

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

Present: Colleen Teal, Supervisor
Kevin Smith Sr., Councilmember
Dan Evans, Councilmember
Mark Baumli, Councilmember
Chuck Geraldi, Councilmember
Dan Tuczinski, Town Attorney

Recording Secretary: Tistrya Houghtling, Town Clerk

Others Present: Ben Wheeler, LVPA
JJ Smith, NL Rep to CC Office for the Aging
Bobby Waters, LVPA
Robert Smith, Planning Board Member
Ted Salem, ZBA Member & ZRC Chair
Peg Munves, CAC & ZRC Member
Cynthia Creech, Deputy Supervisor, Court Clerk,
Rec. Commission, CAC & ZRC Member
Jeff Winestock, Highway Superintendent
Ed Godfroy, LVPA
Gregg Gilliland, LVPA
Bruce Shenker, NL Rep to CC Environ Mgt Council
Judy Zimmer, Cleaner
Thaddeus Flint, *The Eastwick Press*
Several members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Teal. A moment of silence was followed by the flag salute.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the **August 8, 2017 Public Hearing on Proposed LL #3 of 2017 – Recreation Commission** and the **August 8, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting** were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Teal, seconded by Councilmember Evans and approved unanimously to accept the above noted minutes as typed.

FINANCIAL:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Teal provided the public and TB members with a copy of the Supervisor's Report as of August 31, 2017. A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Baumli and approved unanimously to accept the Supervisor's report.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Councilmember Smith stated that some people may not be happy with some of the laws, whatever we have in Town, but please do not go after employees or elected officials when they are out in public. It is very disrespectful and rude.

Timothy Laraway stated that he keeps seeing published a number of \$40,000 to \$80,000 in regards to the cupola being renovated. Supervisor Teal stated that those are bids that were received by the school and the lower bid was to restore it and the higher bid was to historically restore and preserved. Mr. Laraway stated that both bids seem outrageously high. Supervisor Teal stated that those are not bids that the Town Board would act on. We do not have the actual bids to see what they entail. All we have is the total bid amounts. Mr. Laraway stated that it is still not covered up properly. Councilmember Smith stated that we will be covering it up by Fall and it has been sitting outside for a long time. Mr. Laraway stated that now we own it and we should at least cover it up with a tarp. He would volunteer to cover it with a tarp if someone would get him a tarp.

Mr. Laraway asked if we have heard anything as to the status of Dunkin Donuts. Supervisor Teal stated that they are waiting to hear back from DOT regarding two letters that were sent, one from the Town and one from the applicant. Mr. Laraway stated that he would like to see some other businesses come into Town other than storage units.

Cynthia Creech stated that a course is being offered and taught by Gretchen Stevens who has been the biologist putting the NRCP together for the CAC. This is one of the few times that this course will be offered in the area. She handed out an information and registration form to all Town Board members and stated that she will also be putting them in the mailboxes of all the Planning Board members and Zoning Board of Appeals members. She has also shared the information with all the Conservation Advisory Council members. Supervisor Teal stated that there is a small registration fee and there is money in the accounts for each board if members would like to attend. Cynthia Creech stated that the fee includes lunch and a snack every day. Cynthia Creech stated that David Farren took this course previously and he loved it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Proposed Local Law #3 of 2017: Recreation Commission – Resolution Enacting:

TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

**RESOLUTION #26, 2017 – ENACTMENT OF LL #3, 2017 – AMENDING CHAPTER §47 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON ENTITLED “RECREATION COMMISSION”
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the New Lebanon Town Board, held at the New Lebanon Town Hall at 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon, New York, duly called and held on the 12th day of September 2017, the following Resolution was put forth for enactment:

PROPOSED BY SUPERVISOR TEAL

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BAUMLI

RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2017 OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

WHEREAS, Chapter 47 of the Code of the Town of New Lebanon is entitled “Recreation Commission” and §47-2 states that “Such Commission shall consist of five members who are residents of the municipality, to be appointed by the Town Board as provided by law”; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon seeks to amend §47-2 to increase the number of members of the “Recreation Commission” from five to seven; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, as the only involved agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (hereinafter “SEQRA”) with respect to Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2017 of the Town of New Lebanon, declared itself SEQRA lead agency for that action; and

