

**TOWN OF LISBON
TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 11, 2020
LISBON TOWN HALL**

Present:

Supervisor William Nelson
Town Clerk Alberta Hyde
Highway Superintendent Michael Baldock
Attorney Charlie Nash

Deputy Supervisor Nathanael Putney
Councilmember Robert McNeil
Councilmember Alan Dailey
Councilmember Ronald Bush

Absent: Deputy Supervisor Putney and Attorney Nash

Also, Present: Michelle McLagan, Patrick Green, Kenneth Putney, Jeff Bailey, Darrin Rutley, Brain Nutting, Mike Gillette, Ruth Trudell, Vernon Trudell, Jonathan Teele, Nancy LaFaver, Adam Duvall, Mike O'Neil, Cliff Bice, Sheri Stone, Steve Wallace David Forsythe

A. The meeting was called to order

Supervisor Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

D. Approval of Minutes:

Regular Board Meeting 1-9-2020 and 2-12-2020

Motion by Councilman Dailey to accept minutes, seconded by Councilman McNeil roll call: Supervisor Nelson yes, Deputy Supervisor Putney absent, Council Member Dailey yes, Council Member McNeil yes Council Member Bush yes, Motion Carries.

E. Reading of Correspondence/Communications

Town Clerk Hyde read a public notice from the Lisbon Fire District. There will be a vote at the Lisbon Firehouse on March 17,2020 between 6-9 pm to vote on approving the resolution for establishment of a capital reserve fund for a general type of capital purchase, repair and maintenance.

Lisbon Central School District is hosting a public information meeting on 3-19-2020 in the school auditorium for the 2020 capital improvement project vote will take place 3-24-2020 1-9 pm in the school lobby.

F. Presentations:

Brian Nutting of DANC gave this month's report - He wanted to Thank the Lisbon Highway Department for all their help, violations have been taken care of, meters/locks/first aid kits have been installed along with alarms tested. All major safety issues have been closed. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done for example the lift stations, dialer system, spare pumps and a policy for emergency shared services. Councilman Dailey stated what condition is the currant septic system in? Councilman McNeil asked on a scale of 1-10 where is the system at? Brian stated a lot of things have been let go and there is work that needs to be done. Councilman Dailey asked if DANC is on call 7 days a week? Highway Superintendent Baldock stated that he has a class D to be able to work on the system but that he had to call DANC last

night and a representative responded in good time. Supervisor Nelson stated one of the violations that the town had was that we are required to have 2 operators to maintain the WWTP. The town employed a great operator Doug Smith but needed to hire a second operator. That was when the town board made a resolution to hire DANC to assist Doug Unfortunately Doug made the decision to step aside. The board and I made attempts to reach out to Doug unsuccessfully. On behalf of the Town Board and the Citizens of Lisbon we would personally like to Thank Doug for his many years of service to the Town of Lisbon.

Mike Gillette from Fuller Insurance presented the policy renewal document proposal for the Town of Lisbon. This contained information regarding the use of Town property. Mr. Gillette suggested that the Town's attorney look at the agreement. Highway Superintendent Baldock asked about replacement cost on anything regardless of its age. Stated there has been a couple of fires lately at Town barns. It would be very expensive for the Town of Lisbon to replace things not covered. Mr. Gillette explained how the replacement cost would work for the Town. Highway Superintendent also questioned if the highway men were covered when they were taking deposits to the bank. Mr. Gillette stated that the Town's employees are all covered but that the Town has an extra 100,000 policy for a messenger which would cover this. Mr. Gillette stated that NYMIR is offering for no fee to come to the Towns to do Sexual Harassment Training for all employees. Supervisor Nelson asked if they could help with other trainings and background checks? Mr. Gillette will investigate this and get back to the Town Board. Supervisor Nelson Thanked Mr. Gillette.

G. Public Comment:

Supervisor Nelson reminded everyone that when the public is speaking, they need to address the whole Town Board not one individual and to conduct themselves by using good manners.

Russ Finley stated the Town Board should come and look at his basement. He never had a drop of water till the road was paved, now he has 3,000 gallons of water in it. Mr. Finley acknowledged that the Town had acted on his Foil request, but stated it was not what he wanted. Mr. Finley requested that the Town copy and mail him everything that he requested. Also Mr. Finley suggested the town get a new attorney.

