

TOWN OF LLOYD

TOWN BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 21, 2019

Present: Supervisor Paul Hansut
Councilmember Leonard Auchmoody
Councilmember Michael Guerriero
Councilmember Claire Winslow
Councilmember Mazzetti

Also present: Sean Murphy, Attorney
Wendy D. Rosinski, Town Clerk

7:00 PM – Supervisor opened meeting and asked County Executive Pat Ryan to lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Pat Ryan, County Executive, gave a brief personal background. He said the county secured a \$3,000,000 grant to combat the opioid epidemic which is a big issue. The grant will be used for more law enforcement, prevention and treatment resources county wide. The environment is one of our greatest resources, and he has committed the county to 100% renewable energy for the county's footprint. UC is currently at 20%, a solar array is being built in Saugerties which will bring us to 40%. He will keep working on this, and also get the private sector involved. He's trying to hold the line on the tax burden. He asked for questions from those present. Supervisor brought up the county wide difficulty finding a full-time assessor, and asked about an earlier idea of having a county assessor. Ryan said other supervisors are having the same problem. The county had a shared services meeting, and will have more meetings and public hearings to figure out what services the towns and county can share, i.e. assessor, plowing, equipment. Ryan is open to all suggestions. The state will match any recorded savings for shared capital expenditures. Ryan suggested that it may help to use the county's personnel department to help recruit an assessor.

Supervisor said we have a fantastic assessor's aide, so when people come in to discuss their assessment, they have someone here 40 hours per week. Sharing a County Assessor would work if they could come down regularly to sign off on things.

Councilmember Guerriero asked how the opioid grant will work. Ryan said UC has the highest per capita opioid overdose of the 62 New York State counties. The county will assess the needs and try to set up lasting systems and approaches, not just a one-time fix. Vin Martello, in the UC Health Dept. will be the Director of Opioid Prevention Strategy. The County has been awarded a \$2.5 million CHASE grant and Martello will implement the action plan created by the Opioid Prevention Task Force.

There is a proposed Cement Plant in the Town of Kingston which the Planning Board is weighing the environmental impacts on Onteora Lake, the job creation and economic growth. He believes the land between the river and the mountains is what draws so many people to the area. Reporter Mark Reynolds asked if the County was going to get involved. He said he would not violate the core principal of home rule which is the foundation of government. Let the Planning Board do their job.

1. REPORTS – Town Board Liaisons

Audit –January 1 to June 30, 2019: Councilmembers Auchmoody and Mazzetti
July 1 to December 31, 2019: Councilmembers Winslow and Guerriero

ECC /Zoning Board – Councilmember Guerriero

Nothing to report for ECC

Zoning Board was cancelled

Guerriero said he met with Frank Alfonso, Recreation Director. There is a large sum of money in Recreational Fees that is collected from developers for the purpose of capital improvements to the town's recreational facilities. He and Alfonso met at the Town Field to discuss installing bathrooms and a pavilion. This would be a great asset to the Town; we could have entertainment, movies and events.

Central School District – Councilmember Mazzetti

Mazzetti said students will be returning to school September 5th.

Fall sports practices and tryouts have started, he wished all the athletes a great season.

Planning Board – Councilmember Winslow

Winslow reported there is a Public Informational Meeting tomorrow night (8/22), and the subject is the Villages. It will be at the Firehouse, Station 1, on Milton Ave, at 5pm.

Planning Board is still working with D&D auto for site plan amendment (adding a building for storage to the site).

The Views are still working on traffic issues. There is a lot of development being proposed for the intersections of 9W and Chapel Hill Road and many concerns. She encouraged people to pay attention and stay involved.

AutoZone has applied and presented their project which is in that same area.

Glidepath (grid tied battery storage) has applied and presented their project.

A light industrial warehouse has applied and presented their project.

A banquet hall has been presented by Sal Timperio (Sal's) on property along 9W north of the middle section of Grand St.

Police/Fire/Town Justice – Supervisor Paul Hansut

Supervisor said the new web page is up and running, it was one of the last tasks that Kate Jonietz did before she left, along with Wendy Rosinski, Town Clerk.

