

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Present: Jeannette Barrett, Mayor; Karen McComb, Letty Rudes, Mark Crary, Mark Donecker, Trustees; Crystal O'Brien, Clerk-Treasurer; Bob Benkovich, Building Inspector; Bobbi Lyn Hoover & Cindy Rumsey, Guests.

All: I pledge allegiance to the flag United States of America, and to the republic, for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and justice for all.

MB: Everyone was distributed two sets of minutes. One was from our last board meeting on 8/24/2020 and another from a special meeting held on September 4th, 2020. Does anyone like to make a motion to accept those minutes?

TC: So moved.

TM: Second.

MB: Any discussion? Any comments, any corrections? Hearing none, may I have a motion to except the regular minutes of 8/24 and special meeting of 9/04? All in favor?

All: Aye

MB: Opposed? That passes. Public comment. I see that Cindy Rumsey has joined us. Hello Cindy. Public comment? Hearing none we will go on to the report of the water sewer Department. Chief operator Ed Sharpou is not able to be with us today, but you were distributed a copy of his September report and there are some hard copies here. So, the monthly report for the water Department then sent out. Department of Health has sampled SOS's POCs PICs all that were previously thought to be sampled by the village now the DOH has sampled them. When COVID first began if you recall the DOH sent us a note saying thanks but you're going to have to cover these things that we require you to do and now they have come back and they said wait, we found some money so we will do it. We have not spent that \$3000 that had been estimated. Good for us. Operations: the water team continues the checking system for phosphate and chlorine weekly and biweekly. There will be a new service installed in Oak mountain Drive that will be completed this week. If you recall this is the one where they couldn't find the water main, it wasn't where it was supposed to be, so this service will be installed across the road. Pump number one at the well building is not working at this time so if you recall it's failed on and off over the past year or two, they were under the impression that it was a valve that need to be replaced, however, Ed found that it may be a 3-way solenoid valve that is malfunctioning. So, they're going to order it and replace it in the main check valve has been ordered with the 14 to 16 weeks lag time. Calls have begun to come in for meter removal, so Ed and Lenny are working hard on that. Lead and copper sample containers have been handed out for residents for sampling and the meter pick at sunrise diner has been damaged. Normally the owners are responsible, however, to help with the issue that arose in that particular scenario the owner requested that the meter be removed, and we replaced the cover with a manhole cover for the time being. That is the property owned by Tanners and in the sunrise parking area. Expenditures were from Ferguson Waterworks and in the coming month they'll get a new chlorine system bought and installed, new installation and roof on the tank side building, winterize the hydrants, and then work on the sidewalk risers because route 8 is

going to be paved and the DOT is coming in behind to do the ditches/channels. That will be scheduled the week after next. On wastewater: the SPDES and the DMR have been completed for July. Adirondack Septic had cleaned out irrigation number two. It was actually found that it hasn't been cleaned since the 1990s and there was two to three feet worth of solids. The good news is that the diffusers were in good shape and in the future, they're going to plan on doing that more frequently than every 30 years. At this time biosolids from last year have yet to be removed from the plant because of COVID. Fecal samples that they would have normally tested at the Glens Falls labs have not been done because of COVID and there's no place where they can easily get it tested so at this point, we're looking for the County to haul out the biosolids and have them hauled to Rodman. They will continue checking stations biweekly, remove the biosolids from the plant, New York State home sewer taps, switch over to winter operations, and Black Bear Run manhole cover rise will be done prior to the paving of Black Bear Run. Expenditures this past month have been through Adirondack Septic and then what is foremost on all of our minds is contract two is almost ready to go out to bid. I was in contact with Brandon Decker this afternoon and we think that that should be able to be sent out to bid by the next board meeting. We can have a resolution to do that. Contract one is now complete in Rozelle needs to be paid and at this time the flows are low so that will not know if during normal operations the flow will be continuous or not so we're going to have to see how that works out in the spring and going into the summer. After a lot of time with Ed discussing the possibility for continuous flows, he was told that is not likely without a much larger holding tank and or a flowmeter prior to the pump station. I think we need to go back to the engineers and see what can be done with regards to what we've spent for the continuous flow, what those expenses were, and now to hear this after the fact that contract one is kind of like closing the door after the horse is out of the barn. I think we need to go back and discuss with them. Any comments on Ed's report? They're really quite busy. As part of the under water and wastewater we have finally received the minority and women's approval so contracts have to be sent out to see if we can get bids from minorities for women from different folks like that. We finally have received the approvals for contract one, so we were unable to pay any bills under that, so we've been waiting several months, so this is triggered finally the release of EFC funds that allow us to pay the invoices from Rozelle Industries. In the attachments that I had provided on Friday we need a motion for the signing of the supplemental certificate for that SRF project and we're going to project number from the EFC that confirms the third disbursement to the village for the wastewater treatment plant upgrade and improve the applications as well as improving my signature for the payments for waste water treatment plant upgrade, contract one phase one, and those two disbursements are in the amount of \$42,208.00 and \$283,392.43. May I have a motion to sign the supplemental certificate and approve the disbursements to Rozelle for contract one, phase one?

TR: I make a motion.

MB: Second?

TM: Second.

MB: Karen. Any discussion? All in favorite say "aye".

All: Aye

MB: All opposed say, no? Motion carries. Now we will turn to the clerk treasurer for her report. Crystal?

