbon School. Mr. Green remarked on the responsibilities the Town Board has to the community of Lisbon.
- Michael Ledwith, Highway Employee asked if the Town Board had voted to change the Towns Insurance policy. Discussion followed: Supervisor Nelson stated that alternative Insurance policies had been discussed at the Budget Meeting's. Councilmember Bush stated the Town Board did not vote on changing the Insurance. Supervisor Nelson said the Budget reflected the Insurance cost and the Budget was voted on.

D. Report from County Legislature –

- 1- Legislator Forsythe commented that the County had issues with the Insurance approximately 4 years ago. At that time, the County and the Union’s met and talked till they came up with a consensus between the County and the Union’s.
- 2- Mr. Forsythe was contacted by the American Legion in Lisbon regarding their financial hardship since COVID. Mr. Forsythe expressed the important roll the American Legion has in the Town of Lisbon and the many ways the American Legion has supported the Town over the years. Too Mr. Forsythe’s knowledge the American Legion is the only non-for-profit organization in the Town of Lisbon and suggested that the Town Board could financially help with the Federal Aid through the American Rescue Plan. Discussion followed: Supervisor Nelson stated that the American Legion had requested assistant financially from the Town at last month’s Town Board meeting and it was the consensus of the Town Board to assist. Councilmember Dumas suggested looking into any Grant programs available.

E. Approval of Voucher Abstract and Audited Claims

General- \$ 5,158.06	Highway-\$470.42
Sewer-\$2114.14	Water-\$1319.25

Town Clerk Hyde notified the Town Board that a request from the Recreation Committee was received late this afternoon for a check in the amount of \$600.00 to cover expenses for a Basketball Tournament. Town Board agreed to include this amount in the General Claims

Motion by Councilmember Dumas seconded by Councilmember McNeil to approve payment to bills Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried.

F. Reports of Departments:

Supervisor’s Report/ Budget review:

- 1- Regarding the 2021 end of year budget review: All accounts, financial and accounting periods for 2021 have been closed and completely reconciled for the year 2021
- 2- December and the annual Financial Statements have been given to the Town Board along with the bank reconciliation reports
- 3- Supervisor Nelson stated the Audit Committees need to be set up for 2022.

Town Board agreed as follows:

- Justice Court audit - 2021 Councilmember McNeil, Deputy Supervisor Putney
- Petty Cash audit - 2021 Councilmember Dumas, Councilmember McNeil
- Water Sewer audit - 2021 Councilmember Dumas, Deputy Supervisor Putney
- Vouchers for Accounts Payable-2022 January-June Councilmember Bush, Deputy Supervisor Putney July- December Councilmember McNeil Councilmember Dumas

- Highway Superintendent Report:

- 1- There is a need for discussion regarding a recent complaint against a Town of Lisbon Highway Employee. Superintendent Baldock has investigated the incident and determined that the Highway Employee was not in the wrong and would like to know how to proceed from this point. Attorney Nash suggested that the Town Board discuss this further in executive session.

2- While speaking with other Highway Superintendents, the Insurance Company, Association of Towns, and the Sheriff's office the suggestion of purchasing Dash Camera for the Town Trucks Discussion followed.

3- One of the heaters at the Highway Garage needs to have repairs, this unit is 26 years old and may need to be replaced. Merkley Brothers will be coming to look at it.

4- Agreement to spend Highway funds is completed and needs the Town Board signatures.

- Town Clerk Report – Town Clerk Hyde stated a check had been distributed to the Lisbon Fire District for the Total Budget amount. Town of Lawrence has sent out an alert to Towns and Villages regarding counterfeit money being distributed throughout the County.

- Assessor Report – Steve Teele, Assessor gave an update on the Melhinch Road. Mr. Teele, Highway Superintendent and CEO have all been in contact with Mr. Johnson and the individual that installed the gate. Mr. Johnson has been given access to the Road. Councilmember McNeil stated that the Town still needs to find out which roads in the Town have not had maintenance in years and have been abandoned Councilmember McNeil offered to go with Highway Superintendent Baldock to inspect said roads.

- Code Enforcement Officer report- CEO McDonnell was not able to attend tonight's meeting. The following is the report submitted of 2021 Permits: 12 New Residence Construction, 31 Garages/Sheds, 29 Add/Alter Residential, 1 new, 1 renovation commercial building, 13 decks/other permits

- Campground Director-

1- Todd Miller, Campground Director notified the Town Board that Allison Spears, Waterfront Director would not be coming back for the 2022 season, also the Town will be losing 6 lifeguards that have worked previously due to them graduating. Town Board advised Mr. Miller to advertise the positions in NCN, also send the information for the positions to Lisbon School.

