

Official Minutes

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lima, County of Livingston and the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 7329 East Main Street, Lima, New York, on the 4th day of May 2017 at 6:30 P.M. Notice was printed in the Mendon-Honeoye Falls-Lima Sentinel.

PRESENT: Supervisor, Pete Yendell
Deputy Supervisor, Cathy Gardner
Councilperson, Bruce Mayer
Councilperson, Bill Carey
Councilperson, Dan Marcellus
Town Clerk, Jennifer Shanks, CMC/RMC
Town Attorney, Steve Kruk
Highway Superintendent, Keith Arner

Supervisor Yendell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M., with the Pledge to the Flag.

Guest(s): Jerry Kleehammer

Reports-Motion to Accept Supervisor's Report –Review Ambulance & Building Inspector Reports (if received)

Supervisor Yendell read the Supervisor's Report and mentioned receipt of the Building Inspector Report and Ambulance report before the meeting. On a motion by Councilperson Gardner to accept the Supervisor's reports, seconded by Councilperson Mayer the vote went as follows:

CARRIED: Ayes: 5 Yendell, Gardner, Mayer, Marcellus, Carey
Nays: 0

Audit of Claims

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #5 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Funds:	No. 117 through 146	\$ 10,483.54
Water Funds 1, 2, &3:	No. 10 through 12	\$ 1,097.64

Highway Funds: No. 60 through 81 \$ 12,721.15

On a motion by Councilperson Gardner, seconded by Councilperson Marcellus the vote went as follows:

CARRIED Ayes: 5 Yendell, Gardner, Mayer, Marcellus, Carey
 Nays: 0

April 6th Minutes

The minutes of the April 6th board meeting were approved on a motion by Councilperson Carey, seconded by Councilperson Gardner, the vote went as follows:

CARRIED Ayes: 5 Yendell, Gardner, Mayer, Marcellus, Carey
 Nays: 0

Guest – Jerry Kleehammer – Jerry is a resident and volunteer fireman. He is moving away and attended to inform the Town Board of his personal concerns and opinions regarding the Lima Volunteer Fire Department. In response, given both the Town’s contractual budget obligation and its obligation to ensure fire protection service to the town at all times, board members agreed to include the subject on the agenda of the next joint meeting of the Town and Village.

New York State Model Solar Energy Law

Town Attorney Steve Kruk presented to the Board a draft of the proposed new local law concerning the regulation of solar installations in the Town. After review by Board members, it will be considered at a future meeting. Councilperson Gardner stated the Lima Agriculture Advisory Committee met and discussed larger scale solar projects in Lima. They were not in favor of having such large solar projects because of the prime farm land in the area. The Ag Committee’s comments are below.

MEMO TO: Lima Town Board
FROM: Lima Agriculture Advisory Committee
REGARDING: Solar Energy Projects
DATE: April 12, 2017

At the request of the Lima Town Board, the Lima Agriculture Advisory Committee met to discuss the relatively recent evolution of commercial scale solar projects in New York, and associated siting requirements.

For the purpose of this review, an initial meeting was held on February 20, 2017. At this meeting, the committee reviewed information on the scale and purpose of these projects, the New York State Model Solar Energy Law, recently adopted Town of Canandaigua regulations pertinent to solar installations, best practice siting guidelines, a detailed map of Lima's soils prepared for this review by the Livingston County Planning Department as well as land use goals and recommendations from the Town's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan/Town of Lima Comprehensive Plan.

Allowing time for members to further consider the information and discuss it with others, the committee met again on April 12, 2017. In the interim, a newly released resource, "New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Guidelines for Agricultural Mitigation for Solar Energy Projects" became available and was distributed in advance of this follow-up review.

Following deliberations, the Agriculture Advisory Committee determined that permitted accessory rooftop, building-mount and ground-mount solar energy installations for on-site energy generation enable Lima residents and businesses, including farm businesses to access solar power. As costs continue downward and technology advances, e.g. with the development of solar collecting roof shingles, it is anticipated that the prevalence of these installations will continue to grow.

With due consideration given to numerous considerations, most particularly:

- Lima's Agricultural Protection Plan/Comprehensive Plan, i.e. Lima's commitment to supporting the viability of agriculture as an industry; to protecting the land base needed to support farms, to good stewardship of the local prime and productive soils that provide jobs and income for local residents,
- The relatively unique concentration of highly productive agricultural soils in Lima, combined with limited fragmentation of the land base for non-agricultural development have sustained a highly productive agricultural economy that is much appreciated and valued by the local community. 85% of residents ranked the amount of farming and agricultural uses of land as critically or very important,
- NYS Department of Agriculture & Market's siting guidance, "Project sponsors should avoid the installation of solar arrays on the most valuable productive farmland, "
- Prevalence of valuable agricultural soils throughout the Town of Lima, Ref: Town of Lima Prime Soils Map,
- Fragmentation of the land base threatens the sustainability of agriculture,
- Best practices for siting commercial scale solar installations favor conditions and preferred siting locations such as brownfields, capped landfills, redevelopment sites, impervious surfaces, sand and gravel pits. Lima does not have sites of this type available.
- Concerns about installation impact on valuable soils, feasibility of decommissioning and reclamation, potential for abandonment, limited access to transmission infrastructure,
- Towns are not required to accommodate commercial scale solar installations

the Agriculture Advisory Committee recommends that commercial scale solar projects not be introduced as a permitted use within the Town of Lima. Food and fiber are life-sustaining, essential renewable goods, and are produced most efficiently on highly productive soils. Solar energy is a renewable good that can be readily generated without encroaching on this limited and valuable resource.

The Committee acknowledges that, as with all regulatory considerations, future changes in conditions and/or energy technology may support an updated review of this subject.

Update the Town & Village Website

Councilperson Marcellus showed the board South Bristol and North Dansville websites and suggested Lima update our website for more functional criteria that would include: good performance with page load, SSL Cert, tags/meta data for good SEO, and mobile compatibility. The board agreed.

Councilperson Marcellus will email Robert Deming who takes care of the website to have the Town and Village of Lima's website updated.

Energy Plan Savings

Supervisor Yendell received an email from Larry Grouse stating the Library and Town Hall will be re-lamped and re-ballasted. Councilperson Marcellus has had experience with this and wants to be certain the Town gets its return on the investment. After reading the small print regarding warranty it was agreed that Supervisor Yendell will talk to Larry to be certain of the warranty and investment.

Special Meeting to Open Bridge Bids

Highway Superintendent Arner asked for a special meeting to open bridge work bids the week of May 15th. Upon motion by Councilperson Gardner to give Arner authorization to go out to bid and authorize Don Higgins of the Livingston County Highway Department to accept the lowest bid, seconded by Councilperson Mayer, the vote went as follows:

CARRIED Ayes: 5 Yendell, Gardner, Mayer, Marcellus, Carey
 Nays: 0

Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

Supervisor Yendell read and gave Town Clerk Shanks a Proclamation. Upon motion by Councilperson Mayer to make May 8th through May 12th as Municipal Clerks week, seconded by Councilperson Marcellus the vote was unanimous. The board thanked her for her service and dedication.

Upon Motion by Councilperson Gardner to adjourn at 8:50 P.M., seconded by Councilperson Mayer, the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Shanks, CMC/RMC
Town Clerk