

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF  
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON  
HELD ON JULY 11, 2023**

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

**Recording Secretary:** Marsha "Marcie" Robertson, Town Clerk

**Others Present:** Sharon Powers, IT Website Support, BEDC & QOL Com. Member  
Steve Powers, CAC & ZRC Member & CSC Chair  
Josh Young, Planning Board, QOL, Shaker Preservation Comm., NY Main St. Grant Comm. Member, & BEDC Chair  
Ted Salem, ZBA Member & ZRC Chair  
Peg Munves, CAC Co-Chair  
Jim Carroll, Planning Board & ZRC Member  
Becky Segal, BEDC Member  
Tony Murad, ZBA Chair, ZRC & NY Main St. Grant Comm. Member  
Mary Young, NL Rep to CC Office for the Aging & NL Rep to CC Traffic Safety  
Ed Godfroy, LVPA & NL Rep to Emergency Mgmt.  
Erminia Rasmussen, BEDC Member  
Monte Wasch, Planning Board, Board of Ethics, BEDC, & Shaker Preservation Comm. Member  
Robert Gilson, CAC, Quality of Life, & NY Main St. Grant Comm. Member  
Margaret Robertson, Historic Railroad Depot Comm. Member  
Doug LaRocque, The Columbia Paper  
Members of the Public

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Supervisor Houghtling. The meeting was held in person at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22 North, New Lebanon, NY 12125 with members of the public also being able to view the meeting at the following link: [https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new\\_lebanon\\_ny](https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny).

A moment of silence was held in memory of community member, Becky Monterosso, who recently passed away in a house fire. An acknowledgement was made for the victims of the Main Street flooding incident that recently happened. The Supervisor thanked and recognized the town Highway Department, Town Clerk's office, NYS DOT, Ed Godfroy, LVPA, DEC, local restaurants who donated food, and so many community members who volunteered to help with clean-up. The flag salute took place, followed by the emergency exits being pointed out.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes were tabled until the next meeting in August.

**FINANCIAL:**

***Supervisor's Report:***

The Supervisor's Report as of June 30, 2023 was available to the public via the Town Clerk's email and the Town website and the Town Board was emailed the Supervisor's Report by Supervisor Houghtling.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gordon to accept the Supervisor's report for May as typed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

In addition to an in-person privilege of the floor, Supervisor Houghtling will read all comments, questions and concerns emailed to [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com) during the meeting.

**Jim Carroll:** Jim stated, he is urging the board to vote no, on the moratorium waiver for Coon storage and to remove section H of proposed local law 2023-3. Jim commented, Mr. Coon has not yet demonstrated extreme economic hardship, that he is aware of, which is a requirement for this waiver. Jim stated, there are at least thirty-five other uses that Mr. Coon can do on the property, besides self-storage. Jim stated, in addition, when Coon Self-Storage expanded, the Planning Board requested screening along Route 20 on the existing

development as well as the extension development. Jim presented the Town Board with a copy of the decision document from the Planning Board, where it states screening will be provided.

Jim stated, as far as section H of Proposed Local law 2023, he raises the question, why should the existing owners be granted a golden ticket to expand the facilities? They do not align with the Comprehensive Plan, the self-storage units provide no economic benefit to the town, no money, and no foot traffic. He doubts that young families are coming to New Lebanon to live in the shadow of a self-storage unit.

Jim stated, it is understood, it is an owner's right to develop their property as they wish, but there are zoning laws and these laws are changing all the time. He stated he would let others talk about spot zoning and its future impacts.

Jim stated, he urges the Town Board to remove section H from the proposed local law 2023-3 and deny the Coon moratorium waiver until the criteria of the waiver is met and until he complies with the decision document from 2019. He feels that Mr. Coon has failed to install adequate screening along Route 20.

**Supervisor Houghlting:** The Supervisor clarified that the Town Board must hold a Public Hearing on the moratorium before they decide on the moratorium waiver application, there will be an opportunity for the public to be heard at that meeting before the board makes any decision.

**Tony Murad:** Tony stated, he is partially in agreement with Jim Carroll. He stated, the board has a letter from John Dax, former chairman of the Zoning Board and the author of the 2010 zoning laws, which today are still the basis of the town's zoning laws. Tony stated, he believes this special exception is unfair and he does not understand why the board is doing this, it is contorted and seems sleezy.

Tony stated, he is a commercial property owner, and someone who is not a resident of the town is going to get a special exception to put up more storage sheds. He stated, he has commercial property and he cannot put up one storage shed if the cancellation for storage sheds goes through. It does not seem fair to him or to other commercial property owners. He stated, it should be the same for everybody, that is the whole idea of having a zoning law. If the board eliminates storage sheds, it should be across the board for everybody, no exception for anybody. Or, keep storage sheds in the zoning code, the storage sheds themselves are not the problem, it is the design of some of them. Tony stated, his thought is why doesn't the board assign the Zoning Re-write Committee and the Planning Board to write standards for storage sheds. Once there are specific standards, our zoning law has several uses that have their own special conditions attached, not just the condition of site plan review. He stated he could accept that and might even be interested in doing some storage sheds, and if he does it, they will look good. He stated, he is not necessarily

pursuing that; he is saying there must be fairness. The idea of giving one-person a special exception, it stinks and he is opposed to it.