Supervisor reported that the Police reported they have 2 cars off the road, one was totaled, the other damaged. Chief has ordered a new vehicle.

The Fireman's 125th anniversary Parade was a great event and thanked the Fire Department.

Mazzetti thanked the Knights of Columbus for donating their time to the event.

Winslow thanked the Rotary for their time.

Water/Sewer/Drainage Committee and EDC –Councilmember Auchmoody

Auchmoody reported that at WSDC meeting they discussed the upcoming water main project on Church St. and Grove St. They had a special Town Board meeting to award the contract and get the project moving forward.

EDC discussed what properties in Lloyd are for sale or under contract.

REPORT – Peter Bellizzi, President, Hudson Valley Rail Trail

Bellizzi reported the Rail Trail has four new benches going in on the Trail.

This weekend is the Walkway Skyride, and the rail trail will be closed from 6 AM to noon. The motorcycles will go down the Rail Trail, across the Walkway, back across the Mid-Hudson Bridge and down 9W. The pre-registered riders will meet at Lowe's on Rt. 299 and come in as a group.

REPORT – Leonard Auchmoody, Manager, Bob Shepard Highland Landing Park

Auchmoody reported that the bricks and trolley track off the back porch are in place.

The foundations for the next four benches are dug out and should be poured next week. Share the Light project is in place; there will be 22 bollards and 7 light towers. He has people committed to sponsor several of the bollards and a couple of the light towers. If anyone is interested in dedicating a light please contact him. This project should be done by fall.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A.

B.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Developing an Effective Fund Balance Policy

Supervisor said he gave Board members a copy of How to Develop an Effective Fund Balance Policy, and the board will complete this and have it back to the state by October 19th. He has policies from other towns that they can use as a template.

4. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Rich Gerentine, owner of Golden View Senior Housing said he feels the fire inspection fee of \$1275.00 every three years for his 51-unit senior housing development are too high. He brought comparisons from other towns. Dave Barton, Building Department Director said he would review the fees.

Letter from Chris Cerone

Good evening Supervisor & Town Board members. My name is Chris Cerone & I am a resident of the Town of Marlboro. I am here tonight to acknowledge and thank your police department for their professionalism and diligence regarding an incident that occurred at the Walkway over the Hudson parking lot on June 21st.

That evening when we arrived back at our vehicle, we noticed that the rear window had been smashed and (2) bags were stolen from the rear of the vehicle. One bag contained mostly work documents while the other contained many personal items including my checkbook, thumb

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drives, medical cards, & passwords to accounts. We also noticed that (2) other vehicles had been broken into.

I immediately called 911. Town of Lloyd dispatcher Litts was professional and courteous while dealing with an irate caller who just wanted units to respond knowing that time was of the essence. Dispatcher Litts stuck to protocol and gathered as much information as possible so that her officer could respond appropriately. When Town of Lloyd police officers Zani & Henry first arrived on scene, I was in a state of anger & panic, this having been the first time I had ever experienced being robbed. Regrettably, I was not the easiest person to deal with at the time and given the circumstances. However, officers Zani & Henry did an outstanding job of collecting evidence, statements, and canvassing the area. Once I calmed down, officer Zani interviewed me to ascertain what was in my bags. When I remembered that my tablet was in my bag, officer Zani was able to use a find my tablet app to locate my tablet. Once located, Sgt. Kalimeras & Officer Labodin went to the location of the tablet to see if we could locate and retrieve my property. Once in the area officer Labodin asked them to ping the tablet so they could try and retrieve it. Unfortunately, this alerted the thieves and they dumped the tablet on the side of 9W. The tablet was retrieved but the rest of my property was not. It is worth mentioning that the tablet battery was at 3% and wouldn't have lasted much longer had they decided not to ping it, and we more than likely would not have retrieved the tablet.

In the days following the incident, I was contacted by Town of Lloyd officers and Detective Anthony Ventura. I have been constantly included in the investigation and updated every time there has been a new development. Det. Ventura has been diligent and forthcoming and, in my opinion, has gone above and beyond to investigate this case. Det. Ventura has encouraged my involvement in the case and has responded to every phone call or email sent. I commend Chief Waage & the Town Board for the quality & character of the officers they have hired.

