

Town of Lyme
12175 NYS Route 12 E
Chaumont, NY 13622
December 11, 2024
Regular Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Town Board of 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 11th day of December 2024.

Call to Order:

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

Those present included Deputy Supervisor Donovan, Councilmember Farrell, Councilmember Bourquin, Councilmember Gosier, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson, Jennifer Kingsley, Bruce Kingsley, Josh Rogers, Aiden Rogers, Melissa Ewert, Bill Ewert, Michael Klock, Karin Klock, Greg Hoppel and Ted Smith.

Those absent include Supervisor Millington

Privilege of the Floor

Deputy Supervisor Donovan stated that Supervisor Millington was hospitalized in November, but Town business is still being taken care of. Hopefully he will be strong enough to work from home in the next few weeks.

Greg Hoppel asked where the Town was at with the New Highway Garage. Deputy Supervisor Donovan responded that we are still sorting out the legalities of the Garage. We are waiting for more information from our attorney.

Jennifer Kingsley asked if the Town requested a quote from Lawman for the Highway Garage. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin said it is tied into our legal issues and we are trying to avoid lawsuits. Councilmember Bourquin explained that everything that was discussed in the executive session meeting can't be repeated. He also stated that the drawings Lawman produced are confidential and can't be released. A lot of research is being done.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution 2024-230: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the November Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilmember Farrell seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Proposed Adjustments-11.24

<u>A5031</u>	<u>Interfund transfer</u>	<u>(487,008.65)</u>
<u>A878</u>	<u>Garage Reserve</u>	<u>487,008.65</u>
<u>A16204.01</u>	<u>Building, CE</u>	<u>19,953.65</u>
<u>A19724.01</u>	<u>Payments to County</u>	<u>11,521.00</u>
<u>A81604.01</u>	<u>Refuse/Garbage CE</u>	<u>9,155.00</u>
<u>A13204.01</u>	<u>Accountant CE</u>	<u>7,910.00</u>
<u>A16201.01</u>	<u>Building, PS</u>	<u>125.00</u>
<u>A90458.01</u>	<u>Shoe Allowance</u>	<u>70.00</u>
<u>A65104.01</u>	<u>Veterans Services, CE</u>	<u>(1,000.00)</u>
<u>A88101.01</u>	<u>Cemeteries, CE</u>	<u>(2,000.00)</u>
<u>A64104.01</u>	<u>Publicity, CE</u>	<u>(3,160.00)</u>
<u>A90508.01</u>	<u>Unemployment</u>	<u>(4,000.00)</u>
<u>A14204.01</u>	<u>Attorney, CE</u>	<u>(4,000.00)</u>
<u>A90108.01</u>	<u>Retirement CE</u>	<u>(7,660.00)</u>
<u>A63104.01</u>	<u>Town Development</u>	<u>(9,414.65)</u>
<u>A19104.01</u>	<u>Unallocated Ins</u>	<u>(12,000.00)</u>
<u>A14504.01</u>	<u>Elections CE</u>	<u>(1,500.00)</u>
<u>A7140.4</u>	<u>Summer Recreation, CE</u>	<u>(4,000.00)</u>
<u>DA9901.03</u>	<u>Garage Reserve</u>	<u>487,008.65</u>
<u>DA878.03</u>	<u>Interfund transfer</u>	<u>(487,008.65)</u>
<u>DA90308.03</u>	<u>Social Security</u>	<u>6,500.00</u>
<u>DA90508.03</u>	<u>Unemployment</u>	<u>(6,500.00)</u>
<u>DA97886.03</u>	<u>Lease Principal</u>	<u>5,693.00</u>
<u>DA97887.03</u>	<u>Lease Interest</u>	<u>147.00</u>
<u>DA51304.03</u>	<u>Machinery CE</u>	<u>7,000.00</u>
<u>DA2665.03</u>	<u>Sale of Equipment</u>	<u>(12,840.00)</u>
<u>DB51122.04</u>	<u>Permanent Improve ECO</u>	<u>124,061.85</u>
<u>DB51124.04</u>	<u>Permanent Improve CE</u>	<u>(112,818.50)</u>
<u>DB3501.04</u>	<u>State Aid Chips</u>	<u>(11,243.35)</u>
<u>DB90458.04</u>	<u>Shoe Allowances</u>	<u>1,650.00</u>
<u>DB90108.04</u>	<u>Retirement</u>	<u>(1,650.00)</u>

Resolution 2024-231: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the budget transfers as written; Councilmember Farrell seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Pat Weston stated that the Town received a lot of snow all at one time. He apologized to any Town residents that had damage to their yard by the plows. He will be repairing any damage this spring when the weather warms up.

He requested to put the old Air Compressor out to bid. He purchased a new one due to the old one not having enough power.

