

Town of Lyme
12175 NYS Route 12 E
Chaumont, NY 13622
June 12, 2024
Public Hearing Solar Law 6:10 p.m.
Regular Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Lyme, County of Jefferson and the State of New York was held at 12175 NYS Route 12 E at 6:30 P.M., on the 12th day of June 2024.

Public Hearing Solar Law:

Supervisor Millington called the public hearing to order at 6:10 p.m.

Cathy Ward: Ms. Ward stated several questions and concerns regarding the Solar Law.

Bill Kleftis: Mr. Kleftis requested the Solar Law be provided in a word document so edits can be made. John Condino said that he should list his comments on the PDF and forward them to the Town Board.

Councilmember Bourquin: He stated that the Solar Law Public Hearing will be left open until next month.

Jennifer Kingsley: Ms. Kingsley asked if the Town is going to leave the hearing open because the notification was incorrect? Councilmember Bourquin responded that they are leaving it open because it is a very important subject to the Town residents.

Cathy Ward: Ms. Ward asked if AES Solar had been contacted for a meeting. Supervisor Millington said that we are going to contact the people that are involved with that and invite them to a meeting. Cathy said that she had already given him the information of who to contact. She said she doesn't want anyone to lose sight of that and it is very important.

She also stated that the Federal Government has named a Marine Sanctuary from Oswego to Cape Vincent, and this may impact the Solar regulations.

Supervisor Millington adjourned the public hearing until 6:10 p.m. July 10, 2024.

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,

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Highway Superintendent Pat Weston, John Condino (B&L), Jennifer Kingsley, Bruce Kingsley, Greg Hoppel, Kathy Dyer, John and Judy Rusho, Mike Simser, Deb Simser, Robert Ward, Cathy Ward, Cathy Stone, Joy Seymour, Andrew and Jessica Thompson, David Powers (B&L), Tammy, McIntosh, Greg Hubbard, Bill Kleftis and Jeff Call.

Privilege of the Floor

Tammy McIntosh: Tammy came to thank the Board for the donation given to the Village of Chaumont Sesquicentennial celebration. Councilmember Gosier thanked Tammy for all of the hard work she has dedicated to the celebration.

Supervisor's Report

Councilmember Farrell expressed his concern about legal costs. We need to have a more itemized bill from our Attorney so that we know where the money is being spent. Our budget is \$55,000 and at this point we will be going over. Deputy Supervisor Donovan agreed with Councilmember Farrell we should be receiving a detailed invoice from the attorney. Councilmember Gosier also addressed her concern with the amount of money that is in our checking account. She stated that the money should be put into a CD. Supervisor Millington said that they are opening new CDs and they will have a higher interest rate. Councilmember Farrell also stated that Supervisor Millington's Clerk should not be involved in the email chain for financial records or personnel matters. Supervisor Millington said that she is not involved in the decisions at all.

Resolution 2024-109: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve the May Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent Pat Weston put culvert pipes in on South Shore Road. The flag pole is up at Veteran's Park. Pat presented a computer program called Iworq that will manage several items. The initial cost is \$3700.00 and \$2200.00 every year after. Every spread sheet that he has completed in past years will be able to be input. He believes this is a good investment for the future.

Resolution 2024-110: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to authorize the purchase of the Iworq program; Councilmember Farrell seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Veteran's Park: Councilmember Bourquin said that it's ridiculous that the handicap boat launch and you can't drive down to the launch. There should be handicap parking down by the launch. It

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was discussed further by the board. Pat Weston suggested the board needs to look at the Park before making any decisions.

Mike Simser: Mr. Simser asked if there were any updates on the Solar Projects. Supervisor Millington said that we will invite AES solar to the next board meeting. Councilmember Gosier stated that it should not be a regular board meeting. She also asked if Mr. Postal agreed to come to the meeting. Supervisor Millington confirmed. There was further discussion on the solar project and contacting state and local representatives.

Clerk's Report

Monthly Receipts were as follow: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$5,948.47; Total State County & Local Revenues: \$6,020.47 Total Non – Local Revenues: \$72.00

Resolution 2024-111: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report for May; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #11 + 12)

Resolution 2024-112: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #11 in the amount of \$5,000.00; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution 2024-113: Councilmember Farrell made the motion to approve Abstract #12 in the amount of \$147,145.85; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution 2024-114: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve May Regular Meeting Minutes, May 23, 2024 Grant Meeting Minutes and June 6, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Old Business:

Revised Solar Law:

The public hearing will stay open until the July Town Board Meeting.

New Business:

Zoning Amendments:

Supervisor Millington read Planning Board Chairmans email out loud. Councilmember Gosier said that she has been attending planning board members for several years. She explained that Reggie is asking for an expansion on the time frame on special permits. This change would have to go to the County for review and be reviewed by the lawyer. This can be changed when the zoning law is

revised.

Resolution 2024-115: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to have John Condino from Barton and Loguidice update the Zoning Law to include extending the time frame on special permits; seconded by Councilmember Bourquin; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Barton and Loguidice Water Proposal:

Barton and Loguidice prepared an engineering report to serve water for areas that don't currently have it. This study includes the 12E West Water District with additional areas of Three Mile Point and Independence Point. There was further discussion on the study. Kathy Dyer (Water Board Chairwoman) said she would like to receive any emails concerning water. The Water Board needs to be informed.