WHEREAS, increasing the number of members of the “Recreation Commission” from five to seven qualifies as a Type II action under SEQRA, as the action is “routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon in regular session duly convened as follows:

1. Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2017 is classified as a Type II action under SEQRA, and pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.6(a)(1)(i), no further agency action under SEQRA is required.
2. Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2017 of the Town of New Lebanon be and hereby is adopted as Local Law No. 3 of 2017 of the Town of New Lebanon.
3. Local Law No. 3 of 2017 of the Town of New Lebanon shall be filed in the office of the New York State Department of State in compliance with all applicable legal requirements, and the Town Clerk is hereby directed to cause such filing to be completed.
4. Any further amendment to §47-2 of the Code of the Town of New Lebanon is hereby authorized to be made by resolution only.

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted “Aye” or “Nay” for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Gerald – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

The Resolution, having been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared duly adopted by the Supervisor of the Town of New Lebanon.

**TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF THE YEAR 2017
A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 47 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF NEW
LEBANON CODE ENTITLED “RECREATION COMMISSION”**

Section 1. Name of Local Law.

This local law shall be referred to as “A Local Law amending Chapter 47 of the Code of the Town of New Lebanon entitled “Recreation Commission.”

Section 2. Findings and Intent.

The Town of New Lebanon seeks to modify provisions of the existing code in order to provide for additional members of the recreation commission, and to further amend such local law to allow the Town Board to change the total membership number of the recreation commission by mere resolution rather than local law.

Section 3. Authority.

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority of Section 10 of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 4. Enactment.

This Local Law amends Chapter 47 “Recreation Commission” by modifying §47-2.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon that Section 47-2 entitled “Recreation Commission” is hereby amended as below:

§47-2. Members.

- i. Such commission shall consist of seven members who are residents of the municipality, to be appointed by the Town Board as provided by law.
- ii. The Town Board shall hereby have the authority to further amend the total membership number of the recreation commission by resolution.

Section 5. Severability.

If any part or provision of this local law is judged invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in application to the part of provision directly on which judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. The Town hereby declares that it would have enacted the remainder of this law even without such part of provision or application.

Section 6. Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State pursuant to the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

Sidewalks – Resolution – “No Build” Determination:

Supervisor Teal stated that back in September 2016 the Town Board had made the determination for a no build. We have submitted our complete packet to DOT and we are following up with our Resolution.

TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

**RESOLUTION #27, 2017 – CONFIRMING NO BUILD OPTION FOR SIDEWALK PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the New Lebanon Town Board, held at the New Lebanon Town Hall at 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon, New York, duly called and held on the 12th day of September 2017, the following Resolution was put forth for enactment:

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILMEMBER SMITH
SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BAUMLI**

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING NO BUILD OPTION FOR SIDEWALK

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon initiated a project pursuant to a recommendation in the Town Comprehensive Plan to improve pedestrian accommodations along routes 20 and 22 between the Town Hall and Lovers Lane; and

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2013, the Town Board Enacted Resolution # 10 of 2013 entitled Route 22 Sidewalk Project (PIN 8131.15) Determination and Finding, selecting Alternative #2 by a vote of four in favor, one opposed; and

WHEREAS, as the project progressed and Town Officials and the public gained a better understanding of the project’s design constraints and requirements, the impacts to private property, and the design limitations of the project, public opposition to the project grew; and

WHEREAS, the growing opposition resulted in a Petition being delivered to the Town Board to Stop Sidewalks in the Town of New Lebanon, which was followed by the delivery of Petitions calling for a referendum on the sidewalk project signed by a substantial majority of residents opposed to the project; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the consideration of several alternatives, public opposition has remained strong and the project lacks the support of the public and Town Board; and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2016, this Town board approved a motion by a vote of

four to one authorizing the necessary documentation to amend the determination of May 21, 2013 for the Route 22 Sidewalks due to significant and substantial opposition to the project; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of that resolution, the Town Supervisor has been in contact with the NYS Department of Transportation and has been provided with documentation providing for the evaluation of the Project and providing for Project termination as specifically provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor prepared a letter dated September 10, 2017 with submissions documenting the history of the Sidewalk Project (PIN 8131.15), the significant and substantial public opposition to the Project, reasons why this project should be considered a “no build”, requesting a “no build” determination be accepted and approved and that any obligation to reimburse funds advance be waived;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon, in regular session duly convened as follows:

