

LAGRANGE TOWN BOARD

MEETING REPORT

Compiled by Dave Siegel; Secretary LaGrange Democratic Committee

Date: February 19, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting Called to order by: Allan Bell, Town Supervisor

Agenda Items

- Meeting minutes from the last Town Board meeting (2/5/2025) were approved and accepted.
- The Town Board accepted the monthly revenue reports for December as follows:

• Building & Zoning	\$23,457.25
• Public Works	\$250.00
• Planning	\$0.00
• Highway Dept.	\$0.00
• Justice Sullivan-Bisceglia	\$14,945.00
• Justice O'Hare	\$13,367.00
• Recreation	\$1215.07
• Town Clerk	\$762.00
- Correspondence - None
- Presentation: Proposal for sustainable Development in the Town of LaGrange; Ellen Waggener (CAC)– Postponed
- The Glens Sidewalk and Lighting District – Follow up with Vinny Barbagiovanni – Mr. Barbagiovanni needed clarity on who maintains driveways in the development since the Town maintains the sidewalks (snow clearing, etc.) Supervisor Bell said it was the owner's responsibility. Mr. Barbagiovanni then asked why his lighting bills are skyrocketing (paying for the streetlights that always seem to have several out). Supervisor Bell suggested he speak with Central Hudson, as the Town's only responsibility is to collect the funds to pay the electric bill on the lights not set the prices nor monitor their usage. That's all in the contract with Central Hudson.
- Amend Chapter 240 (Zoning) of the Town Code to adopt a new section 240-44 entitled "Chickens, Keeping of Fowl".

- Resolution of Introduction; set Public Hearing for April 2, 2025 - Accepted
- Grace Subdivision: Consideration of Tree Restoration and Bond Agreement contingent on Planning Board approval to Proceed At Their Own Risk being issued on 2/20/2025 – They want to clear trees in anticipation of the Board approving their plans. – Approved
- Katz Ground Mounted Solar Planning Board Application: consideration of refund of Site Plan fee – The Town collected a fee for this but there is no requirement for a Site Plan fee for this, so it will be refunded. – Approved
- Director of Parks and Recreation recommends approval for the Fireworks bid for Community Day – The same vendor as last year won the bid. - Accepted (yearly event)
- Director of Parks and Recreation recommends approval of the bid for Amusement and Entertainment package for Community Day – The same vendor as last year won the bid. - Accepted (yearly event)
- Director of Parks and Recreation recommendation for internal promotion to Assistant Recreation Director; promotion and change in pay to be effective upon County approval and establishment of position at \$24.85/hr. - Approved
- Town Board to appoint Dylan Scott as Groundskeeper/Caretaker of Freedom Park
 - Appointment effective 2/20/2025 at a rate of \$25.72/hr. (per Union Scale) - Approved
 - Town Board to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the Occupancy Agreement - Approved
- Receiver of Taxes request for the Town Board approval for her and her Deputy to attend the NYS Association of Tax Receivers and Collectors Training, June 8-11, 2025. The cost for this will not exceed \$1,363.20, and the use of a town vehicle is also requested. – Approved
- Town Board to Re-Appoint Rober Taft as Assessor for a 6-year term. Approved
- Town Board to re-consider Planning Board compensation – Supervisor Bell is looking into this a bit more, but something on the average of \$500.00 per year more is on the table. Planning Board salaries are graded (ex. Chairman gets the most potentially \$5500.00/yr; Vice chairs a bit less and so on). An increase was approved and will be retroactive to year 2024. Exact amounts are TBD.
- Engineer Expenses – Councilman Ryan proposed that for the next contract with the Town Engineers, when we pay bills that they are itemized and we can see each line item and what we paid out of the total amount we paid them. All agreed on this.

Town Board Comments – Councilman Rabasco asked if Mike Kelly (Highway Dept) could go ahead and bid for Shale for the Stringham Park parking area. He also asked if we could go to bid (3) for the Tree trimming on Route 55. – Both were approved

Town Attorney – No comments

Public Comments

The Chairman of the Planning Board said the numbers being talked about during the discussion around compensation were inaccurate and need to be clarified.

David Mashiah asked what the difference was between “Fees” for applications and “Escrow”. Supervisor Bell explained that Fees are on a schedule and depend on the application being filled out. Escrow is money used to pay for consultants to work on those applications.

The Board then went into Executive Session, not open to public.

Open meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

