

A Town Board work session meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, was held on May 22, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lewisboro Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

PRESENT:

Supervisor	Tony Gonçalves
Council Members	Andrea Rendo, Mary Shah, Richard Sklarin, Daniel Welsh
Town Clerk	Janet L. Donohue
Absent	None

Also attending was the Attorney for the Town Gregory Folchetti, Maintenance Employees Joel Smith and Shawn Johannessen.

Approximately 7 residents/observers attended the live meeting and approximately 6 participated via Zoom.

Supervisor Gonçalves called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

Supervisor Gonçalves noted the exits to be used in the event of an emergency.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (5 residents spoke)

WILD OAKS WATER

Two residents spoke regarding the water situation and wells at Wild Oaks (see attached letter, map, and picture from one resident). They asked if the town could help to get this situation expedited. Supervisor Gonçalves stated that the town will look into this and get back to them.

SALT DOME AREA

A resident read the following:

I would like to follow up with a couple things that were discussed at the 5.8.23 meeting.

--Was the TB able to confirm with Highway that there were 3 bids received for the dirt removal at the salt dome and how much existing dirt will fall under the lease agreement? Is the storage area for the accumulation of dirt the proposed 1/2 acre area?

--Was the TB able to have conversations with candidates running for HS with regard to the lease agreement and what ideas/plans they may have?

--How was the \$1,200 per year lease agreement valuation determined? While the lease agreement might save residents expenses/fees for processing/tipping, what is the cost to the environment? What you propose is short sighted and what I would hope you do is to allow the new Highway Superintendent to make their own recommendations.

--While the Town may have priority of what is delivered and processed to the salt dome what measures will be taken to make sure there is always available space, especially in case of an emergency and since there will be no operation allowed from June 1 through Labor Day?

--I hope you would consider not passing this resolution since there are no operations allowed from June 1 through Labor Day. Our election is in November. Why not let us wait and see what materializes and start fresh with a new Highway Superintendent? ~~Was corrected that the start date for no operations is July 1st.~~

--The space you are offering in this agreement is less than a ½ acre. Sort of reminds me of trying to stuff 10 lbs potatoes in a 5 lb bag. Not a pretty picture.

--Finally, my main concern regarding this lease agreement is to make sure that the best decision is made for the environment and the many resources involved. I do not know the owner of Hickory Homes and I have never talked to this person. This company has proven they do not care about our environment, our resources or our citizens.

During polling of the Board Supervisor Gonçalves stated that these were not bids, but rather requests for proposals (RFPs) and he did ask for feedback from the Highway Department about the other 2 RFPs.

BOARD OF ETHICS

A resident questioned why the ethics town code was not on the agenda yet again and why is it such a problem. Are Town Board members allowed to put items on the agenda or only the Town Supervisor?

GOLDENS BRIDGE

A resident stated that she is afraid of more dense housing in the Goldens Bridge area as some of the resources already seem to be tapped out. She would just caution against this in the comprehensive master plan when it is presented. She feels that there are already many houses, and the resources are being taxed, especially the water supplies that were discussed earlier and the road infrastructure cannot support any more cluster housing.

During polling of the board, Supervisor Gonçalves did state that the Goldens Bridge shopping center was not planning on hooking up to the Wild Oaks water system.

COMMUNICATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Supervisor Gonçalves read portions of a letter from the DOT that was sent to the Highway Superintendent, Peter Ripperger, that gave a summary of state funding. For 2023, the total paving for Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs) funding and Pave our Potholes (POP) and Pave New York totals \$344,990 which is up from \$285,000 in 2022.

BOARD OF ETHICS

Councilwoman Rendo read the attached letter from town employee Ciorsdan Conran (see attached).

CONSENT AGENDAMINUTES - Approved

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilwoman Rendo, the minutes of the May 8, 2023, Town Board meeting were approved.

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

STORMWATER – MS-4 Interim & Annual Reports

These reports are to be kept on the website for 30 days, so approval was adjourned until the June 12, 2023 Town Board Meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION – Acceptance of Pool Concession Bid

On motion by Councilman Walsh, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does accept the pool concession bid/proposal from Lily's Deli for the years 2023 and 2024.

911 INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT – Discussion

Supervisor Gonçalves stated that they are waiting to hear back from the county regarding the wording on the 911 intermunicipal agreement so this will go on an upcoming agenda.

STORMWATER AGREEMENT – Authorize Supervisor to Sign

On motion by Councilman Sklarin, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does approve of the Stormwater Control Facility Maintenance Agreement and Easement referred to as the McArthur-Salazar Property and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign said agreement.

TOWN OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES – Appointment of Parks & Recreation Groundskeeper

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilwoman Rendo, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does appoint Zachary Amerling to the Parks & Recreation Department as a Park Groundskeeper, effective May 23, 2023.

TOWN OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES – Appointment of Assistant Building Inspector

Supervisor Gonçalves stated that he would like to appoint Steve Sauro, who has done work for the town and who is also number one on the Civil Service list for Assistant Building Inspector as the Assistant Building Inspector. Councilman Sklarin asked what the role of the outside 3rd party, Lobello, would now be. Supervisor Gonçalves stated that they would not be as involved as they are today but would continue to work on bigger projects. Councilman Sklarin would like to see a cost benefit analysis. Supervisor Gonçalves stated that he and the Building Inspector met last week and are in the process of putting something together.

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does appoint Steve Sauro as the Assistant Building Inspector, effective May 30, 2023.

TEAMSTERS 456 MAINTENANCE – Approve Collective Bargaining Agreement

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does approve the Teamsters 456 Maintenance Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement for 6 years, 2021-2026, subject to correction in the rate table and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign said Collective Bargaining Agreement.

POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION – Approve Memorandum of Agreement

On motion by Councilman Sklarin, seconded by Councilwoman Rendo, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does approve the Police Benevolent Association's (PBA) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for five years, 2021-2025 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign said Memorandum of Agreement.

WOOD & SOIL PROCESSING – Highway Lease Agreement Discussion (8:06 – 8:17 p.m.)

The Board further discussed the proposed 3-year lease agreement with Hickory Homes for the wood & soil processing at the salt dome. Councilman Sklarin stated he would like the language to be a bit clearer regarding the default language. Once this is approved, a permissive referendum would be in place before the agreement could be signed. The Board agreed to change the language slightly and to discuss this again at a future board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – New Business Only (3 residents spoke)

POOL CONCESSION & LOCAL EMPLOYEE

A resident commended the Board on hiring Lily's for the pool concession area and for hiring Zachary Amerling.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

A resident commended the Sustainability Committee for conducting a very successful paint recycling program at the town park on May 20, 2023.

WOOD & SOIL PROCESSING

A resident stated that while she appreciates the board tabling the decision on the lease agreement with Hickory Homes, she is not sure that this aligns with the town's mantra for a town that is so focused on wetlands, etc.

POLICE & EMS RECOGNITION WEEKS

Last week was Police recognition week and a resident thanked the police and police chief for all they do. And this week is EMS recognition week, and she thanked the Lewisboro Volunteer Ambulance Corp and the Vista EMTs.

CLAIMS – Authorized for Payment

On motion by Councilman Richard Sklarin, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize payment of the Town's bills in the amount of \$673,149.79.

POLLING OF BOARD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN WORKSHOPS

Opportunity Series 1: Hamlet specific workshops (open house format)

Saturday, June 10: Lewisboro & Vista Hamlets

Morning workshop: 10:30AM – 12:30PM

Afternoon workshop: 2:00PM – 4:00PM

Childcare available (in partnership with Country Childrens Center) – registration recommended.

Drop in for either AM or PM workshop at your convenience and move at your own pace.

Provide input on the proposed vision & goals for a specific Hamlet and/or for the broader Town

There will be several different ways to engage, including independent activities and small group discussions.

Opportunity 2: All-Hamlets workshop (open house format)

Sunday, June 11: All Hamlets

Evening workshop: 6:30PM – 8:30PM

Location for all: Town Planning Offices, 79 Bouton Road, South Salem, NY 10590

Complete information can be found on the website at lewisborogov.com/cmpsc

LVAC OPEN HOUSE

LVAC had an open house on Saturday, May 20th. They are looking for volunteers, especially drivers.

GOLDENS BRIDGE HOUSE FIRE

Gift Certificates were collected outside of the Goldens Bridge shopping center for the Goldens Bridge family whose house was destroyed by fire.

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

It was announced that a rumor was circulating stating that the town was going to borrow money to pave state owned roads. This is not the case. If the board does decide, this will be a referendum on the November 7 election ballot and the residents would decide if the town would borrow money to install bicycle and pedestrian sidewalks/paths.

BOARD OF ETHICS

Councilwoman Rendo stated that she is now requesting for a 3rd time to have the ethics code amendments on an upcoming agenda. She thanked Ms. Conran for her letter pertaining to the Board of Ethics.

VISTA FIREHOUSE SPAGHETTI DINNER

The spaghetti dinner was successful, and food was donated by LaVista Restaurant. The first responders were thanked.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming events include the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony, The Town Park Playground grand opening, Pride Month, Fireworks at Onatru, Fine Day Fair at Onatru, and Juneteenth celebration at the Town Park. Information for all can be found on the town's website at www.lewisborogov.com.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

There will be a hike that is open to all at the Leon Levy Preserve on Saturday, June 3 from 10 am to noon which is free.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Board thanked the Sustainability Committee for a very successful paint recycling program that took place at the Town Park this past weekend.

COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

Donations were made to the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee from the Robinson Family and the Swertfager Family to purchase lawn signs and a banner. The Board thanked both families.

FIRST RESPONDERS

The Board thanked the first responders and mutual aid for their professionalism during emergencies and fires that took place in town.

MEETINGS – Dates Set

There will be a work session meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – To Discuss Personnel Issues

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted 5-0 to go into executive session at 8:42 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted 5-0 to come out of executive session at 9:05 p.m.

TOWN OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES – Recreation Leader, Michael Portnoy

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilwoman Rendo, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does appoint Michael Portnoy to the position of Recreation Leader on a provisional basis, effective pay period #13 that starts on June 5, 2023, subject to the provisions of NY Civil Service Law, Rules, and Regulations at an annual salary of \$63,251.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilwoman Rendo, seconded by Councilman Welsh, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:08 p.m.

Janet L. Donohue
Town Clerk