Tony stated, the waiver that was put in, sounds like it is not going to go through. The moratorium is going to expire before anybody gets to use the waiver or before the board approves it. Tony suggests letting the moratorium expire, do the storage sheds with conditions, or do not do it at all. He stated, the waiver seems seedy to him, they have the moratorium for a year so that it could be discussed, and decisions could be made. If you give the waiver to the one person who is going to benefit from the special exception then the case is closed and what is the point of having any kind of law because he will already have the storage sheds that he wants.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor stated, to clarify, she thinks there is a lot of misinformation out there from the emails that she has read. The waiver is required anytime you do a moratorium on anything, you are required to put in a waiver provision. That was prepared by the town attorney, because you cannot put a moratorium on anything without a waiver provision and anyone may apply for that waiver. The board has received a waiver and they are now going through the required process and procedure, first send to the Planning Board, then wait for the Planning Board's recommendation, once the recommendation is received, schedule a Public Hearing, and after the Public Hearing the Town Board then decides on the waiver. This is all a legal requirement. Supervisor Houghtling stated the way the local law is drafted now, which may not be the way it is introduced, is not for one property owner, there are multiple storage units in town and that provision that is written in is for all the existing storage units in town.

**Tony Murad:** Tony responded that if you look at the zoning map, you will see that the other five storage facilities do not have enough land on which they can expand.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded; the owner of another storage unit location has already communicated with her that they want to add on a second story to an already existing storage unit location. She would like discussion to be based on facts and not rumors. Supervisor Houghtling repeated that this proposed local law is not about any specific property, it is about existing storage unit locations having the ability to apply for an expansion. She stated at the last meeting, she was one vote that thought this was a knee jerk reaction to one application that people did not like and that it was short sighted to ban the use all together. When talking to a certain ZRC member, who stated that in the future if they need more, they will just change the zoning again. She stated, she does not think that is the appropriate path to take. The Supervisor is suggesting that the board have a re-vote when the item comes up on the agenda. She stated, the only reason that she and the attorney discussed a potential expansion written into the law was because they are almost at 100% capacity and she has heard from a lot of residents that do have the need for storage for their belongings.

**Steve Powers:** Steve stated, the mention of having a re-vote on clarification on the vote from last meeting.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded that it is on the agenda, any board member at any time can make a motion that they would like to make. She stated, at the last meeting a motion passed three to two, that they put in a provision to allow for expansion of existing units. She stated that she might like to make a motion that they take away the elimination of the use completely, then they do not need that provision based on what Tony just suggested, but they will see when they get to that agenda item.

**Steve Powers:** Steve stated he was going to ask for a re-vote based on that because there were things said during the last meeting and personally, he does not believe that all those who came to protest of the Camp DD proposal for storage sheds were concerned only on that project. They were upset about the whole concept of additional storage sheds in town. He stated, he thinks they detract from the scenic beauty of the town. He stated, if there was a referendum held today, he thinks the town members would vote against having additional storage sheds.

Steve stated, he understands existing owners cannot be forced to give up the storage sheds and he is in favor of supporting businesses in town but at some point, he thinks the decision must be made to place the interest of residents ahead of outside business owners who are basically controlling the scenic view sheds in our town. He hopes that the board will make the right decision.

**Bob Gilson:** Bob stated, there is a moratorium in place, proposed by the Zoning Re-write Committee and this board approved it. Now, the board wants to take and allow six storage unit facilities in the town to have a waiver so they can build more storage units. He asked if he is misinterpreting?

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded the waiver is required by law; the board is required to accept waivers. The board has accepted it, they have gotten a Planning Board recommendation, and the board is going to schedule a Public Hearing, that is where the Town Board is at. She stated, the Town Board has not indicated in any way that they are approving the waiver.

**Bob Gilson:** Bob stated, he misinterpreted it. He stated, his feeling is that Coons has acted in bad faith. Bob stated, he does not object that there is no reason not to have storage units in that location, there is very little else that you can do there. At the same time, these people have acted in bad faith, they have not lived up to the idea of creating some kind of screening to make it more attractive. They have five one-gallon bushes and put them in and it continues to look ugly. Bob stated, unless there is something that holds these people's feet to the fire and submit a real plan that they need to stick to and if they do not, they will be fined.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor stated, to clarify, if they were out of compliance with the decision document, the town can hold them accountable. She stated, the issue that the Planning Board is aware of and will correct going forward, is that it says “the applicant shall provide plantings to shield the existing and new buildings from State Route 20”. It does not state how large they need to be. Supervisor Houghtling stated, the applicant did do that, so when this decision was challenged through the Building Department, the Building Department looked at it and said yes, there are plantings, they are in between the existing and new buildings and State Route 20. The Supervisor stated, the town does have the mechanism to hold applicants to the decision of the Planning Board, this was an old Planning Board. The new Planning Board knows now to be very specific. The way this decision document is written, they are not out of compliance.

**Melba Kurman:** Melba stated that she is urging the board to reconsider or slow down the amendment of subparagraph B of section 101 for local law 101, otherwise popularly known as the events law and please bring in more public feedback on the re-zoning of Darrow Road. She stated, the reason she sees these two pieces of legislation linked is because of a public meeting she attended last week in which there were many concerned members of the community, neighbors, and people who live near Darrow Road. There was a lot of distress and worry over the proposed re-zoning of Darrow Road in a very broad way, including the addition of different types of manufacturing, commercial events venues, and things that may not be in the interest of a lot of the local homeowners who moved to that area specifically to enjoy nature, peace, and quiet. Melba referenced an email interaction with Monte Wasch, she understood it to be that the group consensus of the re-zoning committee and the Planning Board was that everybody was pretty much okay with it, which directly went against what she has experienced in that room. She also understood it to be that there was not going to be another public hearing on it. Melba stated they are all delighted to see New Lebanon developing. There is a huge increase in property values and commercial development all over Columbia, Rensselaer, Berkshire Counties. She thinks the challenge is balancing the interest of the residents against this powerful commercial interest. The commercial interest does not always have the resident’s interest in mind. She feels that if there is to be a healthy, vibrant, and human oriented community in the long term, they will have to do a lot better at listening to the residents. Maybe another public hearing if people need it and to think hard about who’s interests matter more.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor stated, for clarification, she thinks Melba has a lot of misinformation, this is not even on the agenda for tonight’s meeting. She stated they had the public input session, the Shaker Preservation Committee and the ZRC are now going back to their committees to discuss what was heard and they will absolutely have more public input sessions. Nothing in any of the local laws that are being introduced tonight have anything to do with re-zoning Darrow Road or anything that was discussed the other night with allowing new uses or expanding the zoning. She stated these laws being introduced tonight are things the boards have been working on for two years and have nothing to do with Darrow Road.