CO: So, first of all Village elections are tomorrow. No postponement. We do have COVID guidelines for Election Day. They are pretty much the same as all of our standard COVID guidelines. We have markers on the floor for keeping a distance of 6 feet apart if people have to wait. We are going to ask people to only come up to the table two at a time, we have to space out the booths six feet apart or so. We have an entrance and an exist in the back, the front will be the entrance, the back will be the exit. Masks are available here, hand sanitizer just like every other normal see that we've come too to rely on right now. We also have gloves that will be available that were given to us and Tracy and I will be disinfecting between each voter. I'm sure most of you are at wondering when those that are elected will take office and it is my understanding from the webinars and the guidance that NYCOM has provided that as soon as the canvas is complete and if there is no request for re canvas the winners will sign their oath and then will officially be in office. As far as the organizational meeting goes, we can, the board can, decide to have a special meeting as early as next Monday or organizational meeting or it could be scheduled just to take place during our regular September 28th meeting.

MB: Are there any thoughts on that? Do you want to wait until the 28th or have a meeting in advance of that? I would just as soon have it along with the 28th as we've done in past years. Alright so we'll do that. We will have the organization as part of the September 28th meeting.

CO: Jeanette, Tracy and I are all registered for next week's fall training school. Tracy and I have a few overlapping seminars in the morning, but we've already asked Claire to be in the office during those times so there's no lapse in customer service here in office. As far as summer operations at the beach obviously I'm sure you've noticed that the beach is closed and packed up. Finally, the AUD is completed and hope that all of you received my email and were able to at least glance at it. It did take some time obviously and a couple of things I just wanted to share that held up that little bit. Ted from Williamson Law Books was actually a huge help in getting us our corrections all in order and the helping us find those little details that needed to be fixed in the accounting software as well as the AUD. He spent several hours with us in the last several weeks, actually the last 4 weeks, helping us with that. They're really just adjustments that were from when we started Williamson going from the handwritten ledgers in the old software into the new software and completely a computer system instead of having any handwritten ledgers. One was the amount that was attributed to A, F&G for fund balance, those were based on, if you guys all remember, they are based on last year's cash on hand in the bank accounts and what Claire and the lady from the OSC had kind of talked about and being percentages attributed to each fund. After the AUD was completed last year it was an approved by the state that those numbers were supposed to be corrected to match in the accounting software to match the AUD. I was not aware of that and Claire, by the time that that was all approved, was in Florida and not in the office at the time. We found, obviously, found that and we corrected that then there was the water bond that we interest that we've been paying through the A fund. When we moved that expenditure to the to the F Fund, the water fund, the monies had been inadvertently moved as well so we needed to move those back to the A fund since it was supposed to be completely paid out of the water fund and not the general fund. Some of the smaller adjustments were, there was remaining relieves from the 2019 taxes, for water and sewer unpaid water and sewer, those I was not aware that the County made the Village whole after relieving Village Taxes to County taxes and then I actually just found out that the County gives us a lump sum of what was remaining whether they

collected or not. So those remaining water and sewer re-levees were not properly attributed to the water and sewer accounts as well as know that the checking both the money market and general checking accounts, A, F & G, all share those checking accounts. We divided the interest based on those main percentages to AF&G so those were just some minor adjustments that had to happen in order for us to balance. Otherwise, that was those big holdbacks that just were keep it from balancing and we're all done now.

MB: That's wonderful. Has everyone given you their approval because as part of our responsibility as a board, either will sign on to verify that or to do it ourselves? Last year we signed it because of the big upheaval.

CO: My understanding from conversations with Claire was that the clerk treasurer submits it, and the board is there to review it.

MB: And approve it.

CO: Well, it doesn't have to be approved by the board.

MB: Right.

CO: The only reason she wanted it approved last year was because she didn't personally do the books before that.

MB: So, what I would like to suggest now and going forward is that we have a sign off sheet for the board members to confirm that they have looked at the AUD that we've done our due diligence and we've done our responsibilities.

CO: Just confirming that you have seen it. That makes sense.

MB: So, if you would make up a sheet or if you because the AUD didn't send a copy of the

CO: I sent a copy.

MB: Oh, I'm sorry. So, if they want to send an email saying yes, I've read it and I you know it's good with me there are no other corrections you could send that we can use that as a signature and keep that with the AUD. Each of the board members should be doing that.

CO: One final thing was a couple of weeks ago, actually probably last month now, I had met with Bob and the Town of Lake Pleasant about building codes software. Originally, we thought that it might not be a possibility this year, but Lake Pleasant is planning to go through with the purchase of the building code software. They approved it and since the pricing for the Village software Lake Pleasant software were greatly reduced when I talked to the lady from Williamson Law Books, she actually indicated that it was reduced at least \$1000 or more. As far as the cost would go for the Village not sure about the Lake Pleasant cost. I feel like we should really as well go forward with doing this. I know we would have to find the money to purchase the installation of the software and for right now I mean for Bob to set it up on his workstation, it would be, I sent out a proposal earlier, but it would be a little bit over \$3000 but it would allow for so many opportunities to move forward and to be able to see and work more efficiently, Bob said, and he is on here, if you want if anybody would like to ask him about the software itself. Speaking from a budgetary, I think we could find some of it, or all of it. I know Williamson Law Books said that they would be willing to hold, since we do have a really big reduction in cost, or in the cost of it, they'd be willing to hold \$1000 aside for us to pay at the beginning of next budget year but I think if we could find the findings before that it would be good to pay it.

MB: So, you're suggesting we do that before the budget year begins in March.

CO: Yes, well I'm willing to put forward my unused budget from the training schools and that's \$1400.00. So, there would be \$1,80.00 leftover that is needed to find in the budget.

TR: What does this do?

CO: It's a building code software, I'm not sure if you were actually here in the meeting, but we had been, Bob's been looking into this building code software that pretty much will put all of the properties, in Speculator, tracks all of all the building permits, all of the property information for each property in Speculator and he's going to be doing it with Lake Pleasant as well. We can add all the histories to that software so you just click on that property or pull up that property and you could see everything that has transpired with that property, with building and codes involved.