1. The Board supports and ratifies the actions and reasons given by the Town Supervisor in her letter and submissions to the NYS DOT in which a “No Build” request for approval is being sought.
2. Given the circumstances surrounding the evolution of the project including the level of opposition within the community as additional information was identified and provided, the design constraints and limitations of the proposed project and the many reasons for lack of support for the project within the community, the Town Board respectfully requests a waiver of and/or determination that there be no obligation to reimburse funds previously advanced and expended in connection with the Sidewalk Project (PIN 8131.15).
3. The Town Supervisor is further authorized to provide such additional information as may be required to whatever agencies as are necessary in furtherance of this resolution.

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted “Aye” or “Nay” for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

The Resolution, having been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared duly adopted by the Supervisor of the Town of New Lebanon.

NL 200 Celebration:

Supervisor Teal stated that in order for us to spend funds we should adopt a resolution for

this celebration. Tonight is a preliminary conversation so that Attorney Tuczinski can guide us on the information that he needs to know from us. One of the final things will be the amount that we plan to expend. We won't know that number until we finalize the budget. She wants to have the discussion tonight and get all the other stuff figured out.

Attorney Tuczinski stated that typically when a Town has some sort of a centennial, bicentennial or celebratory event, determination is made as to the Town role in the event and what sort of resources the Town wants to commit to the event and set a budget for the event. He thinks it appropriate to set up a budget line for the event for 2018.

Supervisor Teal stated that she just received a tentative calendar for the NL 200 Celebration and she will send it out to the Town Board members so we can look at that to determine appropriate funding. She stated that we already discussed the Town funding the brackets for the banners and she believes the NL 200 Committee is going to ask the Town to also fund the banners.

Councilmember Baumli stated that there are ideas for monthly events throughout the 2018 calendar year so there are some expenditures that should be discussed as to what we will budget for. He stated that there is not a solid number yet but they can discuss what is appropriate during the budget process.

Attorney Tuczinski stated once we have all the information we will fold it into a resolution. We will have a preamble explaining what the event is and why the Town is supporting it and a resolution committing a certain amount of funds to the event. You don't need to define exact amounts for each expenditure but rather a total amount for the event and then as you go along you can define how much should be spent for each activity.

Little League:

Councilmember Smith stated that from what he understands they are going to be meeting this month to try and form a new board. There is not a lot of involvement from what he knows and there were only two or three teams. They were playing with Nassau a little bit. He stated that in the meantime we went in and cleaned the snack shack and there is still some more work to do there.

Supervisor Teal stated that historically the Little League board had come to the Town Board each year for permission to use the facilities in Shatford Park and that has fallen by the wayside over the years. We are looking to have some of the work done that needs to be done in the snack shack. The floor drain needs to be fixed as it is not draining at all. The water heater is obviously not working properly as the whole front is covered in soot and burned. She stated that we got an estimate to change the locks on the snack shack to a security lock from J&J Lock for \$124. They would then be the only ones that could duplicate that key. It would be the Town Clerk that holds the keys and signs them out at the beginning of the season to the Little League and sign them back in at the end of the season.

Supervisor Teal stated that she is asking for the Town Board to authorize us to move forward to fix the floor drain, get the water heater fixed, change the locks on the snack shack and get the building closed up for the season. Then allow the little league to regroup and get new

board members in place. If they are going to re-establish and open up again for next season, they would then pay us back the money that we spent doing these things. Councilmember Baumli suggested getting the locks changed but holding off on the floor drain and water heater. If the little league re-organizes and wishes to use the facilities next season, then they would need to repair the floor drain and fix the water heater before they can re-enter the snack shack. If for some reason the little league doesn't take off again for next season then we have paid to fix the floor drain and water heater for the building to sit vacant.