**Melba Kurman:** Melba stated that was great to hear and this is a good time to start the discussion because she is already hearing that the news is that they are having zoning battles. She hopes the board considers the balance resident's interest against the commercial interests. She thought forming a Darrow Road Re-Zoning Committee and making it open to anyone in the public to participate in and have ongoing transparency with the re-zoning committee and the Planning Board as they go. She has not felt that she is able to get inside access or traction there. She suggested the other idea would be to hold a public meeting soon where residents can exchange emails, form a neighborhood friends' group, there are so many things they could do in that area as well, not just deciding if they are okay with this re-zoning. She suggested slowing the speed limit down, people are going 70mph past her door. They could talk about fun things as well and if they can bring all their talent and expertise to talk about more creative and constructive ways to make this something that they can present these Shaker buildings in the nature that everyone loves. She stated she was startled to hear the public hearing was done and game over. She hopes they can create a committee and have transparent and ongoing discussion with everybody's interest of how to balance the interest of people who want to make money off commercial events and things of that nature. These things do have a direct impact on the residents in that area. She understands there was a moratorium and there was a year of events and they tolerated it, it was not like they went without a hitch. It was tolerated because they are patient and they want others to succeed, that does not mean it went great.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor clarified, the moratorium was only on the demolition of Shaker structures, nothing on events. Supervisor Houghtling stated that they did go out for letters of interest for the Shaker Preservation Committee that is the committee working on expanding these potential uses. She asked Melba if she is interested in joining the committee instead of creating another committee.

**Rae Gilson:** Rae stated she was under the misunderstanding that they were coming to this meeting to discuss the waiver. Rae commented that she does not know how the board can let people know that the moratorium automatically contained a waiver and that it legally needs to be there and is there a way to better communicate that information to the public. Rae stated that she agrees with what Jim Carroll said and she would love to be a part of the SPC.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded, at any time, anyone can email, call, or stop in her office. She stated this might be the fifth board meeting that this moratorium and the waiver have been discussed at. She encouraged people to reach out at anytime with questions or comments. Supervisor Houghtling suggested to everyone who feels strongly about the moratorium waiver and/or any of the introductory local laws at this meeting to attend next month for the Public Hearings.

**Hod Lipson:** Hod stated that regarding Darrow Road, he is concerned about noise and lights coming from the event spaces. He suggested if the town does not have a noise

ordinance in place, that this is a good time to start thinking about it. He feels it is better to do it sooner rather than later. He stated they know from the race track that once an event is in place it is hard to undo things. Before they move ahead and allow commercial event space inside the middle of residential space, he feels there must be noise ordinances and light pollution ordinances in place.

**Erminia Rasmussen:** Erminia requested clarification regarding the waiver. She asked when the Planning Board decides, in this case, not to give Coon the waiver?

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor interrupted Erminia and clarified that it is a Town Board decision to give or not to give the waiver.

**Erminia Rasmussen:** Erminia stated, the Planning Board makes a recommendation and the final decision is the Town Board. So, the Town Board can override a decision from the Planning Board.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor stated, anytime you do a moratorium you have to build in a waiver provision, anyone can apply for the waiver, the Town Board set a fee when they set the local law to put both moratoriums in place. The Town Board receives the waiver application, it is then passed onto the Planning Board for a recommendation. The recommendation comes to the Town Board, which is where they are now. Once the recommendation is received by the Town Board, they are required to schedule a Public Hearing to hear from the public, which will happen next month. After the Public Hearing, the Town Board is the deciding body on whether the waiver is granted.

**Josh Young:** Josh stated he wanted the Town Board to know that the Planning Board's attorney does think that the current plantings are a clear violation of the decision document that was present to the board by Jim Carroll.

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded, asking why isn't the Building Department acting on the violation then?

**Josh Young:** Josh responded to the Supervisor; you tell me?

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded, that she and the Planning Board Chair, Brutsch will talk later, because that was not the message that she received from both the Planning Board Attorney and the Town Attorney.

**Steve Powers:** Steve asked, when the Town Board is considering the waiver, can the Town Board stipulate what is in the waiver?

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded, she cannot answer definitively, but she believes the Town Board says yes or no to the waiver and then it goes to the Planning



Board. If the applicant gets the waiver, they go in front of the Planning Board and they have the same discretion and authority as they would for any application that comes before them to dictate what specifics must be followed.

**Steve Powers:** Steve stated, his concern is that in the existing code, it does not specify in detail enough about screening.

**Elizabeth Brutsch:** Elizabeth responded that she would say the town code is very general in the description on screening, aesthetics, and lights. She stated the Planning Board has the discretion, and they have been using that to be stricter with what they want to see.

**Steve Powers:** Steve responded, because it is general, there is always the ability to push back.

**Elizabeth Brutsch:** Elizabeth responded, the Planning Board still has the jurisdiction and the right to ask and direct in their decision.

