

THE TOWN OF CHENANGO TOWN BOARD MET MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011, AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING, 1529 N.Y. ROUTE 12, BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

PRESENT: Harold Snopek, Supervisor
Rhonda Pudiak, Councilperson
Russ Hemedinger, Councilperson
Gene Hulbert, Councilperson
Terry Kellogg, Councilperson

ALSO PRESENT: Donald G. Walls, Town Attorney
Lizanne Korinek, Deputy Town Clerk
Mike Kwartler, Highway Superintendent

ABSENT: Rhonda D. Milks, Town Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Snopek requested that all present stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hemedinger moved, seconded by Mrs. Pudiak, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as prepared and presented. Motion carried.

BID OPENINGS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (4)

- A- Consolidation of Water Districts
- B - Consolidation of Sewer Districts
- C - Timbering Local Law
- D - Stop Sign Ordinance

Mr. Snopek asked Mr. Walls to conduct the public hearings.

Mr. Walls said the first two public hearings are proposals to consolidate the Town Water and Sewer Districts, 26 water districts and 7 sewer districts. So many are burdensome and time consuming and our auditors recommended we consolidate them into 1 water and 1 sewer district so all future allocation of maintenance and debt could be spread across the consolidated district. This consolidation will not result in any tax increase but will result in administrative savings and time.

Mr. Walls opened the public hearing to anyone wishing to comment or ask questions, stating their name and address. As no one wished to be heard, the public hearing was closed. The third public hearing pertains to Local Law #1, proposed, to regulate timbering and logging in the Town of Chenango. The major change if this is adopted is that timbering would be permitted in all classifications, agricultural and residential. He explained variances in a residential zone and all the specifications needed to get a variance. With this new ordinance you need a permit with street standards, insurance and several more specifications with D.E.C. guidelines. Mr. Walls has a detailed copy of this new proposed ordinance, and asked if any one present wished to comment or ask a question.

Nathan Metzler, B&B Lumber Company, took the floor. He said some time ago his company applied to do logging in the Town of Chenango and it resulted in a strenuous process. He appreciates the Town taking strides to allow logging in residential areas. You put in a lot of work to do this and it looks like a very good ordinance. One thing, the roadway performance bond, needs explanation as to how the Town came up with a figure of \$125 per lineal foot and other information to use the Town roads. It is pretty steep compared to other Towns he has done logging in. He explained further how a fair price can be reached for performance bond.

Mr. Hulbert explained that these are Town roads we're looking at, not major N.Y.S. Highways or interstate. The average cost of rebuilding a new road is about \$250 to \$275 per lineal foot. He explained this Town isn't looking at a new road and explained the insurance policy.

Nathan said maybe another way of looking at it is to take each job and look at the road ways first and set up a bond amount. He thanked the Town for the work they did to look into this.

Mr. Hulbert said we did look at that possibility, but it is too expensive to have someone come in to evaluate each job.

Doug Beaulier, with Wagner Lumber Company, Owego, said he reviewed the proposed ordinance and he wished to echo Nathan's comment and he also appreciates the Town's time and effort put into this proposed new ordinance and that \$125 per lineal foot is too much compared to other Towns. He elaborated on what other areas charge and it is a serious concern. Insurance limits are twice what the state required.

Mr. Walls said the Town will take all their comments into consideration.

John Barrett, Stever Drive, asked about the point Nathan made to assess each road before a job begins, who would be paying for that assessment?

Mr. Walls said the applicant would. The Town could hire a forester to oversee a job at the lumberer's expense.

As no one else wished to be heard this public hearing was closed.

Public Hearing #4 has to do with amending stop sign ordinance. The Highway Superintendent has been requested to erect a stop sign at the intersection at Highland Road and Oak Drive, at the northeast corner of Oak at the intersection of Highland. If we put up a stop sign it cannot be enforced without an ordinance behind it, so that is the meaning of this Public Hearing, to adopt an ordinance controlling this particular stop sign.

Mr. Walls asked if any one wished to comment or ask a question.

