

**LUMBERLAND TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 11, 2013**

The Town Board of the Town of Lumberland held a Workshop Meeting on Monday, March 11, 2013, at 7 p.m., at the Municipal Building in Glen Spey, N.Y. Supervisor Nadia Rajsz opened the meeting at 7 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those members present were:

Supervisor Nadia Rajsz  
Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Joseph Carr  
Councilman James Akt  
Councilman Ron Thiele  
Councilman David Leamon

Also present were Town Clerk Virginia Horn, Caroline Akt, Sophia Martynech, Highway Superintendent Don Hunt, Jr., Code Enforcement Officer David Sparling and Richard Hotzler.

The Board members reviewed the Agenda. Supervisor Rajsz noted that there will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday night for Local Law #1, 2013 for the Planning Board to be granted the authority to waive the new zoning laws for any projects that were already submitted before the new zoning laws were approved.

Supervisor Rajsz questioned what the status of the unsafe building was? Code Enforcement Officer, David Sparling, reported that the building is secure now and that the main beams are done. Sparling noted that the project is at a standstill because the owner ran out of money. Sparling reported that the permit is under a 6 month extension with approximately 4 months left. Sparling noted they are allowed two 6 month extensions. Sparling stated he doubts the work can be done within the time frame on the permit but the building is safe for now.

The Board members reviewed the Minutes, Monthly Reports and Correspondence. Supervisor Rajsz noted the Supervisor's Report will be available for Wednesday night's meeting. Supervisor Rajsz reported she has applied for plants that are available through the prison, noting they are free. Supervisor Rajsz reported the Grant Writer has gotten a DVAA grant for \$860.

The Board reviewed the pre-filed resolutions. Supervisor Rajsz noted that the ZBA has recommended Caroline Akt be appointed as a member to fill a vacancy. Supervisor Rajsz reported that there is a ton of old office equipment that needs to be surplus. Supervisor

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Rajsz reported that Resolution #9 was held from the January meeting to be reviewed further and is now ready for approval. Supervisor Rajsz reported they had also held the Resolution for our Investment Policy and requested Councilman Leamon review it.

Supervisor Rajsz reported that they have to redo the New York State Retirement Reporting Resolution for the Highway Superintendent because Retirement has changed the way they calculate the time recorded.

Supervisor Rajsz reported she received an email from the Town Attorney in regards to the Freedom of Information Law. Supervisor Rajsz reported it is an opinion from Robert Freeman who is the authority on the open meetings law that anything communicated electronically between Town officials that deals with Town business is subject to FOIL and should be copied and given to the Town Clerk for the Town Attorney to review. Supervisor Rajsz noted this includes all personal email, Facebook and Tweeter messages.

Supervisor Rajsz reported that the Town Attorney will be discussing the Ethics Law on Wednesday night.

Councilman Akt reported they received a quote for a heater that is needed for the generator. David Sparling reported that the part is \$977 which they will need Town Board approval to purchase. Sparling reported that the generator is hooked up and ready to go, noting he has called for an inspection which will be done with the electrician on Wednesday. Sparling noted there is another issue with the generator that involves getting a transfer switch that would let the generator automatically start itself for periodically testing. Sparling noted that there is no owner's manual with the generator to see what part is needed. Supervisor Rajsz stated that if the switch is only needed to have it start itself couldn't it be done by someone manually going out and turning it on? Sparling stated that the generator will automatically come on if the power was out but will not start itself for an automatic testing. Councilman Akt questioned if the Highway Superintendent had talked to the people about doing maintenance on the Highway generator at the same time as the Town generator? The Highway Superintendent stated he has not talked to them yet. Sparling stated they need the block heater because of the diesel fuel and verified that the generator is totally connected.

Councilman Carr questioned the Proclamation for Constable Maas? Supervisor Rajsz reported that Maas was instrumental in two recent drug busts and the Chief Constable has requested the Town recognize Maas's service to the Town.