TR: Will there be any information regarding installation of water?

CO: We could add that, I'm sure. Bob's been working with this and knows what you can and can't do with it.

BB: You can kind of do anything you want with it. In Lake Pleasant we're adding the driveway permits, dumpster information, we're adding all that stuff, water and sewer stuff is just another category that you can add whatever which would be helpful. You know it's just a matter of the water and sewer department saying hey we need to add this to the property.

TR: And in doing that we can split the cost three ways.

CO: We could.

MB: We can take some from water and sewer. When we had talked before you said that there was some rollover balance from your budget?

BB: Yes, every year.

CO: Last year was about \$350.00, I think we figured, but I didn't look back further than that honestly, but you seem to be under every year.

BB: I know I don't go over.

TC: What's your feeling on the mobile app? Is that going to be part of it?

BB: Well, it's not going to be part of it to start because that that again that's something that can be budgeted for. It's probably a good field tool. You take a computer out with your tablet you could take the pictures with it put it right in the file immediately, so you go back to the office everything gets uploaded. You can type whatever notes you want right out in the field. You don't have to come back and do it. Like now I have to transfer everything at the office, all the pictures I have, none of them go to the property, it actually goes to the permit number so this this would keep everything listed to the property numbers.

MB: So, if I asked you with the software to do a report is it easy to pull out the types of permits, the length and permits, which is so labor intensive at this point.

BB: Right now, having to go in every single file to look up whatever happened, wherever, that's what we have to do. We have files upon files upon files and eventually the hope is to transfer all of the files onto the computer so that everything is on the computer. You click on a property number and boom everything comes up.

MB: Mark, to your point for a for an application for a phone or a tablet we would have to have the cloud-based system.

CO: Those are two different things actually. The app-based thing is just goes towards this regular hosted program on a computer. The cloud-based program is an additional program that

allows you to host allows them to host everything on the cloud and you can access it from any computer.

BB That does not have to happen immediately.

CO: I actually took that out of the equation for right now anyway because of the additional cost that it is. I don't even think I sent it out because I didn't think it would be a possibility for this year, but I was going to touch on that being a possibility for us budgeting for next year.

MB: It looks like we need to come up with about \$1300 to pay for the system now.

TM: What is the total cost of the software?

MB: \$3000

TM: What is our share?

MB: That is our share.

TM: Three thousand out of how much?

CO: Right, so without the reduction in cost without us buying it at the same time as Lake Pleasant, the software itself, just to build the software, is about \$3500.

TM: OK that's the cost of the software.

CO: That's just to build the software that's not including installation or annual service fees or anything like that it's just to build the software. The like just about \$3000, it's a little bit over that, is the to build the software, the installation, the training, and this year's annual service fee. Altogether for our portion. I'm not sure what Lake Pleasant portion is because we have, we have less properties in Speculator than Lake Pleasant so that partially what they base it on is the amount like how big of a program that they have to build but we're getting, we're honestly getting a steal because we are doing this together.

TR: Will properties in the village be on the town software?

BB: Separate. Correct They're all separate. In other words, right now the way I do permits, I do some of my permits for Lake Pleasant are done on my computer, the ones for Speculator are all done handwritten. Everything is handwritten. This would basically combine everything so whatever property comes up, somebody says I want to permit in, wherever, you just type in the property number and say, I need a permit for this, that or the other thing, put that in and it spits out the permit.

MB: So, it increases the efficiency.

BB: Right, everything will be the same for both Lake Pleasant and, although the property numbers are separate, the Village would be still be separate, but the paperwork would look the same when it comes out. The other thing it can do, it can generate letters when your permit is expired. Where you need to renew your permit, it has notifications built in.

TR: The way things are going around here and think it's probably.

BB: Well, it also for the future, looking ahead for the future, I'm not going to be doing this forever, for the next person to step in and look at it it's like everything stays the same nothing has to be changed you don't have to build your own program you don't have to do something different, or you forgot this step or something like that you know everything is right there in front of you.

MB: Question, Crystal, you had said that Williamson would hold on the last \$1000 until our new budget year.

CO: They are willing to do that, yes.

MB: So, if they do that, we come down to have to find about \$300.00 for this.

TM: What is the annual maintenance fee?

CO: The annual fee is \$553.00; I believe it was.

TM: So, we have to budget that for next year or we have to come up with that this year?

CO: That is within the cost I just explained, so we would have to budget for it again next year, yes. It would be within that \$3000 that we just talked for this year.

TM: What do they do for \$550 a year?

CO: They do all of our tech support. For example, with the accounting software all of those hours that I just spent with Ted are all covered under annual service fees.

MB: No extra charge.

CO: No extra charge.

BB: They also update the system once a year. Any new properties that are anything that's divided, anything that's put together, anything that's created, as far as that goes they go into the into the County software and they put all that in the system new.

MB: And then any regulations, laws, codes that are updated those are automatically done as well with no extra charge.

TM: OK so we have to budget that every year.

MB: Correct and I think it's I think it's a very good system and to keep in line with what we have been doing I think that the software that we've had with Williamson for water, sewer and the general fund have certainly paid for itself.

TM: Have you ever calculated what our maintenance fee is for all of those software programs per year?

CO: We budgeted it for this last year.

TM: Just out of curiosity how much we pay every year just for maintenance and upgrade.

CO: So, the annual service fee includes any maintenance or upgrades that need to happen with the software.

TM: I realized, I just wondered if you had a ballpark figure of what all this software cost is per year, just to ballpark figure. I mean this one is \$500 say five \$550 that's one program.

MB: I think this time instead of guessing I think that Crystal can send us an email tomorrow with that number.

TM: It just it just gives you an idea of what you have to budget for in the future per year for maintenance and upgrade on software that we currently have.

MB: So, we've done that for this past year so this we did only edition.

CO: This year we budgeted for all computer, like for the tech support on our physical computers as well as software that we had I believe it was like \$5000 we budgeted for and we budgeted high for tech support knowing that all the stuff that we ran into last year so that we could re-up our tech support for good too knowing that we you know those little things that happen with the computer sometimes.

TM: OK that's fine I just was just I'm just wondering what the cost was that's all OK good.

TC: Question, what efficiencies or cost savings are there going forward, if we go with the software.

BB: I think it's going to be in the office will be a time saver for me right now. Trying to balance the paperwork that I have with getting out it's been a real problem. I'll tell you right now, I'm way behind in like writing letters or as people that have expired permits, I I would say I bet I am 2 1/2 to three months behind right now.

MB: Then within the office to your point more Tracy and Crystal also manage that by hand as well. So, they'll take the handwritten copies and so any additional work that has to be done is added instead of automated.

TC: And the quotes is good for 90 days?

CO: Well, this quote was given to us probably about 60 days ago so it's a little bit a little bit more than 60 days ago we don't have a lot of time left.

BB: I'm talking to them and saying that we're trying to get on board, but they've been doing very good and very patient.

MB: Is the board comfortable to have a motion to go forward with this at this time provided that we take \$1400 from the savings that we have in training, the \$350.00 that Bob will not be spending. Bob, you'll also have money savings this year for doing classes via Zoom instead of in person.

BB: We don't know that we didn't do anything like I really normally do in March.

MB: So, we would be saving from your budget and then and then coming up with the additional \$300.

TD: I make a motion to go forward.

MB: Mark Donecker makes a motion to purchase and go ahead with the Williamson software.

TC: Second.

MB: Mark Crary seconds. Any discussion? All in favor say "aye".

All: Aye

MB: Opposed say "no"? Motion carriers for the software use it in good health, Bob. At this time, I'd like a motion to improve the abstract #7 so that we can pay the bills.

TR: So, Moved.

MB: Letty? Second?

TC: Second.

MB: Any discussion? All in favor say "aye".

All: Aye

MB: All opposed say "no". Motion carries. Going on to old business and I hope one day this truly will be in the archives of business, this is the COVID-19 update. There were no new cases of COVID-19 reported the Hamilton County, so we are holding steady at 16 cases during this pandemic. As of 9/8/2020 there are 440,021 reports of active code in New York State and all other counties continue to see slight increases in their COVID-19 numbers each week. The schools have reopened today I think Lake Pleasant was the last one to reopen. According to New York State Department of Health school districts are required to report the number of known positive cases of COVID-19 having begun last week and these will be publicly available on the New York state Department website for anyone who's interested. The next testing will be September 22nd at the Lake Pleasant courthouse between 10:00 and 11:00 AM and by appointment at the office of public health so I'd encourage anyone who feels like they need to get tested or if you are an essential worker it would be who've you to do that especially if you're not feeling well. So, as we move into the fall colds and allergies and things like that, I think there are some maybe getting a little more sensitive as to whether they are having issues. The good news is that the Vermont travel restrictions for Hamilton County have been lifted so you are now free to pass. It is good news for you, Crystal, for your family. FEMA Emergency Halloween storm update: we have filed permits and are waiting feedback from the Army Core

of Engineers to APA and the DEC for the water main crossing and pump station 2 so we should be hearing something back from them so otherwise we're on hold. For FEMA COVID: we are in the process of updating the information on expenditures and uploading those to the FEMA website. It is a streamlined process that requires a little webinar training. LED Streetlights: we were confirming light inventory and so Karen and Roger we're going to do that, so, Karen, if you want to make a comment as to the status of that.

TM: As I had emailed you, I was waiting for the outcome of the election to see just what I would do going forward.

MB: So, at present that's on hold and then pending the outcome of tomorrow's election will see about that moving forward. Verizon small cell tower: so good progress to report if you can believe it's 11 months since I contacted the assistant secretary Barbara Rice in the New York State Office of the Economic Development, as well as David **Lemondola** from Verizon so it was actually October 10th. The small cell at the pavilion is still pending tribal approval due to COVID but is expected to clear towards the end of October, probably another month, month and a half. We should have a cell tower going forward. The small cell at the Town of Lake Pleasant offices have received the APA permit. We still need, or they still need, a building permit and then they'll be at the mercy of the fiber backhaul solution to start construction. The extension of the cell tower on Oak mountain was also approved and the village is waiting for the check from Verizon for the building permit to begin that. Then co- location at the County office is still pending APA approval and there's the latest response to APA NOYA that's being prepared for submission a least execution by the party. So, Lord willing by the end of the year we should have pretty good cell service and increase in good cell coverage. Letty, you might want to buy another place and stick around. Is there any other old business that I've forgotten or needs to be brought up? Moving on to new business. Lake Pleasant, talking about permitting fees, and thank you, Bob, for coming for this, Lake Pleasant has undertaken a review of permitting fees that were last updated in July 2017. You've received a copy of that. Any updates to the permit fee structure that we would agree to would go into a place January 1st, 2021. So, the Village of Speculator at this time, has the same fee structure as Lake Pleasant. It's been going on in tandem. You've been provided a handwritten chart, thank you Bob, looks like this and this compares the Lake Pleasant and Village of Speculator fees to Indian Lake, Long Lake and New York State. The reason why New York State has been included is that if you do not have a fee structure or permit structure within your town or village, people then defer to New York State, which is more cumbersome process, which you agree Bob?

BB: Yes.

