

TOWN OF LINCOLN
6886 Tuttle Road Canastota, NY 13032
Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Attendance: Supervisor Melissa During, Peggy LeClair, Doug Holdridge, and Jayne Black.

Others in Attendance: Amanda Spendley, David Sadler, Mat Spendley, Anthony Domenicone, Ed Mills, John Schoeck, Jon Black, Annika Shiffer-Delegan, Justine Kelsey, Gene Weisbrod, Bill Jarvis, Dan Daley, and Linda Barber.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of January 2025 Organizational meeting minutes with no corrections.

Resolution 16-2025: Motion to approve January 2025 Organizational Meeting minutes made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Financials: no questions or comments.

Correspondence: Generac Flyer, NBT Flyer, Excellus Health Insurance group information, Madison County Public Health Survey.

Supervisors Announcements/Updates:

Proposed Water district income surveys have been mailed and many have received them. Surveys need to be returned are being returned to the survey company.

Lincoln Fire district will be holding their fish Fridays starting Ash Friday. Credit cards are now accepted and is a drive thru as it has been in the past years.

Newsletter will go out as soon as they plan the Easter and Earth Day clean up.

Larry Cesario received a phone call from a concerned resident about a homeless person living in at another residence. Sheriff Todd Hood was called and went to the location with Larry Cesario and turns out it was a fugitive from Texas.

Wanderers rest and NYS Ag and Markets held a training and our Dog Control Officer did an amazing job at the training. Melissa During wanted to recognize him for his excellence.

Madison County Solid Waste department held their meeting and discussed their goals for 2025. They will be applying for a grant for their composting project for 2026 for roughly \$200,000. Plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill operations, reducing methane

emissions, and improve landfill gas management. Improving recycling participation and contamination reduction by promoting extended producer responsibility programs, Intermunicipal agreements and landfill tonnage increase opportunities. They will be meeting again next week to discuss doing an Open House at the Landfill once the weather is nicer. They will also discuss a community host agreement for the Town of Lincoln in a monetary benefit to go to the Town and Fire Department for the increase of tonnage coming in to the landfill. Doug Holdridge asked that Melissa During Keep the Lincoln residents updated as decisions are made.

Deputy Supervisor Announcements/Updates:

Easter Celebration is to be planned for April 19th at 11am, held at the Town Hall. More information to follow.

Earth day is April 22nd, weather depending April 26th at 9am clean-up will begin.

Public Hearing:

Weisbrod Solar Public Hearing for SUP 1-24 opened at 7:25pm. Annika, representative for project, gave a summary of the project that started in 2019. The Site Plan has now been approved by the Town of Lincoln Planning Board and they are seeking a Special Use Permit from the Town Board in accordance to Local Law 3 of 2023. Greenwood has responded to the recommendations the Planning Board made to the Town Board.

Resident Ed Mills from Ray Rd requested the definition of prime farmland from Greenwood. Annika stated it is land that is the best for farming and yes, this property is located on prime farmland. There is less than 6% of the prime farmland on this property is being used for this solar project. Ed Mills requested the Town of Lincoln Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan of 2012 be put on record and the Town of Lincoln review it. Ed Mills also stated a lot of work and time was put in to a planting trees on the property that are now being removed after receiving grant money to plant the trees. Ed Mills stated he is not in favor of this project and would like to know if there is a benefit to the town to allow this project.

Gene Weisbrod of Quarry Rd stated it is just the same as NYS paying people to no use their farmland. This 18-acers will be returned to farmland in 20 years and there is a bond set to do so. Gene Weisbrod stated he planted the trees and can cut them down if he would like at any time without permission.

Resident Bill Jarvis of Harp Rd asked what size the proposed solar farm is. Annika from greenwood stated it was 17.8 acers, with no battery storage.

Justine Kelsey of Jennings Rd stated her concern of properties in surrounding areas will decrease due to the solar farm and will decrease the tax base of the Town of Lincoln. This will not look enticing to potential home builders.

Paul Hogan of Ray Rd asked about storm water runoff. Annika stated that Greenwood has done a stormwater run off plan and would like to connect with him to discuss any potential concerns of his.

Bill Jarvis asked who is going to inspect and keep the swip in line. Annika stated the NY DEC and/or Department of Water will control this. SPED permits will be obtained to ensure they are within the allowable amounts. Bill Jarvis asked if there will be a person inspecting on site daily. Annika stated once the project is completed there will no be someone there daily.

Dan Daily from Ray Rd stated he is in favor for the project and this will not affect him.

Mat Spendley Seeber Rd stated this project is being built by using tax payer money (grant money) and agrees with Justine Kelsey that the properties surrounding will decrease in value and it will have an adverse effect on the Town of Lincoln. He does not want to see the Town of Lincoln residents tax dollars going to fund a project that is ultimately going to have an adverse effect on the Town.

Justine Kelsey asked Gene Weisbrod if he had exhausted all his avenues to continue farming the land with local farmers. Gene Weisbrod stated he has exhausted all the avenues he wanted to pursue.

Ed Mills asked about the pause President Trump has put on energy projects. Annika stated she is unaware of any pause and has only seen a slow in applications.

Doug Holdridge stated the trees on the Weisbrod property were planted thru the conservation reserve grant funding which is in turn tax payer money. The trees to be planted are Norway Spruce and White Fir trees they are fast growing however the spacing of the trees will not hide the solar panels for roughly 5 to 7 years. Norway Spruce trees are prone to diseases which can result in a negative environmental impact. Decommissioning the panels and recycling them. The panels themselves can not be recycled and will end up in our landfill. In turn the metals will break down into the land and water and transfer into the vegetation. Trump signed an executive order and all federal monies have been suspended. Doug Holdridge also asked where the materials are going to be made and where do they come from. The USA does not manufacture Solar panels.

No other comments currently.

Public Hearing will remain open until next months meeting March 12, 2025.

Resolution 17-2025: Motion to open the public hearing for SUP 1-24 made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Clerks report given and no questions or comments.

Resolution 18-2025: Motion to accept Clerks report made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Dog Control Historian and Codes Report on file.

Anthony Domenicone stated it has been busy with 81 plow and sand runs. He is down to ¾ of the barn of salt and is unsure when the next delivery will be due to the shortage. Anthony Domenicone proposed a Town Law to restrict parking in the roads in the middle of winter. He also presented a policy for the employee handbook for employees in the Reserve. The highway garage printer is broke he is to take the printer in the spare office and use that one.

Mat Spendley stated he has been working on a new filing system for all the Town of Lincoln parcels. He has also been submitting exemptions as they come in. All applications are due by March 1st.

New Business:

Melissa During stated there was an issue last Thursday during court. They needed to use the panic buttons. The Town Attorney suggested having an officer at the Town Hall during court. Melissa During is to discuss this further with Sheriff Todd Hood.

Jayne Black is to do the annual court audit and will reach out to Kim Howard. Jayne Black will also do the audit on the Town Clerks books before the change in hands and is to reach out to Amanda Spendley to coordinate a time.

Next month Melissa During would like to Review the employee handbook and policies and procedures.

NYMIR proposed an agreement for Melissa During and Anthony Domenicone to sign stating all heavy trucks have a working battery disconnect. The board agreed for them to sign.

Resolution 19-2025: Motion to allow Melissa During and Anthony Domenicone to sign the agreement made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Peggy LeClair, carried unanimously.

The Annual Financial Report draft has been completed. The board agreed to move it from the draft stage to the Proposal stage.

Resolution 20-2025: Motion to move the AFR to proposal made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Doug Holdridge, carried unanimously.

Ball of Fur located on Timmerman Rd will be doing a subdivision and zone change. The Town Board is not apposed to the possibility of a zone change for the sub divided location the business is located on. The board agreed to allow them to operate as usual for the time being.

Attorney Jonathan Karp would like to wait 1 year to see the need for his attorney services before placing him on retainer so there is a better understanding of what the town will need. The board agreed to enter into agreement.

Resolution 21-2025: Motion to enter into Agreement with Johnathan Karp, Karp Law Services made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Peggy LeClair, carried unanimously.

Marva Smith has submitted her resignation for the Planning Board. The board accepted. Arron LeClair submitted is resignation for the ZBA. The board accepted.

Resolution 22-2025: Motion to accept Marva Smiths resignation made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Resolution 23-2025: Motion to accept Arron LeClaire resignation made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Jayne Black, carried with Peggy LeClair abstaining from the decision.

Appointments:

Mat Spendley- Acting Assessor 3/8/25-9/8/2025

Marva Smith-Town Clerk, Registrar, Tax Collector, Records Management Access Officer 3/1/2025-12/31/2025.

Marva Smith- Planning Board and ZBA Secretary 3/1/2025-12/31/2025

Resolution 24-2025: Motion to appoint Mat Spendley as Acting Assessor made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Peggy LeClair, carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-2025: Motion to appoint Marva Smith as Town Clerk, Registrar, Tax Collector, Records Management Access Officer made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Doug Holdridge, carried unanimously.

Resolution 26-2025: Motion to Appoint Marva Smith as Planning Board Secretary made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Peggy LeClair, carried unanimously.

Resolution 27-2025: Motion to appoint Marva Smith as ZBA secretary made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

HSA spending account for the highway department for additional coverage. It is valued at \$3500.00. No decisions made and will be discussed next month.

Johnathan Karp followed up on a letter the Town Board asked them to draft to the previous Supervisor. The Town Board would like to proceed.

The Town feels in is valuable to have an engineer they use per diem for projects. The board is to move forward and get quotes from engineers.

The board agreed to enter into and annual agreement with General Securities for annual maintenance.

Resolution 28-2025 Motion to enter into agreement with General Securities made by Doug Holdridge, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Payment of Claims: Worker's comp pulled due to no budget line.

Resolution 29-2025: Motion to accept payment of claims without the Workers Comp Voucher made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Doug Holdridge, carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

Opened at 8:05pm to reduce the Planning Board Seats from 7 to 5 with 2 alternates. Discussion left open until next month.

Resolution 30-2025: Motion to open the Public Hearing at 8:05pm made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

John Schoeck asked about allowing Darrin Ball to operate his business while the subdivision and zoning change are in process.

Executive session- No decisions made.

Resolution 31-2025: Motion to enter in executive session at 9:05pm made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Doug Holdridge, carried unanimously.

Resolution 32-2024: Motion to exit executive session at 9:52pm made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Melissa During, carried unanimously.

Resolution 33-2024: Motion to adjourn at 9:54pm made by Peggy LeClair, 2nd Jayne Black, carried unanimously.