**Monte Wasch:** Monte stated, he wanted to respond to comments made. There was an exchange of emails between he and Melba, he was trying to answer some of the questions that she required context of. He stated, there have been no decisions on Darrow Road. There have been recommendations made by the ZRC and the Shaker Preservation Committee. At the last SPC meeting, passed a resolution amending its view on certain subjects. Monte stated, there is a project on Darrow Road, The Ruins at Sassafra, that has already gone through the Planning Board process and has been chartered as a museum by the State of New York, which means they can receive visitors for tours. The approval also included a limited number of events that have already taken place. Monte stated the Planning Board carefully examined the requests of the developers, limited the number of events, limited the hours, assured there was plenty of parking, and access restricted to only those events. Nothing else has been decided on Darrow Road, everything is still open.

**Ted Salem:** Ted stated he wanted to correct one thing from Monte's clarification. Ted stated the Zoning Re-write Committee has made no recommendations whatsoever on this subject. They are meeting this month to explore it; they have made no recommendations to the Town Board or anybody else.

**Councilmember Anthonisen:** Marianna stated, she wanted to remind everyone that the Public Input Session was recorded, so you can go back to it and hear people's comments with the perspective of listening for a second time.

**Supervisor Houghtling** read the following email POF:

*Honorable Members of the Town Board and Good Citizens of New Lebanon,  
I used to take "the Old Carriage Road" and hike over the mountain from Berkshire West Street in Pittsfield to Main Street in Lebanon Springs.*

*I would stop at the top of the mountain to rest, not far from the beaver pond that just flooded us with 65 million gallons of water.*

***In 2014, the water was also high and I encountered workers from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts taking apart the beaver dams and lowering the level of the water.***

***Massachusetts knew about the problem as early as May 2014, some nine years ago. Once they knew about the problem and addressed it the first time, in 2014, if not before, they had a legal responsibility, a duty of due care and a duty of due diligence, to continue to monitor the beavers and their activities, and then to lower the water level whenever necessary.***

***Having neglected their duty, the employees of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are now trying to release deceptively small estimates of the amount of water that ran three miles down the mountain into Lebanon Springs, as if such a cover-up would somehow protect them from the financial liability they now face.***

*This is an interstate matter which requires a prompt, impartial, Federal investigation.*

*Upwards of 20 families suffered material and financial loss, emotional distress, and now, a public health crisis in the form of the parasite which causes Giardiasis and a potential outbreak of "Beaver Fever".*

*There must be justice for the residents and property owners of Lebanon Springs, in the form of economic restitution from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and reimbursement for any cost to the people and the Town of New Lebanon for clean-up and repair.*

*This matter crosses state lines. We have reached out to United States Representative Marc Molinaro and requested that he involve whatever federal agencies are necessary for a complete and impartial investigation of this incident, including a determination of when Massachusetts first became aware of the beaver problem and first took action to take down dams and remediate the water level. We have also asked his office to investigate any other assistance that Federal agencies might provide.*

*We ask you to call and write Congressman Molinaro.*

*We have likewise sought the help of Senator Michelle Hinchey and Assemblymember Didi Barrett and requested that they stand with the people of Lebanon Springs by reaching out to Governor Hochul on our behalf.*

***We need the Governor to use the authority of her Office and this Empire State to protect the rights of New York citizens who have suffered damages and the threat of a parasitic disease because of Massachusetts negligence.***

***We are asking Governor Hochul to issue a public call for a thorough and impartial federal investigation, accompanied by a demand for economic justice through financial restitution from Massachusetts, delivered Governor to Governor and State to Commonwealth.***

*Supervisor Houghtling and Town Councilors, please demand that Governor Hochul's administration act at the State level.*

*Please magnify our call for a federal investigation by contacting U. S. Representative Molinaro and letting him know of your outrage over the tragic, clearly preventable loss which the people of Lebanon Springs have suffered.*

*We urge not only you, our elected officials, but all the good people of New Lebanon to join with us in a public call for a proper Federal investigation and just financial compensation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Please call and write Assemblymember Barrett, Senator Hinchey, Governor Hochul, and Congressman Molinaro.*

*Lastly, we offer our sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the can-do, stick-together spirit of the folks who live in our little Town of New Lebanon and everyone who came out to help in time of need. The goodwill and love which powered the Miracle on Main Street will ever be remembered.*

*May God Always Bless you and all who serve in government with patience, wisdom, and discernment.*

*Michael Muadin*

*Alia Muadin*

**Supervisor Houghtling:** The Supervisor responded, she has been in touch with all those people and had conversations the day after the event occurred. She will continue conversations and see where it goes.

**AMENDMENT TO BUDGET AMENDMENT #5 OF 2023:**

Supervisor Houghtling stated, when she asked the accountant to help prepare the budget amendment for the highway truck purchase, he did not realize that it was being purchased with partially with bond money. Anything purchased with bond money must be a capital purchase, not a highway purchase. The amended budget amendment is taking the funds out of highway and putting it into capital. On the general account there was a typo, instead of A-1670, it said A-1680.

**General Fund:**

\$ 553.00	from A-1680.41 (Cent. Data Processing – New Website)
\$ 3,749.00	from A-1990.4 (Contingency)
\$ 300,000.00	from A-003917 (Appropriated Fund Balance)
\$ 85,000.00	from A-003917 (Appropriated Fund Balance)

\$ 553.00 to A-1680.4 (Cent. Data Processing)  
 \$ 3,749.00 to A-1670.4 (Central Printing – Cont. Exp.)  
 \$300,000.00 to A-9901.3 (Transfer to Facilities Reserve)  
 \$ 85,000.00 to A-9901.4 (Transfer to Equipment Reserve)  
 \$ 70,000.00 to A-8797.42 (Climate Smart – Solar Panels TH)

**Capital Project – 2 Highway Trucks:**

\$115,970.00 from H-5031 (Transfer From Highway Fund)  
 \$200,000.00 from H- 5720 (Bond Proceeds)  
  
 \$315,970.00 to H-5130.21 (Machinery – Equipment (cost) )