Resolution 2024-232: Councilmember Farrell made the motion to put the Ingersoll Rand Air Compressor out for bid; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Clerk's Report

Monthly Receipts were as follow: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$1,536.75; Total State County & Local Revenues: \$1,566.75 Total Non – Local Revenues: \$36.00

Resolution 2024-233: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report for November; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #23 + 24)

Resolution 2024-234: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #23 in the amount of \$18,816.57 seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Resolution 2024-235: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #24 in the amount of \$154,970.02; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution 2024-236: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the following meeting minutes; November 13, 2024 Regular Meeting, Budget Hearing Minutes November 6 + 7, Special Meeting Minutes November 7, Executive Session Meeting November 22; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Old Business:

Transfer Money from Water Reserve to Highway Machinery:

Councilmember Bourquin explained that resident tax dollars can't be spent on Water expenses. There was a new water/highway truck purchased. The highway department agreed to pay half and the water department would pay for the other half.

Resolution 2024-237: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to transfer \$29,634.23 from the Water Reserve Capital account to the Highway Garage Machinery account to cover half the cost of the Ford F350 truck; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Moratorium Quarrying/Mining:

The Board received the revised law from the engineer. The law was amended to read “Article 3- Application the sentence “This local law does not apply to residential properties and farm operations who currently qualify for an AG exemption in NYS and intend to use quarried materials for onsite purposes.”

Resolution 2024-238: Councilmember Gosier made the motion to adopt the Quarrying/Mining moratorium law; seconded by Councilmember Donovan; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Solar Committee Update:

Bill Kleftis emailed the Town Board with information on Ben Wisniewski. This is the attorney that the Solar Committee recommends using when the Solar Law is re-written/revised. The Board is researching the attorney. Councilmember Gosier is calling Town Supervisors that have recently used his legal knowledge for feedback.

New Business:

Year End Meeting Date:

Resolution 2024-239: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to advertise and hold the year end meeting December 30, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Robin Curtis Bank Accounts:

Resolution 2024-240: Councilmember Donovan made the motion to establish two new bank accounts at Watertown Savings Bank; Town Justin Robin Curtis Checking; Town Justice Bail Account Robin Curtis; Robin Curtis will be the authorized signer on the accounts; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

WD#1 Transfer Legal Fees:

Councilmember Bourquin said the legal fees spent on Water District #1 can be paid back by the Water District to the General Disbursement fund. There was only \$45.00 accumulated so far, so it isn't worth the transfer. The Barton and Loguidice engineering fees was charged to WD#1 and all water bills moving forward will be charged accordingly.

Transfer CDBG funds to Capital Reserve:

Resolution 2024-241: Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to move the CDBG account funds into the Capital Reserve funds; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Committee Reports

Town Board Report:

Deputy Supervisor Donovan stated that there are CDs maturing within the next few months. He will be combining 3 of the Town's CD accounts into one account and renewing it for 6 months. Councilmember Bourquin and himself met with John Condino about the Hart Road Water District#1 situation. They discussed the IMA with the Village of Chaumont. A meter put will need to be installed at the end of Hart Road and the age of the water line was also discussed.

The format for the Town Board meetings going forward will be as follows:

Opening privilege of the floor will be limited to Organizations and Legislator William Johnson.

Closing privilege of the floor will be for residents' concerns.

This will prevent lengthy discussion on agenda items prior to the Board discussing them. This may eliminate/answer the residents' questions.

Assessor Report:

Memo

DATE: December 4, 2024

TO: James Millington, Supervisor

FROM: Carol Quencer, Sole Assessor

SUBJECT: December 2024 Monthly Report

Our staff is still conducting field reviews of new construction and demolitions. This review process will continue until March 1st which is our taxable status date.

Exemption administration is also ongoing until March 1st. We have started to receive renewals back and are currently updating them. We submitted an article to the Lyme Light to remind our citizens to turn in their exemption applications. Our goal is to have all Renewals and new Requests in by the end of December to be able to help with any issues that may arise or obtain any additional information if property owners are missing required documentation.

Sereana recently completed Course II and passed the exam with a grade of 100%. She has signed up for Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal Online – and Self Study Exam - Farm Appraisal as part of her efforts to ascertain certification for assessors. These are free classes offered through New York State. They are the last 2 classes required for certification. She was also recently notified that she has been selected as a scholarship winner for the Cornell conference including tuition, meals, and room at no cost to the town.

There were no questions on the report.

Municipal Water Board Report:

The Water District 6 (12E West Water District) surveys were mailed.

Planning Board:

There were no questions on the report.

Youth Commission:

There were no questions on the report.

ZEO/CEO Report:

There were no questions on the report.

ZBA Report:

There was no report.

TMB Cemetery:

Councilmember Gosier stated there was no business.

Closing Privilege of the Floor

Greg Hoppel stated that JP Morgan has a 2-week CD at a 5% rate the Town should consider. He asked if the Town would be advertising the mowing and bathroom cleaning position in January instead of waiting until April. He thanked Deputy Supervisor Donovan.

Jennifer Kingsley asked Councilmember Gosier what the status of her Town email was.

Councilmember Gosier responded that someone was going to assign her one and she never received one.

Online Privilege of the Floor

There were no comments.

Adjournment

Resolution 2024-242: Councilmember Farrell made the motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk