

Town of Lewis
Board Meeting
August 14, 2018
Lewis Town Hall

Present: Supervisor James Monty, Councilors Lanita Canavan, Dave Blades, Steve Denton and Jeff Scott

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Monty at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Monty welcomed guests Patty and Larry Bashaw of the Elizabethtown – Lewis Emergency Squad.

Handouts were passed out regarding the Emergency Squad Budget.

Mr. Bashaw stated that the Emergency Squad offers 24 hour, 7 days a week care.

Mr. Bashaw said they held their largest ever training school in 2017.

In 2017 they received a grant for \$73,484.00 for 2 full power stretchers.

In 2017 they had 2 successful fund raisers one being a bowling tournament that raised \$3,160.00 and a storage shed raffle that earned \$1,900.00. They currently have a kickball tournament planned for September 2018.

Mr. and Mrs. Bashaw stated the average cost of an ambulance is \$150,000.00 and equipment can be anywhere from \$10,000.00 to \$30,000.00.

Mrs. Bashaw handed out a schedule of staff for the Month of August highlighting the times that they do not have coverage. Supervisor Monty stated that Sheriff Deputies have been encouraged to join the emergency squad and if they do a certain number of calls they get an incentive bonus through the Sheriff's Department, it is in their contract.

Mrs. Bashaw stated that volunteers need Basic EMT, that is about 160 hours of training, and in 3 years they have to obtain 48 hours of additional training.

Supervisor Monty asked if the debt items in the budget are coming off. Mrs. Bashaw stated the Monitor and Pagers will be coming off next year, she stated the balance of repayment is \$9313.00 and should be paid by February.

Mrs. Bashaw stated if they do not get paid staff they do not have coverage.

Supervisor Monty asked how many calls are for Elizabethtown and Lewis residents, he was concerned that we have expanded to other communities.

Mrs. Bashaw stated that she would get him the number of calls for each area.

Supervisor Monty asked how the new plan is going to affect Lewis. Mrs. Bashaw stated she sees a shared service happening with Westport, Willsboro, and Essex.

Supervisor Monty stated the County run Emergency Squad would receive a 6.5 million start up grant, he was concerned what would happen after that. Mrs. Bashaw stated that if certain Towns do not want to opt into the County run system they do not have to. Supervisor Monty expressed concern that the residents of Lewis would be taxed twice for the same service if we opt into the County run system. Mrs.

Bashaw asked if the Town would be using a private service. Supervisor Monty stated that the Town has not contacted any private service. Dave Blades asked if the Town does not opt in to the County run service will they still be taxed for it. Mrs. Bashaw stated it was her understanding they will not be taxed. Lanita Canavan asked if any other Counties are using a County run system. Mrs. Bashaw stated yes.

Dave Blades stated he respects the job Mr. and Mrs. Bashaw are doing and he knows a lot of work goes into this.

Mrs. Bashaw stated they are getting some youth, but a lot of the new folks coming in are not EMT's yet. She also stated that a Paramedic Course will be starting on September 7th.

Lanita Canavan asked if any money will be used for a new ambulance, Mrs. Bashaw said no, but Mr. Bashaw will be writing a FEMA Grant in October to try to get money for a new ambulance.

Steve Denton stated he agrees with Dave Blades about how appreciated their service is.

A motion was made to approve the July 10, Board Meeting and July 31, Special Board Meeting minutes by Dave Blades, seconded by Steve Denton 0 – opposed – motion carried.

Lanita Canavan abstained from the July 10th Meeting minutes because she was not here.

A motion was made to accept the Supervisors Financial Report by Steve Denton and seconded by Dave Blades – 0 opposed – motion carried.

Public Commentary:

Jerry Spooner stated he has some dead trees across the road from his residence that he is concerned are going to come down and take the power lines out. Mr. Spooner called NYSEG but they did not return his calls. Mr. Spooner stated he asked Supervisor Monty for his assistance. Supervisor Monty stated he called NYSEG and will call the Public Service Commission tomorrow.

Mrs. Bashaw stated she had not received a renewal Dog License in the mail. Supervisor Monty stated with the Clerk transition there may have been some mix up.

DPW/Water Report:

Kevin Denton stated the copper/lead test came back within limits, the water reports are done. Blacktopping will begin in September. Kevin stated that they still have not had a core test for the new grant covered Salt Shed Building and now they may be out of time as he needs the shed to put the salt in and it will not be built in time.

Lanita Canavan asked if the Town would lose the Grant money for the Shed. Supervisor Monty stated probably.

Dave Blades asked if we have flags to replace the one by Mr. Scozzafava's, Kevin Denton said he will put a new one up.