Patrick Green asked Supervisor Nelson if he had an update on the Second Amendment? Supervisor Nelson responded yes; he was able to get a copy of a resolution that was passed in another town. Supervisor Nelson passed out copies of the resolution for the public to review. Mr. Green also asked about the oath of office that was taken by the board members and stated the whole constitution needs to be upheld.

H. Report from County Legislature Representative

Legislator Forsythe passed out information regarding services provided by the County to local Municipalities, St. Lawrence County Sales Tax History and documentation regarding possible percentage of distribution. Legislature Forsythe stated that he is not on Social Media and doesn't like it. There has been a lot of information put out there that he does not feel is adequate and should not be out there. Supervisor Nelson responded that Social Media is the way that the present generation communicates and I am in favor of anyway the public can be informed I think it is great that the public is getting involved and coming out to Town Board Meetings I hope more keep coming. Councilmember Dailey asked why the County thinks they should keep the extra 1% that was agreed upon temporarily to get the County back on solid foot. Councilmember McNeil stated know that the County has a 24-million-dollar fund balance the extra 1% should be split on an equal basis. Legislature Forsythe responded that the County has had a large fund balance in the past and it doesn't take long for it to be used up. The County has approximately 200 bridges of which 36% will need repair in the next 10 years also 574 miles of roads to maintain, and the expense of Medicaid. Councilman McNeil requested that Legislature Forsythe advocate for a 3%

Sharing Distribution. Legislature Forsythe responded I am only 1 vote there is 8 votes needed from the County Legislatures to pass this.

In other County Business the present Dept Commissioner of Social Services will be acting commissioner for a short term till the committee can conduct interviews for the position.

Legislature Forsythe suggested the Town postpone any action regarding the second amendment till after the decision has been made on which Correction Facilities will be cut.

The county is keeping updated on the covid-19 virus.

I. Approval of Voucher Abstract and Audited Claims:

The following Abstract of vouchers were submitted for approval:

General Fund- \$33,950.21 Highway- \$89,245.63

Sewer- \$1,311.31 Water- \$911.70

Councilman McNeil asked if the check books have all been reconciled/balanced? Supervisor Nelson responded he is working on getting everything balanced and Bill Dashnaw is working on the AUD for 2018 and 2019, we are both using 2017 as a base balance to start. Councilman McNeil stated again I did not know that this work was not done in the past.

Councilman Bush requested that the vouchers be made available to the Town Board 7 days prior to the Town Board Meeting so that the members have an opportunity to review them before signing off for approval to pay. All agreed.

Councilman Dailey made a motion to approve payment of all bills, seconded by Councilman McNeil Roll call: Supervisor Nelson yes, Deputy Supervisor Putney absent, Council Member Bush yes, Council Member Dailey yes, Council Member McNeil yes. Motion Carries

J. Acceptance of Department Reports:

Supervisors Report-

Beach/Campground plans are to turn the internet on in April and still have the Highway Dept. do any of the trench work to save the town money. Councilman McNeil will be meeting with Mike O'Neil and he will bring back the opening/readiness plan to the Town Board.

The Town Board is required by law to do a yearly audit of the Town Justice books. Supervisor Nelson has begun the process to examine said records to discover that the audit needs to be done for the last 3 fiscal years beginning 1/1/17-12/31/19. Supervisor Nelson would like to retain Shari Stone to assist with the audit at an hourly rate of 20.00. Councilman McNeil questioned if the judges have been notified of this. Supervisor Nelson stated that he would contact both judges to inform them as a courtesy that the audit process has begun.

The towns code enforcement officer has had a town vehicle that we already own assigned to him. Councilman Bush questioned what happens when the vehicle goes up. It could be very expensive to replace/repair this vehicle. Supervisor Nelson responded that the mileage reimbursement for 2019 was over 5,000.00. I would like to try this to save the town money at least for a year. Councilman Dailey agreed we need to find ways to save money and that is very high mileage. All agreed.

Highway Superintendent-

I was in Albany last week for a one-day training. I received a lot of very good information, that I will be sharing with the Town Board. The biggest concerns from all the Towns is the chips money we will be waiting on the state budget to be passed on April 1, 2020 to see how much money the town will be receiving for chips.

