

**Minutes of the Town of Lake George Workshop Meeting held on Monday April 2, 2018 at the Town Center, 20 Old Post Road, Lake George, New York.**

**DRAFT**

Supervisor Dickinson opened the workshop meeting at 9:00am.

**Present:** Dennis Dickinson, Supervisor  
Vinnie Crocitto, Deputy Supervisor  
Marisa Muratori, Councilperson  
Dan Hurley, Councilperson

**Absent:** Nancy Stannard, Councilperson

**Also Present:** Deb Foley, Town Clerk, Bob Risman, John Kearney, Howard MacDonald, Dan Daniger, Chief Jason Berry, Chris Hawley, Beth Brundage and various members of the Lake George Fire Department (did not sign in).

Three items were on the agenda for the meeting:

Diamond Point Rules and Regulations  
Purchase of Fire Truck  
NY State payment of Caldwell Sewer bill

Supervisor Dickinson spoke about the emergency proposed purchase of the firetruck. The Town has had some responses from the question on the website but not too many responses. There were no responses that were in favor of buying the truck. Supervisor Dickinson said we are not making a decision. Councilperson Crocitto asked for public input and addressed Chief Berry if the truck is purchased what is the next big purchase. Councilperson Crocitto spoke about a capital improvement fund. Councilperson Crocitto said he is more for it than against it. A decision has to be made. Councilperson Crocitto asked what would happen to the department without the ladder truck. The Board and the Chief were discussing the age of the truck and the amount of money put into the existing truck, approximately \$60,000. Councilperson Hurley wanted to know if anyone watched the repairs being made. Chief responded. The truck has passed inspection. John Kearney spoke about the money being spent to purchase the truck. The truck purchase would translate to the taxpayers based on assessment. The Village will only be paying 5.29% for the cost of the truck; the Town would be absorbing the rest. Councilperson Crocitto said we pay 50% of the cost of the fire department building and yet the Town doesn't own it. He suggested the Town buy the truck outright and lease it back to the Village. John

Kearney then spoke about response time of other departments with a truck. There ensued a discussion with various members of the Board and the audience members. Councilperson Crocitto then spoke about the decision and that he is sympathetic to both sides of the argument. Supervisor Dickinson then asked about the sewer bills and if they have gone up. Councilperson Hurley said that it did. Supervisor Dickinson then said that the Board would further be doing a workshop on sewer. The Village has voted yes on truck and is waiting for the Town to make a decision. Supervisor Dickinson said he wants residents to have more time to respond to the query on the website. There has not been enough opposition to not follow thru. Chris Hawley then spoke about how the truck costs a “small fortune” and stated his opinion on the truck. Councilperson Hurley and Chief Berry then spoke about the cost of the truck. Supervisor Dickinson stated that there was a board meeting on the 9th and a decision would be made at that time. Councilperson Muratori wanted to know who drives the truck and Chief Berry explained that there is a special driving course required. Beth Brundage spoke about putting the lives of firefighters after the savings to taxpayers.

Supervisor Dickinson then spoke about the new sewage treatment plant and that the Town was going to have to put up a substantial amount and also the New York State payment of Caldwell Sewer District bills and that the state owes the Town a lot of money that the Town is going to try to recover some of that. The State has not been receptive to the bills that have been sent. The State has spent 6 years stonewalling the Town regarding the bill. The bill is substantial. There are a lot of things that have to change including how the Town bills in the Caldwell Sewer District because some of the non-profits haven't been paying. John Kearney asked about Dan Stec and Betty Little. Dan Stec is very responsive. The Town has had conversations with Betty Little's office however the Town has gotten very little feedback. Supervisor Dickinson then spoke about the new treatment plant and that the Village is the lead agency on the project. Had dinner with the Governor about the new treatment plant and money (grants). The Town is very hopeful the grants will come through. John Kearney talked about Lake Tahoe getting federal funding because we are a tourist attraction. Supervisor Dickinson explained that we did get money for the Hazardous Algae Blooms. Mr. MacDonald spoke on getting engineering grants (Lakeview Septic Initiative). Dan Barusch then spoke about monies available and the criteria for the various grants.

More discussion regarding the fire truck regarding the specs of the truck and of the particular issues when fighting fires in Lake George.

Dan Hurley then wanted to discuss the waste water treatment plant and it's assessment and the school tax amount.

The Board then moved on to Diamond Point Beach. Supervisor Dickinson referenced the deed which was a gift to the Town and it's residents. Supervisor Dickinson explained that hotel owners send their guests to the beach if they are not on the lake. Councilperson Muratori explained that the Town would love to keep the gate open at all times however not everyone is respectful and there are things that go on at night and we have had problems with that. The purpose of discussing it is to clarify and possibly change the hours of operation. Supervisor Dickinson explained that the life guards are not there to check everyone's ID and make sure they live in LG they are there to watch the swimmers. Supervisor Dickinson then referenced Usher Park and the rules and regs for that beach. Usher Park is a public beach with the beach being opened and closed at set times every day and there are no problems. The Town would like both beaches to have similar rules. Someone from the audience spoke about how nice it is to swim at night to cool off especially on a hot and humid night. The board does not want to limit lake access to the Town residents however there have to be rules and regulations and if people don't adhere to the rules or cause disruption the hours will have to be limited. The new rules will be reviewed at another workshop meeting to be scheduled before the regular Town Board meeting on April 9, 2018.

The Board then went on to discuss the issue of the IT work being done on the town computers and the ongoing project to increase the bandwidth of the WI-FI network.

The Board then adjourned.

Minutes typed by Katharine Erceg.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Foley, RMC  
Town Clerk