MB: OK so in addition to those permits, so I've actually provided you actual permits, in addition to that table a committee has gotten together within Lake pleasant consisting of Betsy Bain, Neil McGovern, and Bob Benkovich to provide some proposed changes to the permitting structure. So, what I thought was important here is that the Village of Speculator weighs in on those proposals. I've asked Bob to to walk us through, if you would. The extra copies of the agreements are in that packet right there. Do you want us to go to the proposed LP or you want us to go to that?

BB: The proposed is good. I mean what we've done, what we came up with in committee was basically this is probably the easiest way to go is just a straightforward fee does not go to a you know a weighted average like long Lake does. So basically, we've just taken and raised some of

the fees. The biggest changes were in the stop work orders and building without a permit. Currently, we have nothing in the stop work order category. If you get a stop work order all you have to do is say, OK I've done what you asked how you get it removed. That doesn't happen anywhere else. There's a cost for getting a stop work order and to have it removed. We actually put a price on that. Building without a permit, a lot of people tend to do that around here because they're like, oh I'm off in the Woods nobody will know, type of thing, and you see lumber trucks going down and driveways and things like that. They can say, oh I didn't know, but everywhere else in the world has building permits. So generally, that permit would be five times the permit fee. If you get if you get caught with it, you know, and we're not saying we're going to do this right away, but you get a warning you say, listen, did you forget to get a permit? OK I'm not getting a permit; well, this could be five times the fee and you get a violation and it's going to wind up in court. What I think is going to happen here is, we will be getting a lot of questions. Do I need a permit? And that's a fine question. I don't mind that there's a lot of things you don't need a permit for. We do have all that stuff listed on the website, but nobody reads anything today. They don't read the signs, they don't read that stuff on the website, so we're just trying to get everybody on board with the system and make sure they're kind of doing what they're supposed to be doing.

MB: Right, and over the next quarter we would make a concerted effort to advertise this. So, there are notices that go out with the change in trash, so this would be attached to that, it would be on our respective websites.

BB: Facebook, it'll be you know, it's not going to be just a surprise thing.

TR: If it was easy to do it would be nice to put it all in on the tax bill. Everybody gets a tax bill.

BB: Right, but I don't think we're allowed to do that. I've already asked that question and they told me no you can't do it.

MB: I think we'll do everything possible to let people know you know open the next 3 1/2 months.

BB: We would just be considering the fact that New York State is basically going to cut everybody 20% this year and trying to get our system in line with what everybody else is kind of doing and then that's where we came up with what we came up with. Nothing is written in stone. It's after discussion, these are just proposed but this is kind of what we're looking at and if anybody has any ideas you know please, let me know.

TD: Bob, I know in some counties, the permit is a percentage of the total cost of the permit of the work. Is that something we want to do?

BB: Well Long Lake is kind of like that that's you'll see that in the if you look at their permits, they have like 15 or \$0.20 per square foot on top of the regular fee. I think their permit fees starts at \$70.00 and then that is \$0.20 a square foot or something like that and they count every single square foot, so it really can get pretty expensive pretty quick. We don't want to discourage people from building here. I mean Long Lake I think there's probably a little bit more money than we have here, so you know this this way here it was pretty easy for people to figure it out themselves and say, I owe you this much because of this reason, or whatever.

MB: When I look under Long Lake, they specifically call out mobile homes and modular homes with a separate fee. Do mobile homes and modular homes, would they fall under our 1500 square foot, 3000 square foot?

BB: They do. Right now, they're just kind of included in that. You still you still need to plan a mobile home obviously you know what it's going to be it's going to be extra square foot. Some of them come in two pieces now though, and it's like 2 trailers you put those together. As opposed to a modular where you're putting it on a foundation. Basically, it's done the same way, square footage.

MB: Any other questions or suggestions or comments? So, in additions you would keep them exactly the same?

BB: Yes, that's what we're trying to do. It's an all-around easier thing. It's always been done that way.

TC: I think that's the way to go. In Long Lake, with the square footage, that Mark alluded to, it started getting overly complicated.

BB: Well and you start, they start dickering about, you know, well you don't count these five square feet, you don't count that 10 square feet, or you know, so and it gets a little gets a little dicey sometime. This is pretty clean, simple everybody knows what it is.

MB: And just so that folks are aware, everything that falls under the "other" permits, that any alterations to electrical, building, plumbing, HVAC, not including repair maintenance, wells, shed, solid fuel burning devices, renewals, and demolition and then any construction, demolition, there extra fees by weight to get rid of the debris at the transfer station. So that would be in addition.

TD: Mayor, does the permits cover the cost of Bob's services to the Village?

BB: I don't know that they ever really have totally.

MB: I don't think they have in the past. Do you estimate, and Mark, this is a very good point. Do you think that with these changes in proposed permits, do you think it will come closer to covering your costs?

BB: It will certainly help. It'll help, but do I think it will cover it completely, no. I mean in order to cover costs completely; most departments work on violations and what they get out of court costs and violation fees. That's how most departments cover their costs.

TD: To me, the cost of having Bob should not be a cost to the taxpayers, it should be the cost of people enhancing or building homes in Speculator.

TC: That's going to be your taxpayer.

TD: That's fine but I mean we're subsidizing basically, whatever they are building.

TR: We are going to benefit with the taxes they pay.

TD: No, I understand that.

BB: Does the water and sewer fees cover the entire water sewer Department?

MB: Yes, we can't take it out of general funds.

BB: That's why your water prices are so high.

MB: Yes, that will be another discussion. Does the board feel you have enough information to go forward with this or do you want to wait until we hear what Lake Pleasant comes back with? So, this is what's been proposed but Lake Pleasant has not voted on this yet.

BB: Yes, there's not a rush. I mean these are just these are proposals right now and we should only be looking for any other suggestions.

TD: I'd like to get the chance to review it and make comments.

MB: Betsy, Bob and I spoke this morning because there are one or two things that we'd like to work together between the Village and the Town because are some consistency's and so what I

had suggested that in addition to Betsy, Bob and Neil, that someone from the board volunteer to sit with that group to make sure that any suggestions would get incorporated.

TD: I'll do that.

MB: If there's no opposition of that, we will have Mark Donecker join your committee.

BB: Absolutely.

MB: And make sure that between Specular and Lake Pleasant we're all in agreement to go forward and then probably by our next board meeting you'll have it.

BB: And Mark if you'd like to mean time do a comparison and see what my expenses are, what my salary, is an and what you think over the course of how many permits we do, how you can cover that, I think, I don't know, I think, you'll find it's going to be pretty tough.

TD: Alright I'll take a look at everything, Bob, thanks.

MB: Makomis Fire tower: and this is in relation to the balance of the down payment. As you know we entered into an agreement with Mike Vilegi for the purchase and erection of the Makomis Fire tower back at the end of February beginning of April. To date we have been awarded, thankfully, two grants, a DEC Smart Grant in the amount of \$100,000 and then add are on deck foundation grant for \$10,000 for a total of \$110,000 towards the project. At the time we agreed to 50% down payment to Mr. Vilegi in the amount of \$58,500 for the tower. To date we have provided payments in the amount of \$35,000 and we have an outstanding balance of \$23,500. With the hitting of the COVID pandemic and New York State movement to hold funding we have not paid that balance of \$23,500. At this time, I've been in contact with DEC grant contact, and he is indicated that grant payments are again queuing up for payment on our current contracts and there are no holds for those awards that have already been made. With Mr Vilegi's extreme patience, an at great personal cost himself and his business during this time, I'd like a motion to pay the remaining balance of the down payment for the tower in the amount of \$23,500. Funds would be available from line A5110.2, street maintenance equipment line, where the only expenditures there are attributed to those that are reimbursables through CHIPS and Roger Blanchard is in agreement with that and of course once the funds are received from DEC this budget line would be reimbursed.

TD: I make a motion to go forward.

MB: May I have a second?

TM: I'll second that.

MB: Any discussion? All in favor say "aye".

ALL: Aye

MB: Opposed? Alright we will pay Mr. Vilegi the remaining balance and thank him for his patience with that. I am very happy to announce that there is starting a Makomis fire tower fund raising committee. Ryan Marshall has kindly agreed to lead that committee to work on fund raising and marketing for the tower. There will be a kickoff meeting next week with that and we've asked a number of different people to participate from the Chamber of Commerce, the New York State fire tower Commission the development boards with Hamilton County as well as Lake Champlain, Lake George group over there and anyone who's interested in participating this committee should contact Ryan. If members of the board wish to participate this is being done as a private citizen and not in direct representation of the board or the government. As you know fundraising cannot be conducted by a municipality. Given my passion for this fire tower, I'll be working with Ryan on that committee and I'd really like to

thank him for doing that. If you know of anyone or if you have a heart for work with this, please let Ryan or myself know so that we can go forward with that.

TD: Mayor, can we get a copy of the engineering plans with the last payment for the base to determine what our costs are going to be to install the base.

MB: Yes, we already were provided with that and will send it through again.

TM: Do we need to get a permit for that?

TD: Sure.

MB: Bob, do we need a permit for our fire tower?

BB: You will need a permit, but it's not a cost. It's basically just to put something in the file on that property that on such a day something happened. So, when somebody goes years from now and goes when did this get put in? They know.

MB: Yes, we will do that in the zoning and land use officer did give us a heads up for the location. I am working with members of the fire department to finish taking the pictures for required for the APA waiver, because as you know the tower is 49 feet and the cutoff for a PA is 40. Yes, that's another story but they are excited to see us go forward, and we will provide those final pictures from the lake and from the river to look at the impact to the surrounding area. Moving right along, we go to the Speculator Volunteer Fire Department. Once again, the fire department has received FEMA grants for self-contained breathing apparatus and so I provided you with resolution for the approval for authorizing solicitation of bids for the purchase of these SCBAs. The Department has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$66,666.00 with the requisite match or \$3333. The balance that is required of the match will be covered with no changes to their budget as well as through donations. So, I'm asking for a motion to approve this resolution to solicit sealed bids for 10 units of SCBA gear plus five additional batteries, special batteries for that, rechargeable batteries, from qualified vendors for the purchase of the equipment to be received by the village no later than 4:00 PM on October 12th of this year and bids would be open at the village board meeting scheduled for that same evening. May I have a motion to accept the resolution?

TC: So, moved.

TR: Second.

MB: Mark Crary, Letty Rudes. Is there any further discussion? All in favor say, "aye".

ALL: Aye

MB: Opposed say no. Motion carriers. Continuing on with the Speculator Volunteer Fire Department we have received a roster update. On one side you see a list of 22 full time members one and then two junior members that being Josh used and Ethan Marshall. The changes to the roster have seen three members resigned from the Department the first is Matt Bly based on availability issues, Alan Hoover, who is relocating he has submitted an application for lifetime membership which the department is researching at this time to see if he qualifies with the proper amount of years served. I will note that a lifetime member does not accrue any time for the retirement program nor is he or she permitted to respond to fire calls of the department. So that's under investigation and they will let us know whether Allen qualifies. Nathan Greco, junior member in good standing is relocating for schooling. That is an FYI, and no votes are required for that. Next up is rollover for capital reserve funds for DPW, Wastewater treatment plant, water and Speculator Fire Department. If you recall resolutions were approved much earlier this year to establish capital reserve funds for those particular

departments. In addition, we have a referendum that is being voted on tomorrow to establish a capital fund for the fire department and that is referendum two. Discussion of rollover amounts were also delayed due to the postponed elections and we also needed to confirm fund balances from the AUD which are now complete and calculations of the recommended totals for unappropriated fund balances in the amount of at least two months of village expenditures as per the OSC recommendations. Crystal has some numbers to give us and that we're in a position to determine how much monies can, and should be, rolled over into those funds with the exception of the Volunteer Fire Department which we would look to do at our next meeting based on the results of referendum #2. Crystal, you have some numbers for us.