That being said, I would be remiss if I failed to share a few concerns with the Town Board. first and foremost is the lack of security, i.e. cameras at the parking lot which is owned and maintained by the Town of Lloyd. It is my understanding that this is not the first incident at the parking area and I am sure it won't be the last. I implore the Town Board to install security cameras so as to deter any future criminal activity and protect residents and visitors alike.

Secondly, in the moments following the incident, the officers believed that the thieves escaped the area via the rail trail. We walked the rail trail that evening looking for additional evidence. I returned with my wife the following day to see if we could locate any of our property along the trail. Upon reaching the old Pratt lumber site and the Highland Railroad station we noticed security cameras on the building facing the rail trail. When I mentioned this to Det. Ventura, he said that he had learned that the cameras were in fact dummy cameras and not hooked up. I would ask the Town Board to please install cameras at this location not only to monitor town owned property but to also provide additional security for those using the rail trail. Security camera technology has developed and is now ever cost effective and easy to install.

In closing, I ask that the Town of Lloyd provide these additional resources so that your police department can conduct their investigations more efficiently and residents and visitors can enjoy a sense of security.

I further request that the Town of Lloyd contact the NYS Department of Parks and have them provide additional patrols. The Town should also pursue any grant opportunities from NYS Parks or other agencies to offset the cost of cameras and additional security measures. While I understand that keeping your budget manageable is a top priority, monies expended up front for security will offset the cost of the time spent on lengthy investigations. Also, additional security measures will usually decrease insurance premiums which will help offset any additional expenditures.

As for our experience, I can tell you that this has been an absolute nightmare which has caused us to change bank accounts, cancel credit cards, change all of our usernames & passwords, increase security at our home and basically be suspicious of everyone and everything. It turns out that the perpetrators in our break in are part of a National Crime syndicate and not local as originally thought. We have been informed by law enforcement that they are very well organized and very tech savvy and have the ability to clone your identity and we should be prepared to feel the effects of this event for many years to come. Again, I wish to thank the Town of Lloyd Police Department for the efforts and conduct and hope that the Town continues to provide them with all the tools & resources they need to effectively perform their job.

We also ask that this statement be placed in the officers personnel file.

Peter Bellizzi, President Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association reminded everyone that the Rail Trail is a dawn to dusk park.

Cerone said they were off the Walkway and at their car by 7:10 PM while it was still full daylight.

Mark Reynolds, Reporter, said that several months ago it was reported that the Town does not have Affordable Housing in place, if the board is not going to retroactively go back and ask the developers to provide affordable housing, what is the legal basis the town is standing on.

Supervisor said they appointed Mr. Barton as the Affordable Housing Director moving forward. Supervisor does not plan on going back to developers, if you try to enforce that now, we are going to end up in court and it will cost the Town a lot of money.

Reynolds said the projects were technically approved improperly. The Board was advised by two attorneys that you can go back and require the projects to offer affordable housing. He asked if you are not going to go back, what is the legal standing that says you can allow this?

Winslow stated that Guy Kemp from RUPCO said he didn't feel that the Town should go back but move forward.

Sean Murphy, Town Attorney said the opinion is you can go back and ask the developer/owner to offer affordable housing but you are not legally obligated to.

Supervisor said there were four projects which were approved and completed without Affordable Housing; when it was brought to the Town Board's attention the Attorneys said you can go back and require them to offer Affordable Housing units but you do not have to. He said they made a mistake and are moving forward; the new projects will have affordable housing components.