One of the Town Highway men did have an accident on 2/27/2020 on the Ross Road. Luckily there was no personal injury or property damage only damage to the Town owned 1993 Mack truck. I did the accident report and the insurance company was notified that day; I am now waiting for the adjuster to come to look at the damage.

The entire Highway Department was able to attend a mandatory training on 811. I would like to thank Backus for donating a van, so we were all able to go together.

It took 3 days of my time to gather all the information for Russ Finley, but it is available for him at the Town Office.

I am in the process of getting prices for the drop box at the Town Offices.

I was able to get prices on doing a fence around the Town's Water Tower. It would cost the town approximately 6-7 thousand, I would like to suggest that the Town Highway men could build a basket so that the ladder could not be used unless unlocked. In place of the fence, saving the town money.

Town Clerk-

Collection of property tax has been very busy. The Town has been paid in full and a check for over 1 million is being set to St. Lawrence County this week.

I am very sad to report that I received Debra Putney Deputy Town Clerk's resignation this week due to her illness. Deb has been the Deputy Town Clerk for the past 7 years; I was looking forward to working with Deb she will be sadly missed by myself and the public.

The bookkeeper/court clerk Kari Blair has been off due to surgery. Flowers have been sent with a get-well card from the Town Board and her co-workers.

I have been in contact with the NYS Retirement System regarding the issue of reporting the elected/appointed officials time. I will keep the board updated.

All the retirees have been contacted regarding their health insurance options that could save the Town 17,000.00 annually. Also, the issue regarding Tim Dow has been resolved and the Town should receive a credit by April 2020.

Tom Manley is working on downloading the Town Clerks information so that Williamson can install their programs.

K. Reports of Boards and Committees:

Homecoming Committee-

Homecoming is scheduled for August 15, 2020. The local business has been contacted to see if they would like to advertise on the back of the homecoming t-shirts for a fee. Crafters and Vendors have been notified to see if they would like to set up in the Library parking lot on that date for a fee.

Library-

Michelle McLagan presented the monthly report. Michelle would like to thank Sharon Fields for donating her time to make new curtains for the Library and the town highway men for all their help they have given.

Museum-

Request was made to have the Town highway men turn the water on at the Museum, move the Rand R sign and place the bell out front.

There is another grant coming in three installments of 292.00 each for roadside markers/ plaques. The Town has already received the last one for 1,100.00.

L. Town Board Action Items

1. Resolution to adopt an Anti-Nepotism Policy bill # 2020-49-passed
2. Resolution to adopt a Standard workday for elected and appointed officials bill # 2020-63-passed.
3. Resolution to raise the sewer rates bill# 2020-64-passed
4. Resolution to hire a Court Clerk to assist with the Audit of the Justice Court fiscal years 2017,2018 and 2019 bill # 2020-65-passed
5. Resolution adopting Highway 284 agreement bill# 2020-26- passed

M. New Business

Supervisor Nelson reported that A.J. Septic came in with lowest quote of .20 cents per gallon to pump and transport waste from the WWTP to Watertown, NY. Motion made by Councilman McNeil seconded by Councilman Dailey rollcall Supervisor Nelson yes, Deputy Supervisor Putney absent, Councilman Dailey yes, Councilman McNeil yes, Councilman Bush yes, motion carries

Supervisor Nelson asked to make a motion to increase the Fuller Insurance policy to have replacement cost on everything regardless of its age. Motion made by Councilman McNeil seconded by Councilman Dailey rollcall Supervisor Nelson yes, Deputy Supervisor Putney absent, Councilman Dailey yes, Councilman McNeil yes, Councilman Bush yes, motion carries.

N. Items for Discussion

The Town Board had a discussion regarding making a resolution at next month's board meeting for a 50/50 split of sales tax and to stand with the city of Ogdensburg.

O. Public Comment Period

Ken Putney questioned what it would take to get rid of the County Legislatures? Also, he still has concerns on the NY Power Authority when and how it came in and took Lisbon residence land. Discussion followed.

Councilman Dailey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Councilman Bush at 10:05 P.M. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Alberta Hyde, Town Clerk