January 29, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Lyons met for a meeting on January 29, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Present: Jim Brady, Supervisor

 George Dobbins, Councilman

 Dan LaGasse, Councilman

 Ryan Robbins, Councilman

 Amy Shaffer, Town Clerk

 Dan DeWolf, Councilman

Absent:

Also Present: Mike Bouwens, Tony Villani, Kayla Sturgill, Joan Wallis, John Hawman, Andrew DeWolf, Matt Liponis

This meeting was duly noticed by contacting the Times of Wayne newspaper, as well as posting a notice on the Town bulletin board and on the Town’s web site.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Dobbins moved to accept the minutes of the December 23, 2024, meeting. Councilman LaGasse seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf abstained

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Councilman Dobbins moved to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2025, Organizational meeting. Councilman LaGasse seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins abstained

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Councilman Dobbins moved to approve payment vouchers from 12/21/24 through 1/28/25 totaling $341,692.32. Councilman DeWolf seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

At the request of Planning Board Chair Wallis, Councilman Dobbins moved to reappoint Jack McCranels for another term on the Planning Board. Councilman DeWolf seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Planning Board Chair Wallis requested the Town Board approval of membership to The New York Planning Federation (NYPF) This would benefit both the Lyons Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals as they provide several live, online and recorded training sessions that would help to meet the needs of the 4 hours of required training.

Councilman LaGasse moved to authorize membership to the NYPF with annual dues in the amount of $295. Councilman Dobbins seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Matt Liponis of HodgsonRuss Attorneys was present, representing Delaware River Solar (DRS) to encourage the Board to act on the shared driveway easement that DRS is requesting. The Board agreed that the DRS request in email form is inadequate, and the Board will require a true purchase offer. And, although the Board understands DRS’ desire to move quickly, the Board will require proper legal steps to be completed. For example, the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority uses said driveway for water tower access and should be allowed to review the proposed easement once details have been worked out.

The Board also determined that DRS needs to submit an amendment to the site plan and subdivision plan for the construction of the 2 solar facilities located at 776 & 816 Route 14.

Councilman DeWolf moved to refer the amended special use permit to the Town Planning Board. Councilman Robbins seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Assessor, Kayla Sturgill was present to suggest adoption of the 466 Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance exemption. The percentage of exemption is up to 10% of the assessed property value. The Board feels that there is not enough time to pursue this exemption for this coming tax year as the applications are due by March 1st. The Board asked additional questions. Assessor Sturgill will reach out to the Lyons Fire Chief to obtain additional information that the Board is requesting to make an informed decision for future consideration.

Councilman LaGasse reviewed the proposal that In-Site Architecture emailed to create residential design guidelines for the residential historic district (Town Center District 3). The Board feels that the guidelines are something that the Town can use to encourage but they are not enforceable. The Board recommends that we continue to pursue grants to review our zoning codes for additional improvements within that area. No action was taken.

Councilman Robbins moved to authorize Supervisor Brady to sign the Salvage Agreement with ReHouse, Inc. for property at 201 Cole Road. ReHouse has provided all the necessary insurance requirements. ReHouse will be removing all galvanized, corrugated metal siding from the garage structure walls. Councilman Dobbins seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

A discussion of a possible name change from Town of Lyons Highway to Lyons Town Department of Public Works was conducted. Attorney Villani will forward the 1980 decision in relation to the name change. Acting Superintendent Toner will research this further and get back to Supervisor Brady and the Town Board on what is allowable per union standards.

Department reports were reviewed by the Town Board. Public inspection of said reports is available at the Town Hall upon request.

Acting Superintendent Toner brought forth a candidate that he would like to hire for the open Highway position. Councilman Robbins approved the hiring of Robert Burns as Public Works Technician until he obtains his CDL at which time he will be a Machine Equipment Operator. Councilman Dobbins seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Acting Superintendent Toner mentioned that there was another good candidate that he would like to hire possibly in the March/April timeframe. The Town Board is open to discussion in relation to the additional hire since there is likely an upcoming retirement.

Councilman Dobbins moved to rename the Ethic Law, Local Law 2 of 2024 to Local Law 2 of 2025 due to the law not being filed with the State. Councilman LaGasse seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

At 8:11 PM, Councilman Dobbins motioned to go into Executive Session for the medical, financial, credit, employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation. Paul Fera was asked to remain during Executive Session. Councilman LaGasse seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

At 8:35 PM, Councilman Robbins moved to exit Executive Session. Councilman DeWolf seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

As there was no further business, at 8:36 PM, Councilman DeWolf moved to adjourn. Councilman Robbins seconded. Vote:

Councilman Dobbins voting aye

Councilman LaGasse voting aye

Councilman Robbins voting aye

Councilman DeWolf voting aye

Supervisor Brady voting aye

Amy L. Shaffer

Lyons Town Clerk