Sue Miller, 25 Cherry Lane, gave an example of an altercation between two drivers who came together at this intersection. One of the drivers cut off the other and it looked like they were going to fight, and it wasn't the first time this happened between them. There is no stop sign and a person on Highland would assume they have the right of way because of the way the lines are in the road, but you can also see if you're on Oak that you would have the right of way. Also, if you are on Oak Drive and want to get on Highland there is a hedge there. You can't see around the hedge to know if there is someone coming around that curve. This hedge also needs to be looked at. She is in favor of the stop sign.

As no one else wished to speak, this Public Hearing was closed.

OPEN HEARING

Mr. Snopak requested that those wishing to be heard should give their name and address and limit their remarks to five minutes.

As no one wished to speak, the open hearing was closed.

COMMUNICATIONS: Lizanne Korinek for Rhonda D. Milks, Town Clerk

There are no communications for tonight's meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Hemedinger - For the Planning and Zoning Committee, the Zoning Board for April had 2 Public hearings. Barry Arnold, 697 Brotzman Road, application for an area variance to subdivide

a lot with less than required road frontage from 240' to 227.91'.

James Hazelton, 435 Port Road, application for an area variance to create a lot with less than required acreage from 2 acres to 1.1846 acres.

For the Planning Board for April's meeting, two items of new business. Weis markets, David Gill, 1300 Front Street, application for site plan update for a temporary tent sale.

Michael Boland, 1109 Front Street, application for site plan review for grading and elevations for the 5 parcel for future development.

Rhonda Pudiak - no report

Terry Kellogg - To report on insurance, all the information the insurance agents need they have now. He expects to get some numbers in early this month.

For Town activities for the summer, the Music in the Parks program is all set and the schedule is made. He received two more sponsorships, Glenwood Financial group, for Freddy Mendoza and also the Dirt Farm Band, a \$400 donation.

There is going to be a major function in our Town in June called The Civil War History and Remembrance Day. Alice Ruby, our Town Historian, has put together quite a program set for June 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the museum, Kattelville Cemetery, and Chenango Bridge field. The information is on our website and will be advertised.

Gene Hulbert - For the Highway Department for April, after the excessive rain fall we experienced, the Highway crews were busy trying to unclog pipes, ditch lines and do everything possible to alleviate as many water issues as possible.

April 1st was the last day of snow removal.

The yard waste program began on Monday, April 4th. Chipping will be done on Monday afternoons or on Tuesday until the part-time summer help is hired. It should be noted that chipping branches can't be done when it is raining. It is unsafe for the workers. The landfill is open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ditches were cleaned out on Dimmock Hill Road, Oak Hill and Port Roads. Ditch digging was done on Bishop, East Hill, Hillside, Perry, and Poplar Hill Roads.

Guard rail repairs were made on Parsons Road.

The department hauled materials out of the landfill. Crusher run stone and #1A stone was hauled to the lot in Castle Creek to stockpile for future work.

Lawn damage repairs were begun. Sod was turned back over. The hay and seed portion of the repairs cannot be completed until the topsoil is drier.

Mailbox posts that were damaged during snow removal operations were repaired/replaced on Daniel Drive, Deborah Drive, Greenmeadow Lane, Hoffman Jason, and White streets.

The hot-patch plants opened at the beginning of April. The temperatures were not warm enough to allow for berm and driveway repairs to be made. The Highway Department did however, patch several water breaks and soft spots in area roads. Mainly N. Morningside Drive, Circle Drive, Johnson Road, Highland Rd., and Cherry Lane. Street sweeping the streets and power-brooming the hills continued throughout the month.

Shoulders were repaired with stockpiles millings on Willis and East Hill Roads. Signs were repaired on Pembroke and S. Morningside Drives.

Tree removal was performed at the following locations: Houdlum Hill Road and Perry Road.

Mr. Snopek - Our County Legislator, Jerry Marinich, will be at our next meeting June 6. Also at the Castle Creek little league field, we put 3 jersey barriers there. Every year the creek overflows and tears off the little league fence and we spend a lot of money rebuilding it, so with these 3 barriers that we put in place the fence was not injured this year.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT (Security System, Sentry Alarm) was offered by Mr. Hemedinger, seconded by Mrs. Pudiak, and carried by the following roll call: 5 ayes. no nays, absent none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

Being that there was no further business to discuss Mr. Kellogg moved, seconded by Mr. Hulbert, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lizanne Korinek, Deputy Town Clerk