A motion was made to accept the Water Report by Steve Denton and seconded by Lanita Canavan – 0 opposed – motion carried

Correspondence:

- a. County Expense Report
- b. County Calendar
- c. Landfill Report – We have seen a large increase in dump sticker sales. Supervisor Monty stated that any stickers purchased before September are forever stickers and can still be used after the price increase.

A motion was made to accept the Landfill Report by Dave Blades and seconded by Steve Denton – 0 opposed – motion carried.

- d. Stop Domestic Violence minutes
- e. Veterans Park Minutes – Dave Blades stated Carl O’Kusky is doing a great job on rocking the walls, and a dedication ceremony will be held November 11th at 1:00 p.m.
- f. Four APA announcements
- g. Planning and Zoning Training
- h. Potential Rabies in Moriah – going to start bait drops
- i. Confirmation of 100% equalization rate
- j. Cornell Cooperative Extension report
- k. Charter Program Changes
- l. Government Conference
- m. Essex County Public Health Department
- n. Environmental Facilities Corporation Public Comment Period
- o. Lifenet – open house August 21, in Ticonderoga
- p. Code training – September 13 in Elizabethtown
- q. Pomeroy foundation
- r. Department of Health Report
- s. Community Forum School Merger – Sun News will be hosting on September 25 6:00 at the Depot Theater

Old Business:

Thrall Dam update – People have been enjoying riding horses down there. Jeff Scott has the frame work completed for the Kiosk, and they will be ready to install in about 2 weeks.

NYSEG Program – Supervisor Monty stated the program can be paid in one lump sum or spread out over 24 months at no interest. It was agreed to spread it out over 24 months.

Response to Dog License/Landfill letter – Supervisor Monty thanked Kevin Jaques for all his work. We have had a great response to the letters and it is about 90% positive.

ANCA Street Light Project – A motion was made to pay the project over a 24 month period with 0% interest by Dave Blades, seconded by Steve Denton – 0 opposed – motion carried.

Crosswalk- The crosswalk is finished

Water Project – A special meeting was held on July 31. Jeff Scott asked how the easements were coming and Supervisor Monty stated he has verbal approval from 8 out of the 17 residents. A map will be coming with aerial photos of the lines for residents to view.

New Business:

Codes Report – A list of permits was distributed. A motion was made to accept the Codes Report by Dave Blades, and seconded by Steve Denton – 0 opposed – motion carried.

Animal Control Report – July was very busy for Kevin Jaques, Animal Control. A motion was made to accept the Animal Control Report by Steve Denton and seconded by Lanita Canavan – 0 opposed – motion carried.

Youth Commission Meeting Minutes – A motion was made by Jeff Scott to accept the Youth Commission Meeting Minutes and seconded by Lanita Canavan – 0 opposed – motion carried.

Resident Alissa Sullivan stopped by the Town Hall and was impressed with the Veterans Park, she would like to form a group to raise money for Home Town Hero Banners. Dave Blades stated the Veterans Park Committee is having a meeting tomorrow and he asked Supervisor Monty let Alissa know. Lanita Canavan asked how it would be decided who gets a banner. Supervisor Monty stated families would be responsible for a portion of the cost and supply the photos.

Lanita Canavan stated there would be no Chamber of Commerce Meeting in August.

Jeff Scott stated he feels the effort to reduce the speed limit in town from 45 to 35 most likely will not happen, but would like to keep trying for the following reasons: Safety. It is in the Comprehensive Plan, and an article he read in Town & Topic magazine states the municipality could be responsible if they fail to take steps of a dangerous condition that they were made aware of. Supervisor Monty stated he has spoken to the New York State Police and they are going to send him the accident reports from 2008 to 2018 that he will go through and pull the Town accidents, and he feels we should keep moving forward on this.

Resident Kathy Linker stated she collected over 100 signatures on the Speed Reduction petition at the Farmers Market.

Steve Denton asked if Supervisor Monty had heard anything on Charter.

Supervisor Monty stated he contacted the Governor's office about the Public Hearing that was held at the County Clerk's office without notifying the Towns. They are trying to get Charter to comply.

Supervisor Monty stated that there are some trees in Roscoe Cemetery that need to come down, and they will get bids to have them removed. He also stated that the Rules/guidelines for all town cemeteries need to be the same.

A motion was made to Audit and Pay Bills by Dave Blades and seconded by Lanita Canavan 0 opposed – motion carried.

General Fund	\$3220.86
Abstract Aud Voucher	\$36,346.42
Water Fund CDBG	\$14,637.20
Highway DA	\$12,737.68
Reconciliation Summary	\$185,052.80
Water Fund Vouchers	\$673.80
Water Fund SW	\$20,571.08
General Fund A	\$67,319.91
Highway Fund	\$5,251.18
Youth Commission	\$10,636.13

Meeting Adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Vanessa Cross
Town Clerk