

Town of LeRay

Town Board Minutes

July 13, 2023

Call to Order

Proceedings of a Town Board Meeting held at the LeRay Town Municipal Office on July 13, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Supervisor Taylor who led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Regular Meeting

Ronald C. Taylor – Supervisor, Melissa L. Verne – Town Clerk – Absent , Nathan Toutant – Clerk to Supervisor, Board Members in attendance: Samuel Biondolillo , John Eisenhauer, Michael Gracey , Lee Carpenter, James Burrows – Town Attorney, Jessica Jenack – Community Development Coordinator – Absent, Lee Shimel – Zoning Enforcement Officer, William Vargulick – Town Assessor, Dan Young – Highway Superintendent, Mike Altieri – Town Engineer, Kenny Kizzer – DANC

Also in attendance: Merle Otis, John Li, Jason Whalen, & Lisa Brown

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on June 8, 2023, adjourned until June 21, 2023, were reviewed by the Board Members. A motion to approve the minutes as drafted was made by Councilman Carpenter and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Comments from the Floor

Jason Whalen, a representative from J.E. Sheehan called in to explain the information submitted to the Town Board for the change order request regarding dewatering efforts for the Pipeline Replacement Project.

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhauer and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo that upon suitable records provided to the Board from BCA or J.E. Sheehan that the work directed by CSX, that the Town pays J.E. Sheehan the amount owed.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Lisa Brown from CST Group, Inc called in to explain remote IT services her company could provide

to the Town of LeRay.

Report from the Assessor – William Vargulick

Mr. Vargulick reported that Eagle Ridge LLC has combined all 9 of their parcels into 1 parcel.

Report from Highway Superintendent – Dan Young

Mr. Young reported on work completed. Jefferson County had about 80 loads of millings stored in grey rock from County Route 47, they decided that they did not want it there, paid the Town of LeRay to truck it and gave it to the Town. Mr. Young gave the Board a handout of a picture of a “sand screener”. Would like to possibly build one vs buy. Mr. Eisenhower asked if one could just be purchased. A discussion ensued between the Board members and Mr. Young on purchasing vs. prefabricating on site. Mr. Young will look into pricing. Mr. Eisenhower shared a text from a resident on Lafave Road that was not happy about the chip and seal that was used. Mr. Eisenhower would like Mr. Young to determine based on traffic on Town roads which would be the better alternative chip and seal vs resealing.

Report from Community Development Coordinator – Jessica Jenack- Absent

No report

Report from the Zoning Enforcement Officer – Lee Shimel

Mr. Shimel reported on projects that the Planning Board would discuss at the meeting that evening. The property on NYS Route 3 has been cleaned up and the mortgage company has offered to pay for the services to make the Town whole.

Mr. Shimel asked the Board to consider allowing him to change his hours on Thursday’s from 3:00pm-6:00pm to 1:00pm-4:00pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Gracey and seconded by Councilman Carpenter to change Lee Shimel’s hours on Thursdays to be 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Report from the Town Engineer – Mike Altieri

Mr. Altieri reported on the progress of the demolition of the house owned in Evans Mills. Mr. Altieri reported that Mr. Ingerson is compiling a list of things to upgrade the old Highway Garage. Amendment No. 1- Owner/Engineer Agreement was presented to the Board for approval and for Supervisor Taylor to sign, for the LeRay II Water Improvements project. The American Public Works Association would like to take a tour of the LeRay II tank and the new Highway Garage, potentially in September 2023. Well development is progressing and the Board will soon have a pump proposal presented to them.

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhauer and seconded by Councilman Carpenter to sign the Amendment No. 1 Owner/ Engineer Agreement for the LeRay II Water Improvements Project.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A motion was made by Councilman Carpenter and seconded by Councilman Gracey to have Supervisor Ronald C. Taylor authorize Change Order #3 for J.E. Sheehan as presented.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Report from DANC- Kenny Kizzer

Mr. Kizzer gave his monthly report.

Report from the Town Clerk – Melissa L. Verne – Absent

	Cash Balances as of June 30, 2023		Current Month Abstract 7	
General Fund	\$	4,110,278.09	\$	36,492.25
Highway Fund-Town wide	\$	666,490.57	\$	9,192.64
Highway Fund-Town Outside	\$	564,207.50	\$	161,559.49
Expendable Trust	\$	789.07	\$	0.00
Consolidated Water District	\$	1,870,027.56	\$	39,248.19
Water District # 3	\$	17,317.62	\$	28.00
Sewer District # 1	\$	437,731.70	\$	2,938.99
Sewer District # 2	\$	71,330.55	\$	950.31
Sewer District # 3	\$	14,710.68	\$	1,706.33
Sewer District # 4	\$	328,325.13	\$	372.41
Capital Project # 1 (Taylor Rd)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Capital Project # 2 (Water Dist. 4)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Capital Project # 3 (Sewer Dist. 1)	\$	134,535.38	\$	0.00
Capital Project # 3A (Sewer Dist. 4)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Capital Project # 4W (Water 2 Imp)	\$	-2,027.42	\$	0.00
Capital Project # 5 (Highway Fac.)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Trust & Agency	\$	21,897.00	\$	4,466.73

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Councilman Gracey that Abstract #7 vouchers 884-1006 in the amount of \$256,955.34 be paid from the above accounts.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Report from Nathan Toutant, Clerk to the Supervisor

A letter of support was received from James A. Nabywaniec for the EPG sanitary sewer system inflow and infiltration study. With the Board's approval it will be sent to DANC. The Jefferson County Snow and Ice/Shared Service Agreement 2023-2027 was presented for review.

A motion was made by Councilman Carpenter and Councilman Eisenhower to accept the Jefferson County Snow and Ice/ Shared Service Agreement for 2023-2027.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A Request for Proposal was presented for review for fuel inspection services, it will be posted on the Town website and posted in the Watertown Daily Times.

A copy of the revised Employee Handbook was presented for the Town Board's consideration. A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhower and seconded by Councilman Carpenter to accept Public Sector HR's revised Employee Handbook as presented.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhower and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo to rescind the current Sexual Harassment Policy and replace with Section 903 from the Town Employee Handbook.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhower and seconded by Councilman Carpenter to accept the Local Counsel agreement from Kendall, Walton, & Burrows for the conversion of short-term financing to long-term financing with NYS EFC, for the Consolidated Water District Improvements Project.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhower and seconded by Councilman Carpenter to set a Public Hearing for August 10, 2023, at 4:05 p.m. for a Proposed Local Law to Amend Town Code Chapter 102 for Junkyards, Junk Storage.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Mr. Toutant read a report from Steve Marshall, the Town’s Water Meter Reader. He reported that Mr. Marshall has replace 99 meters since June 2023 meeting, 4 final reads for Town Clerk, read Water Districts 1,2 & 4. Mr. Marshall is averaging about an hour per each meter he has replaced.

A motion was made by Councilman Eisenhauer and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo to allow Steven Marshall a clothing allowance of \$725.00, using the same terms as are in Section 20 of the Highway Department Union Contract, the funds to be transferred from line 909.82 General Fund, Fund Balance to 83404.82 Transmission Distribution CE.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Councilman Gracey to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The vote went as follows:			
Ayes:	5	Nays:	0
The motion passed.			

Respectfully given:

Nathan Toutant

Nathan Toutant, Clerk to Supervisor

Prepared by via audio:

Melissa L. Verne

Melissa L. Verne, LeRay Town Clerk