

A Regular Town Board meeting was held on October 19, 2017 at Lysander Town Hall, 8220 Loop Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Saraceni, Supervisor
Robert Ellis, Councilor
Peter Moore, Councilor
Roman Diamond, Councilor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Geraci, Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Anthony Rivizzigno; Gene Dinsmore, Highway Superintendent, Dina Falcone, Town Clerk; Al Yager, Town Engineer, David Rahrle, Comptroller, Tony Burkinshaw, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Theresa Golden, Assessor, and several residents.

Supervisor Saraceni called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor Saraceni announced that there are no additions or deletions regarding the agenda.

CITIZENS COMMENTS RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS:

NONE

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS:

Supervisor Saraceni said that he watched HW work on the property on Elizabeth Street, as they filled potholes, etc. He commended them on a job well done. He says the Fire Department will be able to get in and out of that location easily.

Supervisor Saraceni congratulated Leo Johnson and his teams for undefeated seasons. He said they are a great group of people. He remembered when wrestling was an apex sport. The team was inducted into the Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame. Leo Jonson was inducted into the National Hall of Fame.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

RES#195/2017

Motion by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Ellis to adopt the October 5, 2017 Town Board Meeting minutes.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Gene Dinsmore, Highway Superintendent, said the Mercer Street construction project is going well. Everything is on schedule. The project at the old barn went well also. There is some drainage work to be done before winter as well.

Supervisor Saraceni asked about a memo regarding culvert work, where Mr. Dinsmore referred “potential liabilities”. **Mr. Dinsmore** said it is in preparation for budget time, as it was discussed a few months ago, and the Board said it was the first they had heard about it then, so **Mr. Dinsmore** put it on the table to make the Board aware of it. He said he and Mr. Yager have talked about it and figured out ways to reduce the liability. He said it is just an “FYI” to let the Board know what is going on. **Supervisor Saraceni** asked if the cost was included in next year’s budget estimate. **Mr. Dinsmore** said no, it says “unfunded liabilities.” **Councilor Ellis** asked if budgetary numbers were provided, and **Mr. Dinsmore** said “unfunded”.

Mr. Dinsmore said if the Board desires numbers for the project he can meet with Mr. Yager and have that done. Discussion regarding use of concrete and the use of something temporary to fix the problem ensued.

Mr. Yager said it could be a permanent barrier to extend the two culverts on Dinglehole Road and Rabbit Lane, which could be an expensive project, and it could be a fix. He said to place some 'road narrow' signs and make it more permanent rather than temporary. **Mr. Yager** said they will come up with numbers and bring them to the Board.

Tony Burkinshaw, Recreation Supervisor said that October 28th is the annual window painting in the Village of Baldwinsville. There are over 245 kids signed up, and Parks and Recreation is looking for more volunteers to hand out paint from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM, and volunteers for cleanup on November 4th, 8:00 AM to noon, until all of the windows are clean.

Lysander Park will be winterized the day after Halloween, November 1st, which means there will be no public bathrooms open, and the tennis/Pickleball nets will be taken down, and all of the picnic tables will be stored away.

There is a Boaters Safety course in Lysander Town Hall on Saturday, November 4th from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and now that people are going to be indoors, the numbers pick up for this program. There are enough people to run the course, and there is still availability.

Regarding allowing dogs at the park, the dog/geese experiment worked, and there haven't been any geese in the park. Waste stations have been erected, and word is getting out that dogs are allowed in the park. It has been positively received.

Mr. Burkinshaw mentioned that in the most recent *Recreation Magazine*, spray parks and splash pads were featured on the cover of the magazine, and in the article it mentioned more municipalities are building spray parks, and they are becoming more popular throughout the country. He said they are easy to maintain and supervise.

Supervisor Saraceni and **Mr. Burkinshaw** said that the Parks and Recreation Department is getting ready to hand in 10 pounds of soda pop tops which will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House from the Summer Playground Program.

Theresa Golden, Assessor, shared the Assessor's Report as follows:

The 2016 State budget has eliminated all new Star exemptions (Basic and Enhanced) starting with the 2016 assessment roll. Star exemptions are "grandfathered" for existing property owners with exemptions in place prior to 2016. New owners will register with DTF online or by phone for the Star Income Tax credit / check. Property owners will be required to pay their school bill in full and will receive the Star savings by check from DTF. The Assessor's office can no longer accept new Star applications. Update: Checks are being mailed to qualified property owners. Denial letters have also been mailed by NYSDTF. Appeals must be directed to DTF in Albany.

The Town received no Small Claims and only 1 new Certiorari filing for 2017.

The County Clerk's office has updated to a new program which will affect deed processing by tax mapping and the Assessor's Office. The final deeds recorded under the old system are in the county/town pipeline at this time. Then the switch to the new system will begin. A training session will be held at the Clay Town Offices on Tuesday, October 24 for assessors and assessment clerks.

The State ORPTS is developing a new computer program to replace RPS V-4. The program is being tested at locations across the state. The Town of Lysander registered to be a PILOT test site, but was not selected. No date has been set for the conversion at this time.

Renewals for Enhanced Star, Senior Citizen, and Disability exemptions were mailed the first week of September. All other 2018 exemption renewals will be mailed in late December. The deadline for 2018 exemptions renewal or new applications is March 1st, 2018.