2-Mr. Miller has been questioned from Seasonal campers regarding the rate they are charged, currently a seasonal camper pays more than annual campers. Discussion followed with the Town Board agreeing in no rate changes for the 2022 season but adding rates can be addressed at budget time for 2023.

Motion by Councilmember McNeil seconded by Councilmember Bush to except the reports from all departments Ayes5 Nays0 Motion carried

H. Reports of Boards and Committees:

- Planning Board Report, no meeting

- Recreation Report- The Recreation Committee is looking to have a petty cash fund available for their activities.

- Homecoming Committee, no meeting

- Library – Michelle McLagan, Librarian is in the process of preparing the Annual Report for the February Town Board Meeting

- Museum, n/a

I. Action Items:

Items for Town Board Action

1. Resolution to adopt the 2022 Highway 284 agreement – BILL # 2022-24 Moved by Councilmember Dumas seconded by Councilmember McNeil Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried
2. Resolution approving 2022 petty cash fund for the Rec Dept – Bill #2022-25 Moved by Supervisor Nelson seconded by Deputy Supervisor Putney Discussion followed regarding the Town Clerk Alberta Hyde being the custodian of the funds. Ayes 5 Nay 0 Motion carried
3. Resolution to appoint Angela Martin to the Library Board – BILL #2022-26 Moved by Deputy Supervisor Putney seconded by Councilmember Dumas Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried
4. Resolution to waive marriage license fee for active military and veterans – BILL #2022-27 Moved by Councilmember Bush seconded by Councilmember Dumas Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion carried

J. New Business:

- 1- Deputy Supervisor Putney requested that the Town Board advertise for the position of Recreation Coordinator. Town Board agreed, said position will be posted in NCN, Town's Web page and Town Clerk's Board. Interviews will be conducted by the Lisbon Town Board.
- 2- Question was asked if the Town of Lisbon had given permission for material from the dredging that is being done in Ogdensburg to be brought to the Town of Lisbon. Supervisor Nelson responded that the material is not being placed on Town property and the Town has no say in the project.

K. Old/Unfinished Business:

- 1- Councilmember McNeil has spoken to several people regarding the good relationship the Town of Lisbon and Lisbon School has maintained. The two boards have been able to work together throughout the years for the good of the Town. The Boards have come to agreements regarding the Water District, Contract for Plowing, Collection of School Taxes, and most recently the fuel for the School Buses. It is very clear that Lisbon School has and is paying their fair share. It is the opinion of this Board Member that the good relationship between the Town of Lisbon and Lisbon School will continue.
- 2- Councilmember Bush reported that he had spoken to Town resident Cindy Williams regarding her request for the Fisher Road in the Town of Lisbon be paved. Ms. Williams appreciated the Town Board taking the time to investigate the issues on the Fisher Road.
- 3- Councilmember McNeil reported that he was able to speak with Ms. Stemples at Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center regarding the Town of Lisbon's Medical Center. Ms. Stemples reassured Councilmember McNeil that the plan is to re-open the Medical Center in the Town of Lisbon but not full time due to the struggle to get physician assistance.

L. Items for discussion:

Councilmember Bush reopened the discussion regarding the Highway Employees health insurance. Supervisor Nelson stated that the board will be going into executive session to discuss negotiations. Councilmember Bush stated that the Highway Employees health insurance is not part of the negotiations and at Budget time it was not presented that the Highway Employees insurance was going to hurt the employees like it has. The Town Highway Employees do an excellent job, and this is not fair to them. The Town Board needs to revert to the old insurance policy, we owe it to the Highway employees to keep the Insurance the same. Supervisor Nelson stated that the policies were the same and before making any decisions the Town Board needs to educate themselves by having BlueCross Blue Shield explain the policies. Councilmember McNeil suggested getting the Highway employees, Union, and the Town Board together for a meeting to discuss Insurance and contact matters.

M. – **Executive Session** – Moved by Supervisor Nelson at 7:59 pm seconded by Councilmember McNeil, discussions regarding proposed, pending, or current litigation all in favor. Moved by Supervisor Nelson seconded by Councilmember McNeil to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm. All in Favor

N. Adjournment Moved by Supervisor Nelson Seconded by Councilmember Bush to adjourn at 8:45 pm All in favor

Respectfully Submitted

Alberta L Hyde, Town Clerk