**Highway Fund:**

\$115,970.00 from DA-003917 (Appropriated Fund Balance)  
 \$ 24,726.00 from DA-3505.3 (CHIPS – Pave Our Potholes)  
  
 \$115,970.00 to DA-9950.9 (Transfer To Capital Project)  
 \$ 24,726.00 to DA-5112.23 (Pave Our Potholes)

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to adopt amended budget amendment #5 of 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**AMENDMENT TO ABSTRACT #6 OF 2023:**

Supervisor Houghtling stated, they must amend the abstract that paid Marchese for the trucks. It was abstract #6 for highway and it was paid out of DA-5130.2. It needs to be paid out of H, which is a capital account, H-5130.21. There is a general voucher for the water testing through the CAC that was charged to the wrong account. It is an ARPA expenditure, and they are tracking all the ARPA expenditures separately by putting an A after the account number.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to amend highway voucher #81 on abstract #6 to be paid from H-5130.21 instead of DA-5130.2, and to amend general voucher #220 on abstract #6 to be paid out of A-8710.4A instead of A-8710.4. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**BUDGET AMENDMENT #6 OF 2023:**

Supervisor Houghtling stated they need to bring money in from appropriated highway fund balance into a transfer account in the highway, then bring that into a capital account to pay the bond attorney for the truck bond out of the capital account. They also need to bring the \$755 for water testing into a CAC ARPA account and \$6,540 into a TB ARPA account for the money to the school for open swim and the money for the park grant application and lastly, bring the \$9,000 they agreed to at the last meeting into the budget for attorney fees.

**General Fund:**

\$ 9,000.00	from A-003917 (Appropriated Fund Balance)
\$ 7,295.00	from A-04900 (Federal Aid - ARPA)
\$ 6,540.00	to A-1010.4A (ARPA – Town Board)
\$ 755.00	to A-8710.4A (ARPA - CAC)
\$ 9,000.00	to A-1420.4 (Attorney – Cont. Exp.)

**Capital Project – 2 Highway Trucks:**

\$ 2,750.00	from H-5031 (Transfer From Highway Fund)
\$ 2,750.00	to H-5130.22 (Hwy Equipment – Bond Counsel)

**Highway Fund:**

\$ 2,750.00	from DA-003917 (Appropriated Fund Balance)
\$ 2,750.00	to DA-9950.9 (Transfer To Capital Project)

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to approve the above noted budget amendment #6 of 2023 as typed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**AUDIT OF BILLS:**

***2023 Bills:***

General Nos. 225 through 271, in the amount of \$36,049.68; and  
Highway Nos. 91 through 101, in the amount of \$9,858.58; and  
H-Capital Project No. 1, in the amount of \$2,750.00;  
As listed on Abstract No. 7 dated July 11, 2023.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

Supervisor Houghtling stated, committee reports as received to her office by Friday afternoon were sent out to the public and the Town Board. She asked if any board members had any questions or need for clarification on any of the committee reports?

Supervisor Houghtling asked the committee chairs that are present, do any of the committee have any further updates or action that is needed by the Town Board?

**Mary Young, Traffic Safety:** Mary reported that she had given the Town Board the information about the traffic sign and the speeds recorded. Mary stated, hopefully the board will review it and look at it, it is sad. She asked the board for direction as to where they want the speed sign moved to. Mary reported that they have been giving it a month at a time in a location. She can keep it where it is, she can turn it so it is facing East instead of West, or she can move it. Mary stated, they are limited as to where it can be moved to because she can only put the sign on roads that have posted speed limits on them. Many of the roads that residents complain about are on roads that do not have posted speed limit signs. If a speed is not posted, then it is the state speed limit of 55mph. Mary reported that Main Street was approved for the speed reduction but it takes six months to get a speed sign put up.

Supervisor Houghtling asked why they cannot put the sign on the unmarked roads to tell people to slow down?

Mary responded, according to the Traffic Safety Committee, which she is a part of, you cannot put anything up on those roads if it is not posted.

Supervisor Houghtling asked if Shaker Road is posted, because she gets a lot of complaints on that road.

Mary responded that Shaker Road is posted at 30mph.

Supervisor Houghtling suggested that Shaker Road might be a good next spot for the speed sign.

Councilmember Anthonisen suggested that flipping it to the other side of where it is now is a good idea.

Supervisor Houghtling stated, before moving it to a different road, she agrees to flip the sign to the opposite side of Route 20. After that, then Shaker Road, Cemetery Road and Mill Road are options for the speed sign.

Mary suggested that the board should look at how they can take the information that is being obtained from this sign and use it to the town's benefit. Mary stated they can contact the Traffic Safety Committee, of which is the County Sherriff and State Police, give them the information. Mary does not know what they can and cannot do, but it might help them.

Councilmember Anthonisen stated that when they were trying to reduce the speed by Shatford Park, they did an analysis that came back and people did not speed.

Supervisor Houghtling stated, it is not that people do not speed. If cars are going faster than the posted speed, it must be safe and they do not feel they need to lower the speed limit. She said it is very backwards to her. If they show that cars are going fast, it may hurt the argument that the speed limits need to be reduced.

Mary stated, except when you have a speed limit sign, there is a sign going through the area by the elementary school that is posted at 45mph, and it took a lot to get that reduction to 45mph. She stated, just the few days that she contacted the Supervisor, 63% of the 1,025 cars that went through the speed sign, where over the 45mph speed limit. Mary said that is why she gave the Supervisor the print out that tells when it is, how many were going, how many were violating it, and what the speed was. Maybe the supervisor can utilize that and contact the County Sheriff and the State Police.

Supervisor Houghtling referred it back to Mary, as the town's Traffic Safety representative and since she meets with the safety council, asked her if she could present that information that was gathered and ask for them to increase their patrols. Mary responded, that she can, she is not sure if they will respond on just her say so, they may need someone with more authority, but she will ask.