Resolution 2024-116: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to table the water study proposal until next month; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Advertise Cleaning at Veteran's Park:

There was a discussion on who would be cleaning the bathrooms at Verteran's Park. Currently Pat Weston and his Highway crew are cleaning them.

Resolution 2024-117: Councilmember Farrell made the motion to advertise the cleaning position for Verteran's Park; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Advertise the Vote on Newzjunk:

Resolution 2024-118: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to advertise the Special Election on Newzjunk; seconded by Councilmember Bourquin; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution and retainer Town Attorney:

Councilmember Farrell expressed his concerns that we are overusing the attorney. We should retain the attorney but start using the association of Towns.

Resolution 2024-119: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to retain Kendall, Harrienger and Burrows as the Town Attorney; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Committee for the Comprehensive Plan:

Supervisor Millington contacted Jefferson County for the original comprehensive plan. We updated the plan in 2010 with our planning board and the County. The County just finished Alex

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Bay and are starting Henderson. The Board stated that Scott Burto is working on applying for grants to get the comprehensive plan revised by a professional company. Councilmember Gosier suggested Supervisor Millington speak to the Planning Board Chair. Supervisor Millington said he called Reggie and did not receive a response.

Summer Rec Positions:

This will be discussed in executive session.

Committee Reports

Town Board Report:

Councilmember Bourquin listed several reasons why the Town won't be spending the maximum monthly bond payments. There are several contingencies built into the budget.

Greg Hoppel asked why we didn't bond for less if we weren't spending 5 million. He also asked if we have gone over budget on the Town Park. Clerk Henderson stated that we have spent \$977,000 to date.

Jennifer Kingsley read previous board meeting minutes out loud.

Assessor's Report:

Memo:

Date: June 1, 2024

To: James Millington, Supervisor

From: Carol Quencer, Sole Assessor

Subject: May 2024 Monthly Report

Grievance Day met primarily last-minute visitors so that was a little more time consuming while we prepared copies but was uneventful. We had 6 residents, and one mail in from the Solar Company with a total of 13 properties being grieved. We had approximately 5 stipulations that were worked out between the property owner and the assessor prior to grievance day. Marlene is coming on 06/12/2024 to meet with a resident and confer with the BAR regarding a commercial assessment.

While the Roll is being finalized, we are continuing to update the file system with the folders purchased last year. We are also going through building and zoning files and double checking all permits filed within the last 2 years have been added to the maintenance folder or already have an up-to-date assessment.

We conferred with Soil and Water to find out additional information on the process so that we can better help those applying for an Ag Exemption. They sent over their updated fee schedule, and we posted it on the town bulletin board.

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We are also looking at different options on updating the Assessors section of the Town Website. We are trying to make a more comprehensive list of forms, instructions, and information regarding the assessment process.

Resolution 2024-120: Councilmember Gosier made the motion for Serena Beach and Carol Quencer to attend the Cornell School for Assessors; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Municipal Water Board Report:

Kathy Dyer said that the months fly by and we need to act on the water proposal. She stated that these people NEED water. They are currently paying over \$3,000 to haul water.

Planning Board:

There was no questions on the minutes.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA):

There was no report.

Youth Commission:

Pat Weston took more sand to Morris Tract Field. Clerk Henderson ordered new swings for the swing set.

ZEO/CEO Report:

There were no questions on the report.

TMB Cemetery:

Councilmember Gosier reported that she completed that they had one funeral this month.

Cape Vincent Ambulance:

Jeff Call reported that the Youth commission has 2 AEDs. Three Mile Bay and Chaumont Fire departments have there's as well. The Youth Commission is also trained and has first aid kits provided by the Cape Ambulance. He also reported that they are loaning on to Dexter and the Junior Division sailing club. He said he needs to coordinate with the Town for training.

Veteran's Park Locks:

Supervisor Millington is meeting with two companies to get quotes on the Veteran's Park Bathroom locks.

Closing Privilege of the Floor

Greg Hoppel: Mr. Hoppel asked several questions regarding the Highway Garage building. He stated that this is his third request. Supervisor Millington said that Fourth Coast was going to

supply that when we met with the contractors. He talked to Rob Company last week, but then the situation happened and they never met. Supervisor Millington stated that he would get that information.

Jennifer Kingsley: Ms. Kingsley made several statements.

Councilmember Farrell: Mr. Farrell made it clear that he was not receiving adequate information from the Town Supervisor.

Supervisor Millington: Mr. Millington stated that Lynda Jackson is listed as a confidential Secretary. Councilmember Farrell stated her title is Clerk to Supervisor. If she is a Confidential Secretary, she is illegally appointed by the Supervisor.

Greg Hoppel: Mr. Hoppel made more comments about the New Highway Garage building. Councilmember Gosier explained why the Town doesn't have a breakdown of the heating system because that isn't how the bidding process works.

Online Privilege of the Floor

There were several comments that were not read out loud.

Executive Session

Resolution 2024-121: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to go into executive session at 8:46 p.m. to discuss employment matters; Councilmember Donovan; seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Return to Open Meeting

Resolution 2024-122: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to enter the Open Meeting at 9:12 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Adjournment

Resolution 2024-123: Councilmember Donovan a made the motion to adjourn at 9:13 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk