

A Regular Town Board Meeting was held on June 20, 2024, at Lysander Town Hall, 8220 Loop Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Rode, Supervisor
Peter Moore, Councilor
Robert Geraci, Councilor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeffrey Kudaruskas, Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT: Al Yager, Town Engineer, Kevin Merrill, Parks and Recreation Director, Tony Rivizzigno, Town Attorney, Kevin Svitak, HW Superintendent, and several guests and residents.

Supervisor Rode called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a pledge to the Flag.

Adoption of Minutes

RES#111/2024

Motion made by Councilor Geraci Seconded by Councilor Moore to adopt the June 6, 2024, Town Board Meeting Minutes.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudaruskas	Absent	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

Citizens Comments

Liz and Ed Schmitt of Hayes Road spoke about the ongoing issues with the Tiki Bar. Those comments are attached to these minutes and made part of the record.

Fred Burtch of Plainville Road spoke about the Tiki Bar and noted that he observed the boat launch was blocked with vehicles. He waited two hours and forty-five minutes after the Sheriff was called. He said there are problems with enforcement and there are too many patrons for porta-potties that are on the grounds. He also mentioned the upcoming primary on Tuesday the 25th, and his dismay with the Spray Park, as he believes it is an amenity that people who are not from Lysander use and recommended other options for funding and maintenance.

Town Board Comments

The Board thanked those for attending and chose to move to the agenda.

Supervisor's Comments

Supervisor Rode asked if there was anyone in the audience to speak on behalf of the STOP signs proposed by residents in Timber Banks. There was not. He noted that the item will be tabled, and he will let the residents know what the Board's next steps will be regarding that issue.

Supervisor Rode mentioned next Tuesday's Primary, and that all the normal voting locations will be open in the town of Lysander. He noted that voters can report to their normal voting locations. Early voting is still open in the Town of Clay, but not in Lysander. Contact the Board of Elections for more information.

Supervisor Rode attended the housing study which was presented by Onondaga County regarding the housing plan, which can be viewed at www.ongov.net. He noted that there is a push from Onondaga County about density and development and differing views in the suburbs.

Department Head Reports

Ken Svitak, HW Superintendent asked residents to be cautious with roadside mowers, as they do not have protection and can be difficult to see.

Recognition of Tony Rivizzigno

Tony Rivizzigno was recognized with a plaque by the Board for his service (since 2012) as General Counsel to the Town of Lysander. Mr. Rivizzigno is retiring and moving out of state, and the Board wished him well.

Mr. Rivizzigno stated that after 54 years of law practice it is now time to retire.

Cold Springs Sewer Study Presentation by Town Engineer Al Yager

Mr. Yager presented a PowerPoint which touched on the following areas:

Current Issues Affecting Study Area:

- Seneca River Pollution – Existing private septic systems not meeting current design standards contributing to pollution in the waterway
- Climate Change - Increasing flood risk along the Seneca River further contributing to pollution
- Many existing septic systems in the study area are nearing or past their anticipated service life resulting in expensive replacement costs for existing residents
Conventional system replacement is typically - (>\$20,000 – raised bed systems >\$40,000)

Large tracts of undeveloped land between the WWTP and the existing population are included in the study area.

Sewer Alternatives:

- Alternative 1 – No Action
- Alternative 2 – Gravity Sewers with Five Pump Stations (with wider LPS areas)
- Alternative 3 – Gravity Sewers with Seven Pump Stations (with limited LPS areas)

Population Trends and Growth Potential:

United States Census Bureau, the population increased from 21,759 to 23,074 from 2010 to 2020, which represents an annual growth rate of 0.6%. With Micron's arrival and expected creation of approximately 50,000 jobs, it is likely that the Town will experience a significant population increase amid a current housing shortage in the greater Syracuse area. Undeveloped land included in the study area was projected to be developed at a density of 2 units per acre.

Anticipated Resident Costs:

- Annual County sewer treatment fee \$445
- Anticipated annual debt service with undeveloped land developed at 2 units per acre \$621/year
- Anticipated annual debt service with undeveloped land developed at 4 units per acre \$420/year
- Anticipated annual debt service with undeveloped land developed at 2 units per acre with Town supplying low pressure grinder pumps \$726/year
- Anticipated annual debt service with additional development \$2,152
- Debt service calculated using 4% bond rate for 30 years with no developer contribution

Discussion ensued regarding dry sewers, connections, future developments, traffic, etc. **Supervisor Rode** advised that this is a long and involved process and this is the first of many next steps regarding this issue.

Supervisor Rode advised that the PowerPoint presentation will be on the website, and if there are any further questions about the proposal, contact him.

Regular Agenda Items

MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFERS AS PROVIDED BY THE TOWN COMPTROLLER

RES#112/2024

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to approve the budget transfers as provided by the Town Comptroller.

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

Mr. Zapisek created the budget transfers for the year-end items to make line items balance across all the accounts. On July 18th there will be a presentation regarding budget items, fund balance, etc. for the public.

TABLED

Motion made by Councilor _____ seconded by Councilor _____ to hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 6:30 PM to consider a local law to authorize the placement of STOP signs at the four-way intersection of Tall Tree and Forest Ridge Lane located in the Timber Banks subdivision. This motion shall authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for same.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR THE ONONDAGA COUNTY 2024 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

RES#113/2024

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the Statement of Intent for the Onondaga County 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

To assist local jurisdictions in meeting FEMA standard mitigation requirements, the Department of Planning has applied for and received FEMA funding for the multi-jurisdictional plan update for all participating jurisdictions, and has hired a consultant, ISC, to work with the Planning Department to manage the plan update process and facilitate [local government] involvement.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE CHA LYSANDER LANDFILL MONITORING PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,550

RES#114/2024

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Geraci to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the CHA Lysander Landfill Monitoring proposal in the amount of \$10,550. *This is a NYSDEC mandated monitoring program that is a budgeted annual expense.*

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

MOTION TO HIRE CHRISTOPHER TODD AS MEO

RES#115/2024

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to hire Christopher Todd as MEO in the Highway Department at an hourly rate of \$23.75, as per the union contract, with a starting date of June 24, 2024.

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

MOTION TO HIRE JOHN LEONARDO AS MEO

RES#116/2024

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Geraci to hire John Leonardo as MEO in the Highway Department at an hourly rate of \$23.75, as per the union contract, with a starting date of June 25, 2024.

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to adjourn the Town Board Meeting at 7:45 PM.

Supervisor Rode Aye Councilor Kudrauskas Absent Councilor Geraci Aye
Councilor Moore Aye

The next meeting will be July 18, 2024.

This is a true and complete recording
of the action taken at this meeting.

Dina Falcone, Town Clerk

The actual operations are of a large outdoor music venue and bar with hundreds of patrons on a given evening.

Meetings with the Town in 2022 and 2023 were met with the claim that all of these activities are “grandfathered,” without any evidence of prior operations with a bar, outdoor band music or exterior speakers. At every step, the bar received every consideration, and our concerns were worth nothing. Who needs solar farms with the amount of gaslighting that has gone on here? We requested to meet with the Planning Board in September 2022 about the controlled site review in the summer of 2022 and in October of 2022 the chair of that board refused our request.

Meanwhile, the problems continue. The bar’s live music, with exterior speakers, continues to exceed the noise ordinance decibel limits on a weekly basis. Patrons continue to park in the Seneca River Boat Launch, sometimes trapping boaters who cannot get the trailers to the ramp. My husband has been harassed when walking our dog, or when taking sound readings at the boat launch site. He wears a body cam when he leaves his house, and we installed a home security system for protection.

This past Saturday, June 15, there were about 1000 patrons on the site. In addition to the bar’s own lot and leased lot across the street, they filled the boat launch lot, and on Hayes Road (ignoring the parking signs), which impedes emergency vehicles. At least one boater was trapped for about an hour with bar patron vehicles blocking their boat trailers. Patrons with open containers are crossing a 55 mph road.

As we approach the Independence Day weekend, the bar will likely, as they have done every year since the pandemic summer, have aerial fireworks, no permit, which are illegal. Now, I do not begrudge fireworks once a year, but at this site, the site is small, with limited egress, and a 2500 gallon fuel tank plus whatever fuel is stored on the boats. We brought these concerns to code enforcement. The reply was that no permit was issued, so any fireworks would be a law enforcement matter.

To offer an analogy we all can understand, this stinks like a failed septic system in clay soil. But it doesn’t just stink, it STINGS. It stings that an establishment that repeatedly skirts the rules on permits, taxes, parking, noise, and so much more continues to operate with impunity at the expense of the residential neighbors—the firefighters, nurses, veterans and educators that form a

community. It stings that various entities of local government appear to favor this establishment over residents that work hard, play by the rules and want the quiet enjoyment of our homes. Are we just suckers?

There has been this convenient narrative that these are just a few difficult people. That my husband and I are old fogies and NIMBYS. This narrative makes it easier to disregard the problem. But my husband and I have raised our family in our home since 1997, and never had an issue with any of the commercial sites on Hayes Road. I've never had any issues brought forth to the Town. Furthermore, some neighbors have come tonight in support, but the intimidation from the bar to us and one other household has had an effect. The fact that others are reluctant to speak up for fear of retaliation should bother everyone here. It should bother everyone of good conscience.

We began this year with new leadership, and that leadership reinstated citizen comment, and I thank Supervisor Rode for doing so. As unpleasant as it may be, it seems fundamental to a democracy that citizens have the opportunity to bring their issues in a public, documented forum. I come to the Board, again, to ask for advocacy, and with the expectation that the Town will enforce its own code. Bad actors act in bad faith, repeatedly, and are only controlled with consequences and enforcement. Without these, a government fails in a fundamental duty to protect its citizens from bad actors and the social contract that binds a community to live together in safety crumbles. We deserve better. We deserve to be the priority. We are not going anywhere.