CO: So, I did a quick calculation this afternoon honestly on this but based on what the New York state recommends for keeping in unassigned fund balance, it's two months of expenditures for each fund. Honestly, I have to break it down a little bit more for as far as DPW and the fire department go, but based on that and what was completed for the unassigned fund balance in the AUD, there is about a remainder of \$50,000 in unassigned fund balance for the "A" fund, around \$11,000 in the water fund and the sewer fund has about \$190,000 but that one I kind of recall something about the sewer fund accumulating more or saving more because of the contracts and needing to pay back that. With that in mind that will be much lower in the coming years. The water fund I think is the only one that's really, really low.

MB: Do you know, even though we're not discussing it now, what the rollover from the fire department was last year?

CO: Last year? Off the top of my head, no. Not specific numbers.

MB: How much money is we are these?

CO: Those are what we have remaining after calculating two months of expenditure. Roughly around it but that's based on two months of expenditures and what we have subtracted out of what we have in fund balance for those accounts. I know when we were making the resolution there was talk about setting aside you know like \$5000 a year or \$10,000 a year based on the different accounts, so I don't know if that something the board still wants to do something or if they want to set aside a larger chunk. I might feel more comfortable with setting aside a smaller chunk to begin with.

MB: Mark Donecker so when we went through the capital equipment and the life of the things that are remaining, I think the backhoe is the next piece of equipment.

TD: Yes, that's correct. You know he's going to use some of his CHIPS funds and it'll also use a payment every year just like the garbage truck. Is \$50,000 enough? We can do a percentage of all those line items.

MB: I was actually thinking of to put less in the DPW less than \$50,000 into the Capital One. But I was just wondering what we were saving towards in the immediate future.

TD: The thing he wanted was the backhoe and again those would be on probably lease payments or a payment schedule because I'm sure it's going to run \$150,000.

MB: And we're looking to replace that within how many years?

TD: Well, he wanted it scheduled for this year but there's no way so I'm figuring next year. He didn't give me an actual, I asked him to look up a cost so I'd have an estimate and I will ask him again to give me an estimated cost and how to fund that or pay for it.

TC: Estimated life of the equipment?

TD: I'm assuming 10 years? Next time Roger comes he's going to come up with a replacement plan for all his vehicles and we are basically whatever years he needs to replace things up to the year 2035 I believe.

TR: Mark is that based on usage?

TD: You know what, it's I think it's one of these things, the old backhoe is just about had it let's get a new backhoe. I'm not sure the reasoning. I'll have to check the spreadsheet to see what year it was made and how many hours it has on it and then what Roger and I could do is we can just go over that list and let you know the years of service. I think the greatest thing up here is salt and the effects on the vehicles. They don't last as long and as you know if you look at the expenditures this month for some of the vehicles from 2010 a lot of wiring was rusted out and so we think normally vehicles or 100,000 miles eight years that's what we used to replace them at in the city in New York, we don't do that, but Roger tried to come up with the schedule that CHIPS would actually pay for it over the next 15 years.

MB: Mark I think it would be helpful if if Roger could also provide us the cost of repairs and servicing.

TD: The backhoe, or all vehicles?

MB: Definitely for the backhoe but I think for the vehicles going forward to see if it's worth you know what we're doing with them whether it's worth the progress or not.

TD: There was a pretty good cost for the 2010 truck to get it repaired. So, I'll speak to Roger what kind of will come up with something.

MB: OK, I would like to suggest and of course you know you can disagree with me if you wish. I would suggest that we take these numbers and kind of think about them and then come back with the equipment list that Mark and Roger will put together at the next budget meeting. and by that time, we would also be able to decide if well, we would also know, if we can establish a capital fund for equipment for the Speculator Volunteer Fire Department at the same time and then make suggestions as to what should be over into those accounts.

TD: We have a capital plan for the fire department for rollovers.

MB: It has to be approved. It's referendum #2. Referendum #2 but we do have capital reserves for DPW, water and sewer. I think with water and be pretty straightforward if there's \$11,000 to roll over. I feel a little more comfortable if we had just a touch more than two months' worth of operating budget.

TD: No, I can see that. The 109 in wastewater is a lot of money but we will be paying back you know all the improvements.

MB: We're going to have to pay that back so I think we need to be judicious in how we roll over those capital funds because you know once they go into capital funds at all it can be used for.

TD: And capital funds are specific, they are not to pay back.

MB: I'd like to suggest that we think about this, we ask Ed his thoughts with the water and wastewater what his recommendations are for roll over and then come back with the equipment numbers for DPW so that the next time we speak we can have these numbers in mind and make a decision.

TD: And DPW and water waste were going to share services on the vehicle they're going to purchase this year, so some of that money will be needed to pay.

MB: A vehicle is going to be sold as well.

TD: I don't think it's worth much but, yes. Just like the backhoe will be sold, how much we get I have no idea.