The Assessor attended week long training in East Syracuse regarding Commercial/Industrial Appraisal. She said the course was very informative and will count as 2 years of Continuing Education Credit.

Comptroller David Rahrle referred to motion “A”, to let the public know that he is asking the Supervisor to sign the agreement for the healthcare program the Town use for its retirees, who are Medicare eligible, so you have to be on Medicare to be eligible for this plan. He explained the plan and their premiums, and subsequent increases as noted. Retirees currently pay 15% of their premium for the Town.

Mr. Rahrle said that regarding motion “C”, the audit review for the Justice Court, he provided the Board with a recap which was placed in their inboxes. The State Comptroller’s Office has a guideline that lays out what to look at as one goes through the records. The report will be available in the Town Clerk’s Office.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN
MVP HEALTHCARE GROUP CUSTOMER QUOTE FOR 2018**

RES#196/2017

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Ellis to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the MVP Healthcare Group Customer Quote for the contract period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

**MOTION TO ALLOW THE BOY SCOUTS
TROOP 71 TO USE THE FIRE PIT AT LYSANDER PARK**

RES#197/2017

Motion made by Councilor Ellis seconded by Councilor Diamond to allow the Boy Scouts Troop 71 to use the fire pit at Lysander Park Sunday, October 22, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

Discussion:

The fire pit was constructed two years ago and this is the first request for an evening event.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COMPTROLLER’S AUDIT OF THE
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

RES#198/2017

Motion made by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Moore to accept the Town Comptroller’s Audit Report of the Justice Department for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN OF LYSANDER TO
LEVY UNPAID 2017 WATER BILLS ONTO 2018 TOWN/COUNTY TAX BILL**

RES#199/2017

Motion made by Councilor Ellis seconded by Councilor Moore to authorize the Town of Lysander to levy unpaid 2017 water bills onto the 2018 Town/County tax bill.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

**MOTION TO SET AND ADVERTISE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING
THE TOWN OF LYSANDER VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW
REGARDING STOP SIGNS IN CRIMSON RIDGE**

RES#200/2017

Motion made by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Moore to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for a public hearing to be held November 16th 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, to hear citizens for or against amending the Town of Lysander Vehicle and Traffic Law regarding placement of traffic “Stop” signs at the intersections below, and to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for same.

- Northbound Samantha Drive at the southern end of Venetian Drive
- Northern end of Venetian Drive entering Samantha Drive

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Absent
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

This will be entered as a Local Law per the Town Clerk.

CITIZENS COMMENTS REGARDING TOWN RELATED BUSINESS:

Kevin Rode of Greymoor Way asked if Councilor Geraci’s notes will be available to the public. **Supervisor Saraceni** said they will be made public.

Fred Burtch of Plainville Road noted Councilor Geraci’s absence, and that he would not be able to act as Deputy Supervisor. He asked if the Supervisor designated anyone else in his absence to be the Deputy Supervisor. **Supervisor Saraceni** said Councilor Geraci can be reached by phone, and he could then designate someone else to perform the Deputy Supervisor’s role.

Mr. Burtch mentioned the previous meeting and that he wasn’t against hard work and extra time to get ahead in life; as that wasn’t the point he was trying make. The point he was trying to make is if [you] were to ask the average person they would assume that for the standard hours Town Hall is open, the officials would be there. He mentioned Councilor Diamond stating that elected officials can make their own hours, and said that “optics matter”. Discussion ensued regarding hours and how it looks when an elected official is not working during town hall hours of operation.

Mr. Burtch stated that Councilor Diamond was asking about the “and/or” verbiage [referring to a local law that was passed at the last meeting], and [Mr. Diamond] mentioned ‘they had run it in front of the Town Attorney’. Mr. Burtch said there was someone else in Attorney Rivizzigno’s place at the last meeting. **Attorney Rivizzigno** said the attorney that was there at the last meeting was from his office; it is his colleague, and he was well aware of everything that was discussed.

Mr. Burtch asked if it was the same attorney who “fired the dog catcher”. **Councilor Diamond** said the Board fired the dog catcher as the Board makes decisions. **Supervisor Saraceni** said the previous Town Board did, as the Town Attorney doesn’t fire employees. **Supervisor Saraceni** said he did not know the details, but is sure the previous attorney was consulted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Board Meeting: Thursday, November 2, 2017, 7:00 pm, Work Session begins at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium.

Public Hearing/GML §3-c: Thursday, November 2, 2017, 7:00 pm, Work Session begins at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium.

Public Hearing/2018 Budget: Thursday, November 9, 2017, 7:00 pm, NO WORK SESSION.

Planning Board Meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2017, 7:00 pm, in the Large Group Room where Parks and Recreation used to be located.

Town Board Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2017, 7:00 pm, Work Session begins at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium. Adoption of the 2018 Budget shall occur at this time.

Remainder of Budget Work sessions: *Tuesday, October 24th 5:30 pm in the Conference Room*

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Diamond and seconded by Councilor Ellis to adjourn the regular Town Board Meeting 7:33 pm.

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

Dina Falcone, Town Clerk