**Mary Young, NL Seniors Rep.:** Mary reported, to make the board aware, that today in Albany, the state had information and a meeting regarding the plan for seniors in the

State of New York for the next several years. Many of the things that Columbia County does, the home program, meals on wheels, additional staff for caregivers of people at home, is all being discussed today in Albany. Mary reported that she will have a meeting next week with the Office of the Aging and see what comes of it.

**Steve Powers, CSC:** Steve reported the solar panels are scheduled to be installed on the Town Hall in the next two weeks. He thinks they will be installed prior to the next board meeting, and they will have to pay the installer before the next Town Board meeting and he is looking for a way to do that. Once it is paid out, Steve gets the receipt and then he submits it to NYSERDA for reimbursement.

Supervisor Houghtling replied that she thinks Steve is asking for authorization for her to issue a check on an interim voucher that the Town Board then approves at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Anthonisen to authorize Supervisor Houghtling to pay the solar panels and issue a check before the next town meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she will probably pay it out of the CSC account. She will bring in a revenue and it will be paid out of the .2 account; it is an equipment purchase.

**Josh Young, Shaker Preservation Committee:** Josh reported, the SPC met last week and they decided to recommend that the additional uses be changed, removing manufacturing and light industrial and changing those to something that would mimic the small business operation use that was recently added to the use table. They might call it something like artisanal assembly and light fabrication. He stated, they think it is important that any uses up there be quiet and non-disturbing to neighbors.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

***Planning Board Vacancy Appointment:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated due to the passing of Brent Gawron, there is unfortunately a vacancy on the Planning Board that ends 12/31/2029. The board received two great applicants, both applicants had a lot of different strengths and skillsets that they brought to the table.



A motion was made by Councilmember Rasmussen, seconded by Supervisor Houghtling, and approved unanimously to appoint Becky Segal for a vacancy that ends 12/31/2029 on the Planning Board.

***Moratorium Waiver Application:***

Supervisor Houghtling reported that they received the recommendation from the Planning Board, at this point they are required to schedule and hold a public hearing within thirty days of receipt of the recommendation.

There was discussion regarding the upcoming public hearings on the moratorium waiver application and the introductory local laws. The board agreed that both this and Introductory Local Law #3 will have a lot of comments.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Rasmussen, and approved unanimously to acknowledge the Town Boards receipt of the recommendation of the Planning Board on July 11, 2023 concerning the request of JoJo's Dream, LLC for a waiver from Local Law No. 4 of 2022, and to schedule a public hearing thereon to be held August 8, 2023 at 5:00p.m.

***Walking Trail Bids:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated they received one bid. She stated, to clarify why they went out to bid now, they are not looking to do this project right now, but they are applying for a grant for funding for this project and they wanted to have an actual solid number to include in that grant application. Supervisor Houghtling stated, the good news is the grant is up to \$500,000, it is a 75/25 match. She stated, normally it is a 50/50 match but since New Lebanon qualifies for over 10% poverty level, the town gets 75% instead of 50%. That means the budget could go up to \$625,000 with \$500,000 in grant money, \$125,000 in town money.

We received one bid from Darcy Construction in a total of \$195,112.00, it is broken out into the different items as defined in the Master Park Plan. The primary trail for \$71,955.00, the secondary trail for \$30,030.00, the fitness equipment for the fitness loop around the pavilion at \$53,718.00, the small parking areas at \$16,734.00, no charge for the small piece of fence that needs to be removed from the existing softball field, tree removal for \$3,875.00, new fencing anywhere where there are cars or a road and there is a trail for \$8,800.00, and a sign allowance of \$10,000.00. That comes to a total of \$195,112.00, and this quote will be used to go out for the grant application. All that the board needs to do today is to accept the bid contingent upon the town receiving the grant. Supervisor Houghtling stated, that way they do not have to go back out to bid and they lock in the price. The town will know by December if they got the grant or not, and then proceed accordingly next year. No one on the board had any questions.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to accept the bid from Darcy Construction in the amount of \$195,112.00 contingent upon the town being awarded the Park Grant we are currently applying for. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

***Highway Annual Bids – Equipment, Liquid Calcium, & Fuel – 8/1/23 – 7/31/24:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated the highway annual bids; equipment, liquid calcium, and fuel. She reported we did not receive a bid for the trucking of materials. Supervisor Houghtling asked the Town Clerk if she knew why the prior bidder did not get a bid in? Town Clerk Robertson responded, that she is not sure why the prior bidder did not submit a bid, and she spoke to Highway Superintendent Winestock and he was unsure as well and requested that they go back out bid.

***Fuel:***

Supervisor Houghtling reported, we received one bid for heating fuel, diesel, and kerosene from John Ray & Sons.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to accept the bid from John Ray & Sons for low sulfur heating fuel, low sulfur diesel fuel, and kerosene. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

***Liquid Calcium:***

Supervisor Houghtling reported, we received one bid from Peckham Materials.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to accept the bid from Peckham Materials Corp. for calcium. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Rasmussen -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Aye

Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

***Equipment:***

Supervisor Houghtling reported, we received one bid from D&J for equipment.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to accept the bid from D&J Excavating for various equipment. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to go back out to bid just for trucking materials with bids due by Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 4:00pm.

***Local Law Introduction – Various Zoning Amendments:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated, Jim Carroll pointed out that the way Local Law #3 was originally written would allow more expansion of storage units than is currently allowed. This was an oversight and has been amended. The amended Introductory Local Law #3 is what is being introduced. Supervisor Houghtling reported that the board received a letter from the ZRC asking the Town Board to reconsider the allowance for expansion. The Supervisor stated that she has said from the beginning that she does not feel that the town should ban storage units, she does not feel that the use has a negative impact on the town.