Supervisor addressed the article in the Southern Ulster Times that criticizes the Town Board and the Fund Balance. When the Board does the budget, they are very conservative, in his opinion the budget is an estimate of expenses the following year and the revenues you are going to receive. They have underestimated revenues and over estimated expenses. It is very hard as a Town Board to guess, what the sales tax is going to be. Or the mortgage tax. The Comptrollers office came in and did an audit from 2014 to the present; they went through payroll, retirement and every aspect of the finances of the Town of Lloyd and they came up with that the Town does not have a Fund Balance Policy. The Town is not hoarding or over taxing the tax payers. One year they raised taxes 0.56% and at the end of the year, that's pretty good. The waterline project on Church St. and Grove St. is for \$350,000.00 and we do not have to borrow the money because we have it. If we did borrow it would cost an extra \$80,000.00. He said, as a Board, they have done a great job with the Budget; they may not always agree, they may argue but they end up with a surplus not a deficit, give me the surplus any day. The local share of phase III and phase IV of the Hudson Valley Rail Trail was \$500,000.00, they did not borrow the money, they had it because they run a fiscally responsible budget. New York State wants us to borrow money, they feel it is more transparent. It costs money to borrow, he would rather have a healthy Fund Balance.

Moving forward they are hiring a part-time Clerk to help the Bookkeeper who is over-worked, and at the Regular Town Board meeting there will be a motion to approve the Supervisor's report.

5. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. **MOTION** made by Mazzetti, seconded by Winslow to approve the August 7, 2019 minutes.

Five ayes carried

B. **RESOLUTION** made by Winslow, seconded by Auchmoody to authorize the payment of vouchers as audited by the Audit Committee.

General	G - 778	to	G - 863	\$	81,078.89
Highway	H - 354	to	H - 406	\$	88,909.94
Miscellaneous	M - 173	to	M - 188	\$	61,805.64
Prepays	P - 321	to	P - 376	\$	66,878.35
Sewer	S - 221	to	S - 245	\$	16,324.38
Water	W - 309	to	W - 336	\$	32,578.99

Roll call: Winslow, aye; Mazzetti, aye; Guerriero, aye; Hansut, aye; Auchmoody, aye.

Five ayes carried

C. **RESOLUTION** made by Winslow, seconded by Auchmoody to hire Marshall J. Bellizzi as a part-time Dispatcher at a rate of \$18.35 per hour at the recommendation of Chief Waage.

Roll call: Winslow, aye; Mazzetti, aye; Guerriero, aye; Hansut, aye; Auchmoody, aye.

Five ayes carried

D. **RESOLUTION** made by Mazzetti, seconded by Guerriero to establish the position of part time Account Clerk to work in the Bookkeeper's office, at an hourly rate of \$17.07 to \$17.72 depending on experience. The position will not exceed 17.5 hours a week and will not exceed \$16,126.00 per year.

Roll call: Winslow, aye; Mazzetti, aye; Guerriero, aye; Hansut, aye; Auchmoody, aye.

Five ayes carried

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E. RESOLUTION made by Mazzetti, seconded by Guerriero at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lloyd, Ulster County, New York, held at the Town Hall, 12 Church Street, in Highland, New York, in said Town on the 21st day of August, 2019, and

WHEREAS, Pleasant View Subdivision LLC for all lawful municipal and highway purposes the land described in said dedication and offered to convey and assign all rights, title and interest to said lands to be used as a public highway; and

WHEREAS, Pleasant View Subdivision LLC, is the owner of all right, title and interests in and to said lands; and

WHEREAS, said have been improved pursuant to the requirements of the Town of Lloyd and its Highway Superintendent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town of Lloyd, contingent upon clean title, hereby accepts said lands and the Town Board of the Town of Lloyd consents that the Town Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Lloyd make an order laying out the lands described in said dedication dated the 7th of August 2019 for Highway purposes in accordance with the provisions of the Highway Law and other statutes applicable there.

Roll call: Winslow, aye; Mazzetti, aye; Guerriero, aye; Hansut, aye; Auchmoody, aye.

Five ayes carried

MOTION made by Mazzetti, seconded by Auchmoody to go into executive session at 8:15 PM to discuss litigation.

Five ayes carried

MOTION made by Guerriero, seconded by Winslow to come out of executive session at 8:25 PM.

Five ayes carried

MOTION made by Winslow, seconded by Mazzetti to adjourn at 8:30.

Five ayes carried

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy D. Rosinski
Town Clerk

AUGUST 7, 2019