Councilmember Smith stated that we should get the hot water on so that the rest of the cleaning can be done and it can be done right. The little league is going to have to pay us back. He stated that his opinion is that we should go ahead and fix the floor drain and hot water heater and close up the snack shack properly. Supervisor Teal asked what still needs to be done that we need the hot water for. Councilmember Smith stated that the fry-o-lator needs to be cleaned. He stated that whether we do it now or do it in the Spring, it still needs to be done. Councilmember Baumli stated that we aren't sure we will do it in the Spring if the little league doesn't re-group and want to use the facilities in the Spring. Councilmember Smith stated that he talked to Dan Corbett and they do have money in their account. He asked if he should reach out to Dan and see if the little league will pay for the needed repairs now.

Colleen Kerinchenko stated that she is currently listed as the Treasurer for the Shatford Little League. She forwarded Dan Corbett the letter from the Town requesting what needs to be fixed. Missy McMillan, who ran the snack shack this year, went in there yesterday just to see where it is at and what needs to be done. A lot of the stuff in the snack shack is hers. She told Colleen Kerinchenko that she would go back in to finish up the cleaning. Dan Corbett told her that they are forming a new board. Supervisor Teal asked if the little league will finish cleaning the snack shack and fix the floor drain and hot water heater. Colleen Kerinchenko stated that they can, they are just waiting to hear what the Town Board wants them to do. They are ultimately waiting to form a new board and then these things will be passed to the new board to take care of.

Colleen Kerinchenko stated that a lot of the equipment and supplies in the snack shack belong to Missy McMillan or the little league. Supervisor Teal stated that the little league wouldn't be banned from using the snack shack when they change the locks, it just won't be everybody and their brother having keys. The keys would be controlled by the Town.

Supervisor Teal made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$124 for J&J Lock to install a secured lock system with the Town Clerk as the only authorized duplicator to be installed once Councilmember Smith and the little league work out the details. Councilmember Smith seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

Highway Garage Overhead Door - Quotes:

Highway Superintendent Winestock stated that he called four different places and got two quotes, one from Madsen in the amount of \$3,087 and one from American Garage Door in the amount of \$2,567. Supervisor Teal asked if there is a significant difference between what Madsen is providing and what American Garage Door is providing. Superintendent Winestock stated that they are the same product but he believes that American Garage Door is by themselves and Madsen is a big company so they have prevailing wages. Supervisor Teal asked if he has any preference. Superintendent Winestock stated that the difference is \$500 and Madsen has helped him out plenty of times in snowstorms when the door has fallen off or gotten knocked down and they always have somebody around. He doesn't know the other company.

Supervisor Teal made a motion to accept the bid from American Garage Door in the amount of \$2,567 and authorize Highway Superintendent Winestock to move forward with that purchase. Councilmember Evans seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

Sign Regulations:

Supervisor Teal stated that in reviewing the sign law, it feels to her like at the time that we were looking at this, we were responding to three decades of no enforcement. Where we ended up she feels is a little too far the other way. She stated that there is a Coon Technical Series that talks about municipal control of signs and it specifically addresses what we can and cannot do and goes through the case law. There are areas in the law that we need to look at and edit if we are going to keep certain sections of it. Supervisor Teal stated that as a small rural community, she wants to make sure that we have the rules and regulations in place to keep things the way they need to be, but not go overboard. Her request would be to take a look at it, pull it back a little bit and either the Town Board do that or refer it back to the Zoning Re-Write Committee (ZRC).

Councilmember Smith stated that it has already gone through the ZRC and he would like to see Supervisor Teal go through it and then talk with the Town Board members about the specific sections of what she is learning with the manual and then, if we need to, kick it back to the ZRC.

Councilmember Geraldini stated that as a member of the Zoning Re-Write Committee he would like to have any Town Board members that have any issues with it, mark up a copy of it with the issues you have, submit it to the Zoning Re-Write Committee and let them go through it again. Supervisor Teal stated that whoever is looking at it should have a copy of the Coon Technical Series so she will get a copy to all Town Board members as well as all ZRC members. Councilmember Geraldini requested that all Town Board members go through the law and mark what they have issue with so the ZRC can address all the concerns.