Originally the ZRC was tasked at defining where the town would allow storage units. The ZRC reported back to the board that they think storage units should not be allowed, but if the board does not decide to do that, the ZRC specified where they felt storage units should be limited to. Supervisor Houghtling stated that she felt it was short sighted to ban the use completely, she was the only board member who voted no on banning them all together.

Councilmember Trainor stated, he agrees with Supervisor Houghtling and he does not recall voting in the past to ban storage units all together. He stated, they have the ability, through the Planning Board, to impose certain requirements, and if they are careful in limiting where they are located.

Councilmember Rasmussen stated, he agrees, they should not be arbitrarily picking something that they do not like and banning it. If it is not a health, safety, or morality

concern then it is not whether they have it, but how they have it. Rasmussen suggested being more specific in what is required.

Councilmember Gordon stated, if they are trying to build a vital downtown and long stretches of it are fencing or plant screening, that detracts from the visual they are going for. Gordon stated that this type of use does not contribute much to the local economy in the way of jobs, entertainment, or recreation. Gordon suggested that if they are going to continue to allow this use, maybe it should be allowed on roads other than the main road through town.

Supervisor Houghtling stated, the use does provide a solution to a need that residents have for storage of personal belongings. Houghtling stated, she does not think they want them anywhere near the 20/22 corridor.

Ted Salem stated, they are going to run into the same problem because the current vendors are going to want to expand onto their current properties. Ted inquired as to why not the industrial zone, which was the plan B from the ZRC proposal?

Supervisor Houghtling responded, she thinks the industrial zone is okay, but she is concerned that the town has a small industrial zone and they need to be cautious not to take up other potential industrial use that can create jobs for more storage units.

Councilmember Rasmussen stated, if Coon had not built the storage units where they are, he is not aware of anyone else wanting to build anything there at that location. Rasmussen stated he agrees they need to favor people who bring in new businesses to town that add to the character of the town and create new jobs. However, the reality is there are not a lot of new businesses trying to bring new jobs to New Lebanon. Rasmussen brought up the thought, if Coon had complied from the beginning with the Planning Board's intention with plantings and screening, how much resistance would there be for adding additional buildings behind the existing units on the property that is zoned to allow storage units.

Tony Murad stated the town's site plan review specifically states that buildings that do not conform to the standards of the town, to be fully screened. Regardless what the Planning Board wrote about plantings, there is still an obligation to have complete screening.

Councilmember Rasmussen stated that the town did not enforce this requirement.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she and the Planning Board Chair will be meeting after this meeting regarding that specific potential violation. If it is something that the Building Department should be enforcing and they are not, it will need to be followed up on.

Jim Carroll stated that he did not mind Tony's idea about coming up with strict requirements of what the storage units should look like, however there is a moratorium that will be ending, a moratorium waiver, if the design standards are going to be tightened up, he thinks there will need to be another moratorium put in place.

Ted Salem stated, you can extend the current moratorium.

Councilmember Anthonisen stated in the discussion of the public input meeting on the Planning Board when they were discussing the other storage unit, she agrees with Steve, she does not think the intention was specifically for that one storage unit, she thinks there was a reaction to having more storage units in general in the downtown area and their negative impact on current businesses. She stated, she disagrees, they want more businesses to come, more businesses want to come but there is a big push to change the aesthetics of how the town looks. Anthonisen thinks there is a desire for both residents and businesses for a change, she believes storage units are helpful but with the zoning for tiny homes, is there an ability to have a storage unit with their tiny home.

Ted Salem replied, the current zoning permits accessory structures.

Supervisor Houghtling stated, they need to think about the diversity of the population of the town and their financial diversity.

Councilmember Anthonisen would be in favor of extending the moratorium so there is more time to discuss the zoning on these matters.

Monte Wasch stated as a member of the Planning Board, in the beginning, he was overly sympathetic towards the Coon request because of his knowledge of the property. Wasch stated that fifteen years ago the property in question was a superfund clean-up site with sixteen inches of topsoil over sixteen acres having to be removed because it was a dump site for GE PCBs. He thinks the owners of the property built self-storage because there are very little uses that would be acceptable on that property. He stated, he agrees that the Coon's violated their agreement if not technically, in substance by not planting or putting in poultry planting, he agrees that they failed to make a case for a waiver, but he pointed out that is one place in town where self-storage would be the only practical use, it is that property.

Supervisor Houghtling stated, they can introduce all three local laws, they can do the SEQR, and in the motion of introduction of local laws #3, they can do it with the removal of anything to do with storage units. That way they are not holding up everything else that is in the local law. They can then work on extending the moratorium, sending it back to the ZRC for the storage unit piece of the law and have the attorney prepare before the public hearing the version to be considered for adoption.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to recognize the introduction of Introductory Local Law Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of 2023 with the current draft version of Local law No. 3 being amended to remove any changes to the current storage unit zoning and code. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to classify the enactment of Introductory Local Law Nos. 3, 4, and 5 of 2023 as a Type I Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, to declare that the Town Board, as the only involved agency, shall be the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form as prepared by the Attorney for the Town. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Trainor to authorize the Supervisor to refer Introductory Local Law Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of 2023 to the Columbia County Planning Board pursuant to N.Y. General Municipal Law 239-m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Trainor to amend the previous motion to authorize the Supervisor to refer Introductory Local Law Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of 2023 to include the Town Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously, to schedule a public hearing on Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2023 for August 8th, 2023, at 5:30p.m., to be held at Town of New Lebanon Town Hall and to authorize and direct the Town Clerk to publish and post notice thereof as required.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Gordon, and approved unanimously, to schedule a public hearing on Introductory Local Law No. 4 of 2023 for August 8th, 2023, at 5:45p.m., to be held at Town of New Lebanon Town Hall and to authorize and direct the Town Clerk to publish and post notice thereof as required.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Introductory Local Law No. 5 of 2023 for August 8th, 2023, at 5:50p.m., to be held at Town of New Lebanon Town Hall and to authorize and direct the Town Clerk to publish and post notice thereof as required.