MB: Something. So that will be moved over to old business for our next meeting. We're coming to the end. We have received a letter to participate in the Hamilton County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan project update. In advance of this meeting, you also received a letter of authorization and letter of intent to participate in the updating of the Hamilton County multi-jurisdictional all hazard mitigation plan. As part of that agreement that we signed on to will be required to identify points of contact for community representation and assure that participation requirements will be met we need to provide data and information for the Village, engage in public outreach efforts, etc. and following the elections tomorrow I'd like to suggest that we identify a board member to function as a co-point of contact in addition to myself. At this time, I'm looking for a motion to agree to participate in the 2020 update of this all-hazard mitigation plan & sign the letter of commitment on behalf of the Village.

TM: So, moved.

MB: Okay, Karen. Second?

TC: Second.

MB: Mark Crary. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say, "aye".

ALL: Aye.

MB: All opposed? That passes. Now round table. So, in our discussion this morning with Bob, my discussion with Bob and Betsy, we were also talking about the health of our lake and some matters regarding sewer, the septic systems, and how many have been grandfathered in for decades and our cisterns that may or may not be working properly and so that all ultimately affects the health of our lake. So, Betsy and I as a result of our discussion, agreed to establish a joint committee with representation from Speculator and Lake Pleasant boards. Two members from each of those boards, Bob Benkovich being part of that committee and then asking LPSA Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association, to volunteer two of its members to create a team to come up with a proposal that, over the next six months, that would look at any septic laws that we might have to put in place. I know speak with Mark Donecker, perhaps any erosion issues that would have to be addressed within the village and the town and there are plenty of examples within Hamilton County and outside in County where towns are moving to this effect the life and livelihood of the lake. So, following the election tomorrow I would look for two volunteers from Speculator to help participate in that. Any comments?

TD: Is Bob still there?

MB: Yes.

TD: Yes, I think the corrosion control plan is really necessary. One of the building sites on South Shore Rd in Lake Pleasant, all the trees were removed, they didn't properly install silt fence to prevent erosion, it's a pretty good angle into the Lake and it's just amazing that this time and day we can get away with that. So, I think that's an important part of reducing sediment into the lakes which is a major contribution to the pond weed and algae growth in the lake.

BB: Any construction project that occurs near the lake, silt fence is mandated. I know where you're talking about and that person has not approached us for a building permit. This is something that he anticipated was going to happen at a certain time and therefore it just did a driveway and did some clearing, and the APA has been on that. So, I'm aware of it, they're

aware of it, but again, nothing was, you know, they didn't come to me and say, hey, guess what? We're going to do this.

TD: The policy or the procedures would cover that type of, again they did install some vertical silt fence, but not horizontal. I mean, it's crazy and we need laws to protect the lake against people that just clear cut their property and leave it.

BB: When you clear your property like that, especially down near the lake, and unfortunately there right now, there's nothing about landscaping in any of the codes as far as, you know, it's not building. You're going to put a driveway in, the only thing Lake Pleasant requires is a driveway permit. If you need a culvert or something.

TD: An erosion control policy would take care of all that.

BB: That's fine too, I mean we can certainly roll it into the whole thing.

MB: For the life and health and well-being of the lake and then look at what things should be put into place or could be put into place.

BB: There's many other towns that have septic laws in place.

MB: So, it's not reinventing the wheel.

BB: No, Arieta, like I said, is just trying to do one right now and they're close to establishing one. It's up and coming. I've been trying to push the issue that anything new that's built down near the lake has to have a system that pumps up. I'm not allowing any septic to go near the lake so that's been my policy since I've been here.

MB: Next under roundtable is DPW updates. As I mentioned they will be paving Rt 8. Water and wastewater going to adjust the things that are in the sidewalk there and in the gully to come up to the appropriate grades. Charlie King will be paving that next week and then DOT will come in behind them to fix that. There is a clarification from our last meeting regarding the road to the burn pit. Roger had stated that that Rd belong to Lake Pleasant and upon further evaluation following Lake Pleasant's meeting last week or week before last there is a portion of that Rd that actually belongs to the Village. So that part of the road will be repaired with any potholes and raking going forward. So that will be taken care of within the next month. Organizational meeting will be held September 28th as part of that it is our joint delight to review the procurement policy on an annual basis so a copy of that has been provided. Then any newly elected officials will receive a copy of that procurement policy for review. That's all I have for Round Table, so Mark, do you have anything, sir?

TC: One item. The parking lot at the ball field, there's some, well multiple potholes, if you want to classify them as potholes. Several are filled with water right now because the last night's rain. I'm just wondering if we should get together with Roger and maybe come up with a plan, a minimum maintenance plan, to fill the potholes, especially during farmers market, crafting fairs, and so on, with a lot of people walking there. I've noticed a lot of kayakers this summer. There were a lot of vehicles parked down there, so they were probably exacerbating the problem day by day. Maybe some item four, I'm not advocating paving.

MB: I know that at one point one of the agencies had suggested we put plantings within the parking lot to help with the with the runoff and absorption, which is yeah it does well,

TR: Well, you've got, you know, you've got the ball field we've got, the pavilion, you've got the public beach, you've got the river walk.

MB: A lot of activity. To your point, Mark, it does need attention.

TC: Mostly over by the entrance side to the river. The other side seems to be in decent shape.

BB: Maybe if you put down some crusher run, which really gets hardened up, better than the item 4 does. That might help. It doesn't wash away so easily.

TC: I think it can be done with minimal effort.

TD: Mark, I will ask Roger to meet you and I there next week?

TC: Sure.

MB: Mark Donecker, do you have anything?

TD: Not at this time.

MB: Karen?

TM: No. Good.

MB: Letty?

TR: No.

MB: Hearing nothing further for Round Table, we will put that to a close and we will open it back up for public comment. Hearing no comment from the public, we will close public comment.

TR: I make a motion to adjourn.

TM: I'll second that.

MB: The meeting closes at 8:22. Thank you very much. Don't forget to vote tomorrow. Get the word out and let's have a good turnout.