ZRC Member Cynthia Creech requested that in the future, the ZRC is provided with any documents such as the Coon Technical Series that should be followed before they work on writing a proposal for the Town Board so that they don't waste their time. ZRC member Ted Salem asked if we have a current draft. He thinks that the last time edits were requested by the Town Board, we never got a draft back from the Town Attorney. Supervisor Teal stated that she is not sure and she doesn't want to go that next step until we see where we are at with this one as she thinks some of the sections are going to be reviewed again. Supervisor Teal stated that a copy of the proposed regulations as well as the Coons Technical Series go to each member of the Town Board and each member of the ZRC.

NEW BUSINESS:

Building Department Request:

Supervisor Teal stated that CEO/ZEO Cissy Hernandez sent a letter to the Town Board requesting that the Town Board defer back to her and allow her to work with the request from TAZMUTT. It's no additional lots, it is just a reconfiguration.

Supervisor Teal made a motion to refer back to our CEO/ZEO Cissy Hernandez to work with TAZMUTT to update the multi-family dwelling and to work on the minor mobile home park site reconfiguration request. Councilmember Smith seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

Budget Process:

Supervisor Teal stated that she is hoping to have the Tentative Budget for the Town Board and the public by Friday. We need to set dates for the budget workshops. The Town Board agreed to hold budget workshops on October 4th at 6pm, October 17th at 6pm and October 19th at 6pm. All budget workshops will be held at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY.

Panic Buttons/Security:

Town Clerk Houghtling stated that we currently have an alarm system consisting of panic buttons but we need to order a few more panic buttons for the Supervisor/Tax Collector office, the meeting room, one more for the building department office and one for the assessor's office. It is \$60.86 per panic button which is a one-time fee. The monthly service fee that we pay the alarm company will not increase.

Councilmember Smith made a motion to purchase 4 additional panic buttons at \$60.86 each. Councilmember Baumli seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye

Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

Staples – Savings Plan:

Town Clerk Houghtling stated that about two years ago our representative at Staples stated that we would no longer receive the 5% back in Staples rewards that we used to receive because they were changing their program. She stated that she received a letter in the mail stating that our 5% back in Staples rewards really adds up. She called the main number for Staples as we no longer have a representative and we should have been receiving rewards for the past two years. They gave us the \$640 in rewards that we were supposed to have been receiving for the past two years. Now they are saying that as of September 1st they really are doing away with the rewards program, but this time we have it in writing. They are putting a new program in it's place. It has an annual fee of \$49 and for that fee you choose your top 5 ordered items and on those items you get a 20 – 40% discount on those 5 items. You also get free next day shipping on all orders over \$25, \$50 in free print and marketing products, \$50 in free EZ Tech services, and business exclusive pricing on 56,000 items that you can expect up to 20% off the regular prices. Looking at the \$640 we just got for 5% of our orders for two years, we will definitely save more than \$49 per year with this program.

Supervisor Teal made a motion to join the Staples Business Rewards Plus Program for the Town of New Lebanon with an annual fee of \$49. Councilmember Baumli seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Habitat for Humanity – Women Build Project:

Supervisor Teal stated that we have a house in New Lebanon on County Route 13 that was donated and the Habitat for Humanity is renovating the house as a women build project. The last women build project that Habitat for Humanity did in Columbia County was in Hudson about 10 years ago. At least 75% of the volunteers will be women. At least 75% of the businesses that are donating will be women owned businesses. We had our first meeting and the turnout was phenomenal. A family in New Lebanon is getting the house through this project.

Grocery Study:

Supervisor Teal stated that getting a grocery store in New Lebanon is still an important thing that she is working on. One of the first steps if a grocery store is even going to consider coming into New Lebanon is to have a grocery study done. The cost is somewhere around \$17,000 - \$20,000. Historically, the grocer or the developer has done the grocery study and when the project doesn't go forward, that study goes with them. If the municipality gets the study done, we then own it and will be able to use it for any potential project. Behan owes us a grant. She would like to reach out to them and see if there is any grant funding that they know of that may fund this type of study. If the study has to be site specific then she would like to select a minimum of 3 sites to be evaluated.

