

**Town of Lewis**  
**Public Hearing Local Law #1 of 2021**  
**Opting out of the Cannabis Legislation**

**December 14, 2021**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Lewis Town Hall**

**Present:** Counselors Dave Blades, Lanita Canavan, Steve Denton and Jeff Scott, Highway Superintendent Kevin Denton and Supervisor James Monty

**Public Present:** Jerry Spooner, Aaron Trainer, Jason Estus, Harley Trainer, Ashley Trainer, Robert Estus, Pam Williams, Glenn Williams, Terry Pulsifer, and John Blades

**Pledge:**

**Public Comment:** Mr. Jay Estus and Mr. Robert Estus from the Green Street Family Farm and Sawmill of Chesterfield stated that they are not in favor of opting out of the Cannabis Legislation. They gave reasons to opt in - such as it would put illegal drug dealers out of business, it could be regulated, other towns who opted out wish they had not. They would like to be able to grow marijuana starting in March so they could get a 2 season grow and it would help their struggling farm.

Supervisor Monty stated that the Board can vote to opt out, but if residence don't agree with the resolution they can get signatures to change the law.

A motion was made to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m. by Dave Blades and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.

**Regular Town Board Meeting**

A motion was made to open the Regular Board meeting at 7:10 by Dave Blades and seconded by Jeff Scott 0 opposed, motion carried.

A motion was made to accept the Supervisors Financial Report by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.

A motion was made to move \$500.00 out of the water account into supplies by Jeff Scott and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.

**Public Commentary:** Jerry Spooner asked what came out of the Emergency Squad asking for more money from the Town of Lewis or they would end coverage in 90 days. Supervisor Monty stated they have agreed to honor the contract.

**DPW/Water Report:**

Kevin Denton stated the Highway department is losing a laborer as of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The one truck is in Glens Falls waiting for the box to be put on. The wind storm knocked down about 8 to 10 trees and they have been cleaned up. One road was closed overnight due to power lines down over the road.

Lanita Canavan stated the Deer Head Cemetery has a few trees down.

Supervisor Monty stated a tree is down at the entrance to Thrall Dam.

Water Report and Field Inspection Report were good.

A motion was made to accept the Water Report by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Dave Blades, 0 opposed, motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

- a. County Expense Report in packet
- b. County Calendar in packet
- c. Landfill Report – A motion was made to accept the Landfill report by Dave Blades and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.
- d. Essex County IDA information in packet
- e. Adk Harvest newsletter in packet
- f. NYSEG newsletter in packet
- g. APA permits/agendas in packet
- h. Charter Changes in packet
- i. ANCA news in packet
- j. Cornell Cooperative Extension newsletter in packet
- k. North Country SPCA info in packet
- l. Governors Vaccine incentive information in packet
- m. CDBG certificate of completion in packet
- n. Lead-safe guide in packet
- o. Social Security News in packet

**Old Business:**

1. BVYC By-Laws – A motion was made to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Elizabethtown, Town of Lewis and Town of Westport by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Jeff Scott, 0 opposed, motion carried.
2. Senior citizens exemptions – A motion was made to approve the senior citizens exemptions for taxes, maximum earnings allowance of \$25,000.00 by Dave Blades and seconded by Jeff Scott, 0 opposed, motion carried.
3. Broadband – Will be surveying residents to pinpoint areas that are not covered. The survey will be a URL code that is scanned on a cell phone, If the resident does not have internet the survey can be completed at the Town Hall. The Town is also looking at a USDA grant that providers can apply for and it will cover 80% and the town would have to pay 20%, possibly stimulus funds could be used for this.
4. Weatherization Survey – An audit was done on November 29<sup>th</sup> and the results should be available next week.

**New Business:**

1. Codes Report – None
2. Animal Control Report – One dog bite, the dog was not licensed and did not have rabies shot. Dog has been confined.
3. Youth Commission Meeting Minutes – The insurance has gone up. If the Youth Commission does not have insurance the Town insurance should cover it. They would like teen reps at meetings. They are working on getting a bus for the Whiteface ski program.  
A motion was made to accept the Youth Commission Meeting minutes by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Dave Blades, 0 opposed, motion carried.
4. Cyber Security Premium – went up 300% will be going through another company.

**Resolutions:**

1. A motion was made to approve Resolution 21-12-1 Approving MOU between Elizabethtown/Lewis/Westport by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Jeff Scott, 0 opposed, motion carried.
2. A motion was made to approve Resolution 21-12-2 to sign a contract with the NCSPCA by Dave Blades and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.
3. A motion was made to approve Resolution 21-12-3 approving Local Law #1 of 2021 a Local law to opt out of allowing retail Cannabis Dispensaries and on site consumption sites by Dave Blades and seconded by James Monty, 0 opposed, motion carried

Roll Call Vote:

Dave Blades Yes  
Lanita Canavan Yes  
Steve Denton Yes  
Jeff Scott Yes  
James Monty Yes

4. A motion was made to approve Resolution 21-12-4 opposing the closure of Moriah Shock by Steve Denton and Unanimous second, 0 opposed, motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Dave Blades Yes  
Lanita Canavan Yes  
Steve Denton Yes  
Jeff Scott Yes  
James Monty Yes

5. A motion was made to approve Resolution 21-12-5 to renew a Bond Anticipation Note with the Champlain National Bank by Dave Blades and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

James Monty Yes  
Lanita Canavan Yes  
Steve Denton Yes  
Dave Blades Yes  
Jeff Scott Yes

**Other:** Dave Blades Welcomed John Blades and Terry Pulsifer as new Councilmen starting 2022.  
Supervisor Monty thanked Dave Blades and Jeff Scott for their service to the Board.

The Close out meeting will be held on December 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made to audit and pay the bills by Dave Blades and seconded by Jeff Scott, 0 opposed, motion carried.

Trust & Agency TA	\$32,594.73
Youth Commission	\$1,076.50
Water Fund SW	\$286.88
Highway Fund	\$3,358.57
Highway DA	\$53,780.27
Water Fund	\$506.14
General Fund	\$3,721.96
General Fund A	\$81,133.62

A motion was made to adjourn by Lanita Canavan and seconded by Steve Denton, 0 opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Cross  
Town Clerk