

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
HELD ON JUNE 5, 2023**

Present: Tistrya Houghtling, Supervisor
Deborah Gordon, Councilmember
John Trainor, Councilmember
Norman Rasmussen, Councilmember

Absent: Marianna Anthonisen, Councilmember

Recording Secretary: Marsha "Marcie" Robertson, Town Clerk

Others Present: Tony Murad, ZBA Chair & ZRC Member
Steve Powers, CAC & ZRC Member & CSC Chair
Josh Young, Planning Board, QOL, Shaker Preservation
Comm Member, & BEDC Chair
Christine Dreyfus, MOW
Peg Munves, CAC Co-Chair
Bruce Shenker, NL Rep to CC Enviro. Mgmt. Com.
Monte Wasch, BEDC & Planning Board & Ethics Board
Member
Ted Salem, ZBA Member & ZRC Chair
Abbie Shoobs, Recreation Commission Chair
Mary Young, NL Rep to CC Office for the Aging & Traffic
Safety
Adelia Moore, CSC Member
Jim Carroll, Planning Board & ZRC Member
Ashley Saviano, Deputy Town Clerk
Erminia Rasmussen, BEDC Member
Rochelle DiRe, Ethics Board Member
Winifried Fuchshofen, CSC Member
Sharon Powers, IT Support, BEDC & QOL Member
Robert Gilson, CAC & CSC & QOL Member
Rae Gilson, BEDC Member
Samantha Long, Court & PZ Clerk
Jeannine Tonetti, ZBA Member & Historic Railroad
Depot Chair
Elizabeth Poreba, CSC Member

**Becky Segal, BEDC Member
Tom Gerety, Ethics Board Chair
Michael Amabile, Creighton Manning
Don Adams, Creighton Manning
Members of the Public**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Supervisor Houghtling. The meeting was held in person at the New Lebanon Jr./Sr. High School, 14665 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY 12125. The meeting was recorded by Creighton Manning and uploaded to Townhall Streams.

Anyone who was not able to attend the meeting in person could view the recording on Townhall Streams, at the following link:

https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny.

HIGHWAY TRUCK BOND – 2 NEW HIGHWAY TRUCKS

Supervisor Houghtling reported the board already passed a bond resolution. The board needs to make a motion dictating the terms of the bond that the town is taking out for the purchase of two new highway trucks. She stated that the Town Board agrees that they want to bond \$200,000 for five years at 4.49% interest rate.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to bond two new highway trucks for an amount of \$200,000 for a five year note at a 4.49% interest rate and authorize the remaining \$115,970.00 to be spent out of unallocated highway fund balance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Rasmussen -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Aye
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen -	Absent

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION #2– WALKABLE DOWNTOWN:

Supervisor Houghtling welcomed everyone to the second public input session for creating a walkable downtown. Supervisor Houghtling informed everyone that the meeting is being recorded and will be available for people to watch.

Supervisor Houghtling provided a little history on the project. She stated that about one year ago, a resident and committee member visited all the property owners in the downtown 20/22 corridor, speaking to property owners, residents, and business owners. She reported that most of the business and property owners were strongly in support of

creating some sort of walkable downtown. What a walkable downtown looks like is what this meeting is for.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that once the board new that property and business owners supported the idea, the board hired Creighton Manning to work with the committee to discuss how a walkable downtown might look.

Supervisor Houghtling reported that they had about fifty people in attendance at the first public input session held in March. She stated most of the people in attendance at the last session were in support of a walkable downtown. She stated that she had a resident ask her if the town was open to hearing no, that residents do not want this project. Supervisor Houghtling stated that was the first public input session, and she had replied at that point, that they were open to all the feedback and to hear from the community. A survey followed the first public input session and the results of that survey were that over 75% of respondents strongly support a walkable downtown project. She stated that they received over three-hundred completed surveys.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that at this point, although there may be people in attendance at this meeting that are not in support of the project, the board has heard from an overwhelming majority of the residents who responded with the survey and are in support of a walkable downtown. She stated that the point of this public input session is not to discuss whether the town should or should not move forward. This has been done through the first public input session and survey. She stated, the purpose of this public input session is to show different possibilities and conceptual designs on how a walkable downtown could be created. Supervisor Houghtling stated for those in attendance that are not in support of the project, that she hopes they will still contribute input to which proposals make the most sense and create a walkable downtown.

Don Adams and Michael Amabile from Creighton Manning presented a slideshow to the board and public in attendance. The slideshow was made available to the public via the Town Clerk's email and the Town website after the public input session.

The presentation was followed by a lengthy question and answer session and discussion among the board, Creighton Manning, and the public in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Rasmussen -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Aye
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye

Councilmember Trainor -
Councilmember Anthonisen-

Aye
Absent

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Robertson
New Lebanon Town Clerk