Councilmember Baumli stated that \$20,000 is a lot of money. He recommends getting the

study from Hannaford that was done a few years ago and then utilizing the grant that Behan owes us on a more expensive project such as the \$75,000 basketball court.

Holiday Decorating:

Supervisor Teal stated that someone had brought up the idea of encouraging the local businesses to decorate for the holidays with the Town Board or all of the elected officials serving as “Judges” for a holiday decorating contest. She wanted to see if the Town Board was interested in her reaching out to local businesses to see if there is any interest. The Town Board agreed that it would be fun and she should reach out to local businesses to see if there is any interest.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Assessor (Councilmember Evans):

No report.

Broadband Committee (Supervisor Teal):

No report.

Building Department (Councilmember Geraldini & Councilmember Baumli):

No report.

Commerce & Tourism Committee (TBD):

No report.

CAC & Environmental Management (Deputy Supervisor Creech):

Bruce Shenker stated that Congressman Faso came to the last County Environmental Management meeting. He is a member of the Climate Solutions Caucus which is a bipartisan group in the Congress. There are 52 members and their purpose is to deal with climate. There was a proposal to not have the military consider climate in any of their plans and that was defeated due to the efforts of the Climate Solutions Caucus. He stated that another thing that Congressman Faso is doing is always looking for economically viable Climate Change solutions. As part of that, he went on a tour of Stonehouse Farm in the South part of the County which is owned by the Rockefellers. They are looking into the idea of sequestering carbon in the ground rather than in the atmosphere which takes carbon out of the atmosphere and enriches the soil, making the farm more valuable while helping the environment. He asked if there would be any interest in meeting with other Towns to talk about the steps each Town is taking for high impact steps and/or climate smart communities. Both Supervisor Teal and Town Clerk Houghtling stated that they would be interested in attending. Bruce Shenker stated that the Shaker Swamp Conservancy would like to make a short presentation to the Town Board at the October 10th meeting and also have a program in November at the New Lebanon Library.

Cynthia Creech stated that the CAC met last night with Gretchen Stevens for a review of the next to the final draft of the Natural Resources Conservation Plan. The CAC will be finalizing the Natural Resources Conservation Plan by the end of October. They will have a presentation of the final draft for the public when it is done. Supervisor Teal asked if the

Town Board will pass a resolution adopting the Natural Resources Conservation Plan. Cynthia Creech stated that is the plan.

Fire, Law Enforcement & Emergency (Councilmember Smith):

Councilmember Smith stated that we are working on the budget and trying to get together. We are getting the reports we need from the LVPA.

Highway (Councilmember Evans & Councilmember Smith):

Highway Superintendent Winestock stated that the new truck is finished and on its way.

Historian & LVHS: (Councilmember Baumli):

No report.

Justice Court/Constable (Councilmember Gerald):

No report.

Parks & Recreation (Councilmember Smith):

Councilmember Smith stated that the cupola is already on the agenda to be covered properly for the winter. We are also going to plant a couple of trees in the park as we have a lot of trees dying off. Next month we are going to get a bid on some big trees that have to come down. We have someone looking at the roof at the pavilion to see if we can patch the leaks. We are also looking at the BBQ pit roof which should be done in a couple of weeks with volunteers. Everything is going great in the park and Donnie Sears and Herb Jones are doing an excellent job.

Seniors (Councilmember Baumli):

No report.

Town Assets, Buildings & Property (Supervisor Teal & Councilmember Gerald):

No report.

