

## **NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD—AUGUST 12, 2025—7:30 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING—TOWN HALL**

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilwoman Melaina Woodbeck, Councilman Brian Ryther, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilman Scott Fickbohm, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Town Clerk Charlene Wells, Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Residents Fred Heelein, Robert Schenfeld, Lenny Melillo, Erich Fenstemacher

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the regular monthly meeting at 7:31 PM. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Scott Fickbohm and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the minutes for the July 8, 2025 regular monthly meeting, July 22, 2025 special meeting and July 29, 2025 special meeting as drafted.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith advised that all the big trucks will be going in for their annual servicing this fall, with the 09A needing some repair work. He felt that we should replace the 2018 as it will not be able to be repaired by winter. If another truck has problems, we would be short of plowing and sanding trucks. He thinks that the stock truck that is available at Tracys would be a good choice as it would be available this fall. If he ordered a new one it would take a year. So far, he has taken the box off of the 2018 and it sits flat on the floor, so he thinks it will be okay to reuse. New frame rails will have to be ordered from Freightliner. The hoist is also twisted. He wanted to be sure that the Board wants him to work on fixing the 2018, which he hopes he would be able to do for less than \$50,000.00. With only 54,000 miles on it, we would have a spare truck once repaired, or we could consider selling the 2009 truck. Councilman Brian Ryther supports working on rebuilding the 2018. Lenny Melillo commented that repairing the 2018 would be a big undertaking which would take the Hwy. Supt. away from his other duties. The Board will discuss further next month after the Hwy. Supt. gets some more repair cost figures.

The Board discussed purchasing the stock truck from Tracys for \$330,336.00 with the sander from Henderson for \$20,859.62. With \$169,000.00 coming from insurance for the 2018, we would have to take about \$182,000.00 from fund balance or take out a loan. The truck pricing is under an Onondaga County bid, but this would also be considered an emergency situation as we need a truck as soon as possible. We could use CHIPS funds next year for some or all of the purchase, but that takes away from paving projects. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Scott Fickbohm and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to purchase the 2025 Freightliner 114SD Plus truck from Tracey Road Equipment for \$330,336.00 and the Body Conversion Spreader from Henderson for \$20,859.62.

Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith noted that they finished their paving projects this week. He did run short on stone, which he borrowed from other towns and will replace. He has put in for reimbursement from CHIPS for Turnbull Bridge repair costs. The Mower Max is coming this week and the \$303,410.62 cost will go in for CHIPS reimbursement this fall. The next equipment replacements to be considered will be the pickups and the excavator which has almost 2000 hours on it. Siding has been going on the salt shed. They will be helping other towns with paving projects. We are still waiting for information on a lease agreement with the County for the new radio tower. The repair costs to date total \$34,935.00 including the towing bill. We were at \$29,000.00 in 2022. The costs for all materials and services are increasing. We have spent \$23,267.00 on fuel this year so far, compared to \$23,865.00 for all of last year.

Robert Schenfeld submitted some information on grants that he had found. He asked about getting a grant writer to help. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that there would still be a

lot of work involved even with the help of a grant writer. County officials may also be a source for grant information. Lack of federal grant funds may be an issue. Erich Fenstemacher of Walters Road had some concerns of a new neighbor possibly starting an RV park. The property in question has wetlands and he is concerned that the new property owner may not follow the rules. Supervisor Lentz will try to catch up with the property owner to see what is actually going on. County Rep. Meg Kennedy was absent due to illness. DCO Keegan Holt was not present due to his work schedule. He advised that he had assisted the Morris DCO on a case.

Frederick Heelein had submitted a Setback Waiver for the placement of a pre-fab garage on his property on County Hwy. 16 in Garrattsville. Due to the small size of his lot, he requested a setback to 35 feet. A motion was made by Councilman Scott Fickbohm, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve a Setback Waiver to 35 feet to Frederick Heelein for the purpose of placing a pre-fab garage on his property at 926 County Hwy. 16, tax map #157.02-1-28.00.

The Planning Board met on August 4, 2025 and recommended approval of a simple subdivision for Steven & Tracey Parker. The Town Board completed the SEQR forms and a motion was made by Councilman Scott Fickbohm, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to issue a negative environmental determination for Subdivision Application #3 for Steven & Tracey Parker. A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilman Scott Fickbohm and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve Subdivision #3-2025 for a simple subdivision for Steven & Tracey Parker on tax map #189.00-1-14.01 on Parker Road.

Councilman Scott Fickbohm advised that he had completed an inspection of the park. He noted items that needed work including a rusty barbecue, picnic tables need to be stained, a wood bench was rotting, the basketball court needs resurfacing and the playground needs staining. He has received one estimate for a standby generator for the town hall of \$15,750.00 from JD Electrical for a 26kw Generac Generator with 1,200 amp transfer switch. Getting a fuel tank and underground line would be an additional cost. He still has to meet up with Kyle Kelly to get an estimate. Councilman Fickbohm was questioning if we would have the funds to do this with all the other expenses this year. He further noted that he counted 57 chairs, which would mean we are down 43 chairs if we average 100. There are a few in the court room. Cost estimates are \$15.00 to \$20.00 per chair. The Board decided to hold off ordering any for now.

Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson of the CSC Committee noted she was doing a survey, but that the State site was still not operational. She noted that it is a lot of work for small towns with only volunteer help. We should be able to get points for the solar installation. The solar panels need to be inspected before becoming operational.

Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that we missed a deadline for a USDA loan and that he was advised that we were not eligible for a grant because our town's average personal income was over the limit. He is still working on the phones for the town hall, which has been a nightmare. The Fireman's Annual Barbeque will be on Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup>. Lenny Melillo advised that the Board could have a table with election materials, but no electioneering is allowed under the pavilion where people are eating. The Board had no problem with doing a two-year contract again with the Garrattsville Fire Company for fire/ems services.

The plan for the 2026 budget is to hold a meeting on the 2026 Tentative Budget on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The public hearing on the 2026 Preliminary Budget would be on October 14<sup>th</sup>, prior to the monthly meeting, with final adoption on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the regular monthly meeting. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that he estimates we will be about \$14,000.00 short in sales tax revenue this year. He is correcting some items that were taken out of the town hall accounts instead of the highway garage. Because of the solar installation, the townhall contractual account needs funds. The \$15,000.00 that we received in grants needs to be

appropriated into the budget for use. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Brian Ryther and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to appropriate \$15,000.00 from fund balance into account A 1620.41 Town Hall Contractual.

The Board reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Scott Fickbohm, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to approve paying General Fund bills #124 through #138 for a total of \$5,200.69 and Highway fund bills #86 through #97 for a total of \$33,921.73. General Fund bills #111 through #123 for a total of \$45,527.99 and Highway fund bill #98 for \$2,286.30 were paid by the Supervisor with prior Board approval.

A motion was made by Councilman Brian Ryther, seconded by Councilman Scott Fickbohm and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to reappoint Pamela Dyn-Gohde as Sole Assessor effective October 1, 2025 for a six year term.

Supervisor Edward Lentz submitted the revised Investment Policy with new typing and adding a clause to allow us to be able to use Sidney Federal Credit Union. A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman Scott Fickbohm and carried 5 Ayes/ 0 Nays to accept the revised Investment Policy. The Board reviewed the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy and Workplace Violence Policy and made no changes. It was noted that with an average police response time of 21 minutes, everyone should practice situation awareness. It was also suggested that we should post that cameras are in use at the Town Hall.

With no further comments from the floor and no further business, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:20 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk