

A Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Long Lake, Hamilton County, New York was held December 20, 2023, at the Long Lake Town Hall at 07:00 PM and called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and a prayer by Councilman Clark Seaman. Nine people attended.

Roll Call: Members present:

Clay J. Arsenault	Supervisor
Mark A. Bird	Councilman
Thomas L. Donnelly	Councilman
Richard B. Dechene	Councilman
Clark J. Seaman	Councilman

Also in attendance: Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor, Matthew Newby, and First Deputy Town Clerk, Amber Wamback.

There was a quorum to conduct the business of the Long Lake Town Board.

BOARD APPROVALS

Motion by Councilman Dechene, seconded by Councilman Bird to accept the Regular Meeting minutes for November 29, 2023.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Motion by Councilman Seaman, seconded by Councilman Donnelly to pay encumbrances as listed on Abstract #12 of December 2023.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Bills as listed on abstract 12

General Fund #A 1004 – A 1078	in the amount of	\$347,571.34
Highway Fund #D 198 – D222	in the amount of	77,645.38
Water District 1 #SW1 152- SW1 165	in the amount of	36,386.36
Water District 2 #SW2 305 - SW2 326	in the amount of	31,849.81

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Expenditure & Revenue reports were in the Board's packets.

NYS DOT, Scott Stearns has been contacted by Matt Newby with the Town of Long Lake's concerns of the retaining wall at the Town field. Mr. Stearns was reminded that NYS DOT Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez and Region 2 Director Linda Lubey said the issues would get fixed when they visited in July after the flood. Mr. Stearns has sent the project up the chain of command to increase visibility.

The Reiss family wrote a letter to NYS DOT Region 2 about the speed limits in the Hamlet of Long Lake. Supervisor Arsenault thanked them for their tenacity in writing the DOT, and hope that more people do the same.

The Town has received the Pre-Review Comment Form for the TAP-CMAQ-CRP grant application. The award will not be announced until June 2024, the State-Local Agreements will not be finished until December 2024, it is recommended to hold off on the design process until January 2025.

Organizational meeting for the Town of Long Lake will be held January 3, 2024, at the Long Lake Town Hall at 7:00pm.

The Raquette Lake Historian, Joanna Nelson has submitted her letter of resignation. Letters of interest and qualifications will be accepted in January 2024.

Water system inspections from NYS Department of Health Engineer, Marlene Martin were included in the Board's packets. The inspection noted that increased storage for Raquette Lake is a must, which will be discussed with Town Engineer Firm CHA.

Mountain Abstract is still working through historical records to determine the ownership and rights to the causeway of Jennings Park Pond.

Engineered design and plan estimated cost will be around \$850,000, just the design would require the second biggest bond the Town has ever had. The Town could go through the process of design, incur that debt, and still have DEC, APA, Comptroller's Office, environmentalists, and any number of other unknown factors stop the project. Bond Counsel search has started, which will be needed no matter what route is taken.

If the causeway can be rebuilt, it will need to be to current codes and standards, and likely move the most vulnerable point of failure to the Route 30 causeway. This point will be pressed with the NYS DOT to work with the Town to fortify their structure, while also improving parking and pedestrian safety.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution to Approve the 2024 Shelter Services Contract with Tri-Lakes Humane Society

WHEREAS, the Town has annually entered into a contract with Tri-Lakes Humane Society, an incorporated Humane Society, as defined in New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, and based in Saranac Lake, Franklin County, New York; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Lakes Humane Society shall provide shelter services for dogs apprehended by the Town Dog Control Officer, and for whom the owners cannot be located ; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has allocated funds for this contract in the 2024 Town Budget;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Long Lake,

Hereby approves the 2024 Shelter Services Contract with Tri-Lakes Humane Society and authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the contract.

MOTION by Councilman Bird, seconded by Councilman Seaman to adopt the 2024 Shelter Contract with Tri-Lakes Humane Society.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Resolution to Sign the Request for Federal Assistance from the USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Project # 5060-005, Shaw Brook Debris Removal

WHEREAS, Shaw Brook suffered damage and large deposits of debris and sedimentation along its course during the storm event of July 10th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the damaged sections of Shaw Brook lies within the bounds of private property, however the damaged flow capabilities of the brook present risks to lands both upstream and downstream from the damage; and

WHEREAS, the Town has the opportunity to sponsor the repair project with the support of the USDA NRCS, after gaining rights from property owners to access and repair the brook, thereby making Federal funds available to potentially protect not only the adjacent property owners but

also those above and below the damage, including property owned by the Town of Long Lake;
and

WHEREAS, the USDA NRCS has presented the Town with a proposed Scope of Work resulting an estimated project budget of \$340,000 total, with the Town responsible for \$82,500 of the total cost after reimbursement for both construction costs and technical assistance costs;
and

WHEREAS, the Town plans to cooperate with Hamilton County Soil & Water Department, and the Hamilton County Department of Public Works to do the work on this project, thereby limiting costs and the need to involve outside contractors;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Long Lake,

Hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign a Request for Federal Assistance from the USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Project #5060-005, Shaw Brook Debris Removal.

MOTION by Councilman Seaman, seconded by Councilman Dechene to sign the request for Federal Assistance from the USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program Project #5060-005, Shaw Brook Debris Removal.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Resolution to Accept the Retirement Notice of Town Highway Superintendent Charles (Chip) H. Farr

WHEREAS, Town Highway Superintendent Charles (Chip) H. Farr has served the Town of Long Lake both as an employee and as an elected official for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Farr has presented the Town Clerk with his notice of retirement effective March 31st, 2024;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Long Lake,

1. Hereby accepts the notice of retirement from Town Highway Superintendent Charles (Chip) H. Farr, effective March 31st, 2024.
2. Hereby extends the gratitude of the Town of Long Lake for his long service to the people of this great town.

MOTION by Councilman Seaman, seconded by Councilman Dechene, Councilman Donnelly, Councilman Bird, and Supervisor Arsenault to accept Highway Superintendent, Charles H. Farr's retirement notice effective March 31, 2024.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

A Resolution of Proclamation for Clark J. Seaman for His Service on the Town Board

WHEREAS, we would like to express special recognition to Clark J. Seaman and to honor his service on the Town Board of the Town of Long Lake; and

WHEREAS, upon the tragic and unexpected passing of his brother, Craig Seaman, on July 27th, 2022, the Town Board set about appointing a new Councilman that would faithfully represent the principles of Craig Seaman and the constituents of this Town that voted for him; and

WHEREAS, while the loss of his brother was still fresh in his heart, Clark J. Seaman courageously accepted the appointment by the Town Board to finish the remainder of 2022 in his brother's seat, and Clark Seaman then won that seat for the remainder of the term in the November 2022 election to represent his constituents in 2023; and

WHEREAS, The rest of the Town Board and Town Supervisor wish to express its sincere appreciation to Clark for his dedication to the Town of Long Lake;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Long Lake,

1. Hereby commend and honor Clark J. Seaman for his service on the Town Board and express our heartfelt gratitude and well wishes for Mr. Seaman and his family.

MOTION by Supervisor Arsenault, seconded by Councilman Dechene, Councilman Donnelly, and Councilman Bird to adopt this Resolution of Proclamation for Clark J. Seaman for his service on the Long Lake Town Board.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye	
	Mark A. Bird	Aye	
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye	
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye	
	Clark J. Seaman		Abstain

COUNCILMAN COMMENT

Councilman Dechene and Councilman Donnelly wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Councilman Bird expressed his appreciation to Councilman Seaman and Highway Superintendent Charles H. Farr for their service to the Town of Long Lake.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Farrell presented the Town Board with a letter of support for the sidewalk project from the Long Lake Central School Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Councilman Seaman, seconded by Councilman Bird to move to executive session at 7:20 PM to discuss a personnel matter.

Supervisor Arsenault invited Paul Wilson to stay for executive session.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Motion by Supervisor Arsenault, seconded by Councilman Bird to return to regular session at 7:51 PM with no action having been taken in executive session.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Motion by Supervisor Arsenault, seconded by Councilman Seaman to adjourn at 7:51 PM.

Adopted:	Clay J. Arsenault	Aye
	Mark A. Bird	Aye
	Thomas L. Donnelly	Aye
	Richard B. Dechene	Aye
	Clark J. Seaman	Aye

Attested by: _____

Amber L. Wamback, 1st Deputy Town Clerk