County Updates:

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday, September 17th ~ Music in the Park @ Shatford Park from 1:30 – 6:00 pm
Wednesday, October 4th ~ Budget Workshop of the Town Board @ Town Hall @ 6:00 pm
Tuesday, October 10th ~ Regular Meeting of the Town Board @ Town Hall @ 7:00 pm
Tuesday, October 17th ~ Budget Workshop of the Town Board @ Town Hall @ 6:00 pm
Thursday, October 19th ~ Budget Workshop of the Town Board @ Town Hall @ 6:00 pm

BUDGET AMENDMENT:

Budget Amendment #9 of 2017:

General Fund:

\$3,200 from A-1990.4 (Contingent)
\$340 from A-7020.1 (Rec. Admin. – Personal Services)

\$2,700 to A-1460.4 (Records Mgt – Cont. Exp.)
\$500 to A-8510.4 (Community Beautification – Flag Project)
\$340 to A-7310.1 (Youth Program – Personal Services)

Highway Fund:

\$1 from DA-5130.4 (Machinery – Contractual Expense)
\$1 to DA-9710.7 (Serial Bonds Interest)

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith and seconded by Councilmember Baumli to approve the above noted budget amendment.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

AUDIT OF BILLS:

**General Nos. 297 through 298, in the amount of \$800.00;
As listed on Abstract No. 8A of 2017 dated September 12, 2017; and**

**General Nos. 299 through 342, in the amount of \$71,092.41;
Highway Nos. 85 through 95, in the amount of \$40,654.46; and
Escrow No. E17-10, in the amount of \$350.00;
As listed on Abstract No. 9 of 2017 dated September 12, 2017.**

A motion was made by Supervisor Teal and seconded by Councilmember Evans to pay the above noted claims from their respective accounts.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

J.J. Smith asked if anybody has gotten back to Supervisor Teal from the utility company about hanging the flags. Supervisor Teal stated they have not and she will send another email out tomorrow. **J.J. Smith** stated that they are sending a lot of their crews down south. Supervisor Teal stated that they are also working a lot on the build out. **J.J. Smith** stated that it is not a tragedy if we do not get them up until Spring but we do need to find a place to store them safely. Supervisor Teal stated that we can store them here at the Town Hall.

Peg Munves stated that she and the Town Board members went into the snack shack to

clean it up and it was really wretchedly disgusting. She cannot believe that food was being served out of there. They went in on a Saturday morning and she is amazed that the Town Board members showed up to clean it on top of all the other ways they serve their community.

Ben Wheeler stated as the Fire Chief and as a member of the fire service in Columbia County he would like to put in a nice plug for the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, the Fire Coordinators Office, the Fire Advisory Board and anybody else that had a piece to do with Columbia County buying a piece of property for the sole purpose of turning it into the Columbia County Fire Training Center.

Gregg Gilliland stated that the LVPA is having a Fish Fry at the New Lebanon Fire House this Saturday from 4-7pm and he would like to see everybody there. They are also having a Chicken BBQ with Giffy's on October 21st at the New Lebanon Fire House. Town Clerk Houghtling stated that she is happy to advertise events for the LVPA via the Town Website and by sending out email blasts if they send her the information with a request to have it posted.

Timothy Laraway asked Town Clerk Houghtling if the free store is still having the same interest as it had in the beginning. Town Clerk Houghtling stated that the free store is doing phenomenally. She gave a huge thank you to all the volunteers who come and sort through all the donations. We are getting a lot of donations and we are getting a lot of people coming to get items. We have had 3 women that have left domestic violence situations in the last month that had nothing but the clothes on their back and they left the free store with garbage bags full of clothing and other things that they need. Timothy Laraway asked when the drop off time are and when the open hours are to come get items. Town Clerk Houghtling stated that the free store is open the same hours as the Town Clerk's Office, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9-5 and drop offs are accepted during those hours as well.

J.J Smith stated that the free constitution study reconvenes for the winter on the 18th at 7pm at the New Lebanon Library. They go from 7 – 8:30pm sharp. It is free and open to everybody. They would love to see some young people. It is the first and third Monday of every month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Supervisor Teal made a motion to enter into an executive session at 8:10pm to discuss contract negotiations. Councilmember Smith seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

Supervisor Teal made a motion to exit the executive session at 8:35pm. Councilmember Geraldini seconded that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Geraldini – Aye
Councilmember Smith – Aye
Supervisor Teal – Aye
Councilmember Evans – Aye
Councilmember Baumli – Aye

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith and seconded by Supervisor Teal to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tistrya Houghtling
New Lebanon Town Clerk