

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Newlin; Councilmembers Bax and Palmer; Town Attorney Leone; Deputy Attorney Boniello; Finance Officer DiRamio; Town Engineer Lannon; Police Chief Salada, 2 Press; 2 residents and Clerk Donna Garfinkel

**ABSENT:** Councilmembers Edwards and Johnson

Supervisor called meeting to order – 7:05 p.m.

*First Agenda Item* – Approval of Abstract.

**Palmer MOVED to approve the Regular Abstract of Claims numbered 2738 - 3097 and recommended payment in the amount of \$278,502.11, plus a Post-Audit of \$193,691.45, Seconded by Bax and Carried 3 – 0.**

*Second Agenda Item* - Power Authority Relicensing Update. The discount to Town residents has been moved up by one month. The first discount, reflected as a credit, will appear on residents September bill. The credit should be approximately \$25 - \$29 for the month of September. Because there are two variables in the formula that change each month, the credit will vary month to month.

Because of the amount of residents Lewiston has, and the large amount of National Grid bills, there is a good chance National Grid's billing system may allow some residents to not receive the credit. If this occurs residents are encouraged to call Newlin's office. The Town has created an Administrative Fund to reimburse those residents.

Newlin is proud of the way the present and past Boards have shown their support.

Bax congratulated Newlin on a job well done. A lot of personal time was dedicated to this and it is greatly appreciated.

Palmer asked if the power money is being distributed to each unit (resident) on an equal basis. Newlin said the Board tried to do that. National Grid has said the residents who use more will get a slightly bigger credit.

The Board is hoping to be able to offer rebates to residents that purchase energy star compliance appliances. This will allow people to put dollars back in their pockets.

Slow progress is being made with the Greenway dollars. The Town will be participating in the Greenway funding. Per resolution of the Niagara Power Coalition the Town shall receive \$510,000/year. The issue being addressed at this time is how those projects will be awarded. In order for a project to get funded, the Power Authority wants to see consensus. Newlin and other members of the Power Coalition prefer to either strive for consensus, but if not possible, the majority vote should carry.

Projects chosen by the Board are greenway friendly projects that will help tourism and recreation in this area. Lewiston has a long record of greenway projects.

*Third Agenda Item* – Northridge Lighting. Lannon said Kim Johnson of National Grid will be holding a planning meeting to discuss this along with Paddock Lane and the Riverwalk Subdivision tomorrow. Lannon will report back to the Board.

*Fourth Agenda Item* – Parking tickets – draft amendment. Leone distributed a draft proposal to the Town Board. The proposed violations and fines are an outline as presented by Chief Salada and are in conjunction and conformity with the Village. This will be forward to Chief Salada and the Judges for their review and input.

Palmer believes the time is a very broad. After discussion it will be changed to 2:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Leone will make changes, time and typographical corrections, and forward to the Board to ensure they have it 5 days prior to the meeting. The Town Board will schedule a public hearing at the September 24<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting.

***Fifth Agenda Item*** – Rezoning of property at 2344 Saunders Settlement Road. The Niagara Wheatfield Credit Union would like to acquire this property to expand their operations at 2346 Saunders Settlement Road to include an ATM and drive-through service. The property needs to be re-zoned from residential to commercial. Newlin directs Clerk to forward to the Planning Board.

***Sixth Agenda Item*** – Town Hall Renovation – Approval of electrical and plumbing contracts. Bax said it is unclear if the contracts have been approved.

**Bax MOVED to approve the electrical contract in the amount of \$9,450 to CIR Electrical and the plumbing contract in the amount of \$17,480 to CR Swanson Plumbing Contractors for the Town Hall renovation project, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 3 – 0.**

**Bax MOVED to authorize the Supervisor to sign any responsible documents, pending advice of Council, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 3 – 0.**

***Seventh Agenda Item*** - Resolution – Shared Municipal Services Grant (SMSI). This is a resolution of support of the 2007-2008 New York State, Department of State Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program for a Feasibility Study for the merger of the Village of Lewiston and the Town.

The Village has come to the Town with this. The state dollars are available and there is a very minimal cost to the Town and Village to explore this idea.

Newlin read the following into the record:

**WHEREAS** the State of New York, Department of State is soliciting applications from local governments under Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program for collaboration between communities to promote Shared Services for Village of Lewiston and the Town of Lewiston.

**RESOLVED** that the Supervisor of the Town of Lewiston is hereby authorized and directed to file a joint application with the Village of Lewiston to request funding under the New York State Department of State Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program for a Feasibility Study for the merger of the Village of Lewiston (or selected Village department as outlined in the Feasibility Study) to merge into the Town of Lewiston.

Palmer said the names under the “Polling” heading and the “List of Town Board” members are incorrect. Elgin needs to be deleted from the polling list and Edwards needs to be added to the list of Board members.

Bax feels this is a good idea. Getting the study done doesn’t mandate any actions.

Palmer said with any proposed merger between two, is that both parties need to be amenable to it. It is good that it has flexibility to it, to allow maybe merging one department at a time.

Lannon said in years past the program for SMSI has been a maximum of \$200,000 per municipality, being funded 90% by the State and 10% by the municipality. The date for the next round of grant applications for 2007 has not been determined.

For Newlin it will largely be a financial study. The Board needs to look at this from a position of assets and liabilities. The Town does not want to take on any obligations that will over-burden what is right now; an extremely healthy financial position.

**Palmer MOVED to approve the Resolution as proposed, with the amendments as outlined, Seconded by Bax and Carried 3 – 0.**

*Eighth Agenda Item* – Transfer of funds.

Nablo requested the transfer of \$2,000 from SW1-8340.400 Contractual to SW1-8340.200 Equipment.

**Palmer MOVED to approve the transfer of \$2,000 from SW1-8340.400 Contractual to SW1-8340.200 Equipment, Seconded by Bax and Carried 3 – 0.**

Boniello spoke on the issue of the manhole in the driveway at 4723 Curtis Court. The property has since been sold to Mr. Friel. Boniello has explained the situation to Mr. Friel and suggested two options. The Town could repair it, or Friel could get an estimate for the work and have it completed. The Friels chose to have the work done and be reimbursed from the Town.

Boniello is asking the Board to authorize the Supervisor to sign the easement and ask the Board to reimburse the Friels the \$1,920 repair bill.

**Bax MOVED to authorize the Supervisor to sign the easement for 4723 Curtis Court, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 3 – 0.**

**Bax MOVED to authorize the payment of \$1,920 to the Friels for the repair work, funds to come from Legal Contingency – A, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 3 – 0.**

**Bax MOVED to adjourn, Seconded by Palmer and Carried 3 – 0.** (7:40 p.m.)

Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by,

Donna Garfinkel  
Deputy Town Clerk