

TOWN BOARD AGENDA SETTING MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

Minutes of the Board Agenda Setting meeting held on the above date beginning at 3:30 in the Meeting Room of the North Elba Town Hall, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York.

Members Present: Supervisor Preston Councilman Leon, Councilwoman Kilburn Politi, Councilman Cummings, and Laurie Curtis Dudley

Absent: Councilman Moulton

Others Present: Jeremy Freeman

Present via ZOOM: (no one)

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR APROVAL AT THE JANUARY BOARD MEETING

MIRROR LAKE STEWARD PROGRAM REQUEST

The Watershed Association letter from Marcy Miller and Bill Billerman Mirror is in the supporting information. They are requesting \$4,000 from the Town. The Village just approved \$4,000 at the meeting last night.

TRI-LAKE HUMANE SOCIETY – CONTRACT

Supervisor Preston had a discussion with Leah, and she gave a report regard history of dogs from North Elba since 1998/1999 which included cats. He had a discussion with Amberly who thought the number was too low and should be more in the 50s, hence the \$7,500 price. Harristown pays \$15,500, but they also handle their Animal Control as well. The shelter is unwilling to budge from \$7,500. The Town built their own Shelter in 2024 and can keep a dog for no more than 48 hours. Chris thinks that the number will be lower because owners will come get the dog to save driving over there. Supervisor Preston said this will be discussed again next week at the regular Board Meeting.

PARK MANAGER’S PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Supervisor Preston reminded the Board that Jeremy Freeman's evaluation is due.

CEC APPLICATIONS

No additional applications have been received. Haley Breen will keep the Board posted if she receives an application.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – YEAR IN REVIEW

The Fire Department review had interesting facts and figures. Supervisor Preston requested a similar report from the ambulance service.

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY REVIEW

Adrienne is reviewing the health and safety policy and finding compliance issues. The document is not attached because of the size of the document.

HON. DEAN DIETRICH INTENT TO RETIRE & APPOINTING CAROL HAYES

Dean Dietrich intends to retire but cannot submit his retirement letter until 30 days before May 1st, however, Carol needs to be appointed before taking the judge's course in April. Glen Reidenbach, who is a Judge, wrote the resolution to address the situation. There cannot be three judges at the same time.

93 BALSAM STREET- BARNEY

Supervisor Preston and Ken Porter went down to look at the site. Vladimir from Soulshine Bagel came over and there are rocks on his property line. He uses his own driveway and does not care. The highlighted area is what they want to pave. Mark Schachner is looking into it. His initial thoughts were that it can be pave with drainage if they are okay without transferring ownership which maintains the right-of way.

There are two houses at tax map lots -6.200, and the back house is used as a short-term rental. Property. The house in the back is Theresa Barney. Councilwoman Kilburn Politi gave the history

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of the ownership of the property from Bill Hurley Sr. to Larry Barney communicating with Shirley Seney. Shirley researched and found the land and found that it was owned by the Hurley Johnson subdivision however, the deal was never finalized, and somehow the land went to the town.

Amy Barney may not want to pave it because the Town will still own the land, and if Ken Porter wants to Park his truck there, he can. The houses below have a right-away and cannot be landlocked.

CTE FUNDS – LEAF SHARE

Supervisor Preston – We will be discussing how much money to LEAF way for the upcoming round. The most recent CTF check was around \$213,216. There's \$190,000 in the CTEF at Roost, which John Huttlinger will audit. Mark Schachner advised against sending money to Roost for investment

Last payment – Q4 = \$216,838
CTEF Funds @ ROOST = \$190,365
LEAF Grant Round account = \$148,114
LEAF Reserve = \$200,000

Councilman Cummings said the reserve amount of \$200,000 does not have to be there. It was originally for or big projects or if we wanted money we would submit a request. There is a struggle with the last figure (200) because "somebody doesn't want to use it."

The Board suggests using the \$200,000 reserve, as there are sufficient funds available which gives LEAF \$348,000 for Projects. They receive approximately 30 applications. The town does not need to give them more money. ROOST currently holds \$190,365 of CTEF Funds of the \$216,838 quarterly funds received.

Supervisor Preston will be meeting with ROOST and give them the County's perspective to divide LEAF from ROOST. Many people at the County thought LEAF was ROOST. Councilwoman Kilburn Politi said he should read the minutes to them including, "misappropriation of funds."

Councilwoman Kilburn Politi suggested having a conversation to move LEAF to Adirondack Community Foundation or another non-profit because it doesn't have to reside within Roost.

Councilman Cummings said the meetings have become less ROOST run over the last couple of years. LEAF has new Board member; Andrew Weibrecht and Matt Donahue stepped down and there are two new members. There is now a schedule for terms.

Supervisor Preston said there will be more on the CTEF Money. They are looking at allocating a portion of it to pay down potential bond to relieve taxpayers. He would like it to be a group discussion on how much money goes to LEAF.

CHANGES TO LAND USE CODE

Councilwoman Kilburn Politi – There has been changes. The most recent change affects the village and deals with temporary workforce housing and there are three existing which are pre-existing non-conforming uses. Tim Smith believes the changes do not substantially alter the law and don't require another public hearing. Land use code changes are not generally run through Schachner because he usually agrees with Tim Smith's assessment. Laurie remembers the process for filing a local law with the Department of State. Discussion of how to vote on the law and Laurie said Tim will write the language which could be a motion or a roll call Vote. This does require a SEQR motion stating there is no environmental impact.

Councilman Leon wanted the feedback from the "Open House" and if it was documented because the only information I have is from the paper. Jackie Kelley wrote something for her Board which will be share.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comp Plan is ready to adopt and should be on the agenda and is a resolution.

TAP WESVALLEY SIDEWALK RESOLUTION

West Valley Sidewalk Resolution was in the supporting information. This is a reimbursable grant

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and is an 80/20 split and leaves a \$1.2 million gap. The word “reimbursable” means more to Supervisor Preston than it used to. They have a loan out for Ruissement Sewer, reimbursable Loj Road project coming up for \$1.6 million which is a State grants. We do not want to hold off on project but are battling right now. They would like Amy to map out all the debt to see if they can carry it. Checking with Kelly about the timing of the TAP grant and may be able to push it out to 2028. Supervisor Preston will follow-up.

RICKARD WAY TO BIRCH ROCK WAY

Ron Briggs requested changing Rickard Way to Birch Rock Way and approved through the County. Supervisor Preston reached out to Justin at the Fire Department which Laurie ask Ron to do.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS & ACTION ITEMS WILL BE ON THE AGENDA

- **DBELO APPOINTMENT – FAA**
There will be three resolutions
- **NYSLRS RS 2417 REPORTING RESOLUTION**
This is for retirement reporting resolution that Adrienne has been working on it which has been a challenge.
- **TAP APPLICATION WESVALLEY SIDEWALK RESOLUTION**
- **MIRROR LAKE STEWARD PROGRAM REQUEST**
- **TRI-LAKE'S HUMANE SOCIETY CONTRACT**
- **RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL HAYES NEW TOWN OF NORTH ELBA JUSTICE**
- **RESOLUTION FOR THE COMP PLAN**
- **VOTE OR RESOLUTION ON CHANGES TO LAND USE CODE**

BRENDAN MONTAG – CASCADE ACRES

Councilwoman Kilburn Politi - Brendan Montag wants to talk to the Board about future funding for CTGF application for a sewer project. During the meeting with Suazo tomorrow, I will see if they to do preliminary engineering to be setup for the next ask. He is coming to ask for support in that application. He is privately owned, and who is paying for it is a gray area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Supervisor Preston end the meeting at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Curtis Dudley