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Supervisor Rajszyk reported she received a letter from Senator Bonacic acknowledging receipt of the recent approved Resolutions from the Town of Lumberland for better notification regarding unsafe or abandoned structures and for the recommendation that the recent gun legislation that was passed be amended.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported that the Sullivan County Chamber will be holding their annual Pride Awards at the Villa Roma the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in May. Supervisor Rajszyk reported she had submitted the Bisland Agency but was informed they had already received the award so she has nominated Alex Grech from the Millbrook Inn this year.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported she received information that the NYS DOT will be holding a series of meetings in Albany on the safety needs of the public for special use permits for special events that are being held that involves the use of the roadways.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported she received a lengthy email from Joan Rosenfelt regarding the stray and feral cat issue. Supervisor Rajszyk reported that Rosenfelt has requested the Town do something about this issue and requested reimbursement for the expenses she has incurred by taking these cats to be fixed. Councilman Leamon reported he suggested Rosenfelt start a committee to address this issue. The Town Clerk reported they have called numerous agencies regarding this issue and have always been told that if you feed that stray or feral cat it is now considered your cat. Supervisor Rajszyk stated they have addressed this issue by approving that the DCO can now pick up these cats and transport them to the Humane Society.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported Ann Steimle from the Fire Dept. will be coming to the Wednesday night meeting to discuss the LOSAP paperwork. Supervisor Rajszyk reported the Town requires a list of volunteers earning credit for 2012 for the program and the Town Board must review the listing and approve it. Supervisor Rajszyk noted the Town Board must sign a form and authorization for the approval of acceptance of the listing.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported that at the Supervisors meeting a representative met with them from a company that supplies an anti icing spreader system for highway departments. Supervisor Rajszyk reported she received a letter from the Town of Thompson with information that they are using the system and saving roughly \$35,000 in the first year of using this system. Supervisor Rajszyk questioned if it would be advisable to have this representative come to talk to the Town of Lumberland? The Highway Superintendent stated that he would have to look into it further since sometimes it does not pay to pre-treat the roads for a pending storm and it doesn't storm. Councilman Thiele and Councilman Leamon agreed that they should at least have the representative come in to

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talk to the Board. The Highway Superintendent also stated that their trucks would have to be retro fitted for that kind of system.

Supervisor Rajsz reported she received a letter from a company called Communities of Extinction that films different communities as to their trends and communities, noting that it is a 5 minute segment and would cost the town \$24,800. Supervisor Rajsz noted that the representative of the company will be calling her again to discuss this issue but felt that anything that would enhance our business was not a bad idea.

Supervisor Rajsz reported that transportation is an issue in the County and the Town for the seniors, noting that the County Committee gets money from the State to purchase vehicles for transportation. Supervisor Rajsz stated that the seniors usually have to rely on family and friends for transport. Supervisor Rajsz questioned if it would be possible to join with another town to purchase a vehicle for this purpose? Councilman Carr noted then we would have to get a driver and pay for the fuel and maintenance. Supervisor Rajsz stated that if any senior needs a ride to the Dr.'s or to the store they could rely on this service instead of waiting for someone to find time to take them. Councilman Akt suggesting finding out who funds the other towns for their transportation. Supervisor Rajsz stated she was just looking to supply a service to the community.

Supervisor Rajsz reported the IDA is setting up meetings with the Supervisors to see if their programs are still working within the communities. Supervisor Rajsz reported there will be a meeting at the Government Center in Monticello on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Rajsz reported they are continuing their discussions regarding a Board of Supervisors as opposed to the Legislature because they need to have connection and communication between the County and the Towns. Supervisor Rajsz reported they need a council of government as was previously held. Councilman Carr noted there was an article in Sunday's paper written by Barry Lewis regarding the need for better county government. Supervisor Rajsz stated that there have been no petitions out for signatures to have the preference of government put to a referendum vote in November. Supervisor Rajsz stated she does not have anything against any individual legislator by there is a complete disconnect with the towns and they are not getting the information needed. Supervisor Rajsz stated that you are elected to serve all the people. Councilman Carr stated that the problem is that only a couple of towns are being focused upon and the rest of us are being ignored. Supervisor Rajsz reported that they have appointed the former Deputy County Manager to fill the County Manager's spot temporarily and he has also been appointed to fill the position of County Planning Commissioner. Richard Hotzler stated that all the County monies are being delivered to Liberty, Monticello and

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Fallsburg. Supervisor Rajsz invited anyone to go to the IDA meeting in Monticello to see what they can do for us.

Richard Hotzler reported he has an issue with a tree by his property, noting he has called the utility company but they have not responded. Hotzler noted the tree is dying and near the power lines. Supervisor Rajsz reported she has a new contact person for O&R and she will call her to have her contact Hotzler.

The Board reviewed and initialed the vouchers.

Supervisor Rajsz reported her assistant's computer needs to be replaced, as per a recommendation from the computer technician. Supervisor Rajsz noted they are getting quotes for a replacement and do not need the monitor or keyboard, just the modem. Supervisor Rajsz noted they will get the information put together for a late file Resolution for Wednesday night.

Councilman Carr made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m., seconded by Councilman Leamon, all in favor, so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia V. Horn Town Clerk