***Update and Recommendation from Historic Railroad Depot Committee:***

This agenda item was tabled.

***New Well Installation Engineering Proposal:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated, they previously approved installing a new well at Shatford park for the splashpad and the other various uses that the town draws water from the well for. The board approved installing the new well and the engineering services but they did not have a price for it. They have received a quote from Barton & Loguidice that was much higher than Supervisor Houghtling anticipated. Barton & Loguidice emailed the Supervisor, in the quote there was a price of \$10,000 that has been removed for construction administrative services. The \$3,900 in the quote is for hydrogeologic services, and the \$11,000 is for the water engineering, for a total of \$14,900 total.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to accept the proposal from Barton & Loguidice removing the construction administrative and observation services for \$10,000, and approving only the hydrogeologic services for \$3,900 and the water engineering and permitting services for \$11,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***Local Law Introduction – Zoning Map Amendment:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated Introductory Local Law No.2 is to amend an error that occurred when they did a zoning map update back in 2020.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to recognize the introduction of Introductory Local Law No. 2 of 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Rasmussen to classify the enactment of Introductory Local Law No. 2 of 2023 as an Unlisted Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, to declare that the Town Board, as the only involved agency, shall be the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the Part 1 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form as prepared by the Attorney for the Town. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Trainor to authorize the Supervisor to refer Introductory Local Law No. 2 of 2023 to the Columbia County Planning Board and Town of New Lebanon Planning Board, pursuant to N.Y. General Municipal Law 239-m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen.

Roll Call Vote:

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

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Introductory Local Law No. 2 of



2023 for August 8th, 2023, at 5:55p.m., to be held at Town of New Lebanon Town Hall and to authorize and direct the Town Clerk to publish and post notice thereof as required.

***Resignation from Shaker Preservation Committee & Chair Appointment:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated they received a resignation from Kyle Kuffel from the SPC.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to accept the resignation from Kyle Kuffel from the Shaker Preservation Committee.

Supervisor Houghtling stated they received a letter of interest from Merrill Hesch to join the SPC. Councilmember Anthonisen asked if there is a specific number of members designated for the SPC? Supervisor Houghtling replied, no, this is a temporary committee that was created for a specific task. There were a few people at tonight's meeting that expressed interest in joining the SPC. Josh Young asked if the SPC could talk to the interested parties to discuss what the SPC does and make sure that this is a committee of interest for them before appointing them. The Supervisor will hold off on appointing those from tonight's meeting and wait for letters of interest and a recommendation from the SPC. Josh will reach out to both interested parties from tonight's meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to appoint Merrill Hesch to the Shaker Preservation Committee.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor, and approved unanimously to appoint Josh Young as the Chair of the Shaker Preservation Committee.

***Ethics Board Resignation:***

Supervisor Houghtling stated they have received a resignation from Richard Adago, from the Ethics Board.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Gordon, and approved unanimously to accept the resignation from Richard Adago for the Ethics Board and advertise for letters of interest, asking the Town Clerk to advertise in the newspaper and schedule interviews, for August 8, 2023 at 4:30pm, with letters of interest due on or before August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by 4:00pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

***AUGUST;***

***Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 4:30pm- Special Meeting (Ethics Interviews)***

***Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:00pm- Public Hearing – Moratorium Waiver App.***

*Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:30pm- Public Hearing – Intro. LL#3 of 2023 (CH205)*  
*Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:45pm- Public Hearing – Intro. LL#4 of 2023 (CH145)*  
*Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:50pm- Public Hearing – Intro. LL#5 of 2023 (CH101)*  
*Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:55pm- Public Hearing – Intro. LL#2 of 2023 (Zoning Map Amendment)*  
*Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 6:00pm- Regular Monthly Meeting*

*Supervisor Houghtling mentioned the upcoming event on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, the Doug Banker Memorial Music in The Park.*

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

In addition to an in-person privilege of the floor, Supervisor Houghtling will read all comments, questions and concerns emailed to [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com) during the meeting.

**Margaret Robertson:** Meg gave an update on the Historic Railroad Depot. The Depot Committee is waiting for the lawyers and Andrea to finish drafting the relationship between the town, Corkscrew Rail Trail, and the Depot. Back in May of 2023, Meg applied for a \$10,000 grant that is awarded in August by the Amherst Railway Society in Palmer, Mass. to use for the repair to the roof. With the help of Steve Oberon, President of LVHS, they completed an application with NYS Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to submit photographs and a letter describing the brief history of the Depot and its relationship to the economy for determination of eligibility for the national registry of historic places. They are anticipated a successful fundraiser on Labor Day weekend. They are trying to get the temporary roof repaired. The Depot savings account has \$7,000 in it, separate from the Corkscrew Rail Trail account. The Depot committee decided that the \$7,000 will be used towards the temporary roof repair, even though they have applied for the grant towards it. Meg stated they received an estimate for \$2,000 from a tree company to remove brush and dead trees, she is trying to come up with that money because the mess is in the way of getting at the Depot building.

At the last Depot Committee meeting, Joe Ogilvie offered that the Corkscrew Rail Trail, still wants to own the Depot but the Corkscrew Rail Trail wants to work on the trail from Stephentown north to Berlin rather than work on clearing the trails here in New Lebanon.

Supervisor Houghtling reported, there were no emails for the second POF.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Rasmussen -

Aye

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

Marcie Robertson  
New Lebanon Town Clerk