

REGULAR MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, SEPTEMBER 8, 2010

The regular meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at the Albert Emerson Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Kevin Geraghty
	Councilman	John Alexander
	Councilman	Bryan Rounds
	Councilman	Austin Markey
	Councilman	Dean Ackley

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk; Ed Pennock, Highway Superintendent; Richard Galusha, Sewer Superintendent; Sandra Parisi, Historian; Steve Parisi, Warrensburg Museum; Lisa Nagle, Jaclyn Hakes, Kate Mance; Elan Associates, and numerous Town residents.

**RESOLUTION #157-10
MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to accept the minutes as presented.

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICIALS

Reports were received and placed on file from the following Town Officials: Town Clerk, Supervisor, Justice, Dog Control Officer, and Enforcement Officer.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following town committees gave reports: Highway, Museum, Historian, Parks and Recreation, Sewer, and Water.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Letter from Camp Echo Lake requesting a lower speed limit and flashing speed sign on the Fish Hatchery Road.
- 2) Letter from Glenda Duell asking for a letter to be sent to the State to see if the intersection of Ridge and River can be made safer.

**RESOLUTION #158-10
PETITION STATE OF NEW YORK FOR LOWER SPEED SIGNS AND
FLASHING LIGHTS ON FISH HATCHERY ROAD**

On motion of Councilman Markey, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the attached resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE - AYES 5 NAYS 0

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RESOLUTION #159-10

PETITION STATE OF NEW YORK FOR SAFER INTERSECTION AT THE INTERSECTION OF RIDGE AND RIVER

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Markey, the attached resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

DISCUSSION – TRAFFIC CONTROLS AND DEVICES

Councilman Alexander opened discussion stating it was only a short time ago they had conversation with the State of New York, Frank, trying to get a cross walk.

Supervisor Geraghty said the town has petitioned the State since 2006 to do something with Elm, Route 418 and this one.

Councilman Ackley suggested the guard rails might be lowered.

Discussion ensued on the box rails and their effect on visibility on the Bridge.

MASTER PLAN PROJECT STATUS

Councilman Alexander introduced Lisa Nagle, Jaclyn Hakes and Kate Mance from Elan, who is preparing the Towns' Master Plan.

Lisa Nagle-gave a brief presentation on what the project status is. Ms. Nagle said Elan started working with the Committee in January of 2010, inventory and analysis have been completed, they then began the public meeting process which they had at the Elementary School, with good turnout. Ms. Nagle told the Town Board the project is being funded by the New York State Department of State, it is a Comprehensive Plan, Waterfront Revitalization Plan, Department of State considers them to be two different things but Elan is intergrading them into one document; they are going to move onto Zoning Ordinance updates, this is all into one grant and is about an eighteen month project. Ms. Nagle told the Town Board Elan has completed the project kick off, they have done the inventory and analysis and then they had their public workshop, now they are working diligently with the committee going through a vision statement and goals and recommendations. Ms. Nagle said they had conversation today and they should have the recommendations all put together around November or December of this year, they thought that would be a good time to come back to the Town Board with another report.

Jaclyn Hakes reviewed the Draft Vision Statement and Goals with the Town Board using a hand out. Ms. Hakes told the Town Board this is a work in progress and asked if they had comments to please let them know, Elan is continuing to work and meet with the Committee on a monthly basis, they are grateful to have Councilman Alexander as a liaison. Ms. Hakes told the Town Board Elan is working with the Committee on specific recommendations that are under each of the goal headings on the hand out, saying they have gotten through Economic Development, Hamlet Revitalization, Open Space and the Environment, Housing and their next step is to do Recreation and Infrastructure and

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Governance, then they will go back through and refresh the edits they have heard from conversations with the Committee, at that point they will come back to the Town Board for specific feedback and information, and, go public as well.

Ms. Nagle told the Town Board that when the Town Board was talking about the intersection on Route 418 that is an example they could have incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, if the Department of Transportation comes through and decides to do a project there the Town could then say they have been recognizing this intersection as dangerous over time, that would be an example of the recommendation they could do.

Councilman Alexander said they would also like the parking brought back on Main Street, a lot of issues the Town has.

Ms. Nagle said it is a lot of help in the future if the Town is going to get grants or be working with State Agencies that are coming into Warrensburg, you want to hold up this document and say we worked as a community to find these needs.

Supervisor Geraghty said he knew there has been a lot of diligent work done on this document, when the document is all done it will be in what direction the Town wants to go in, it is very important to have public input on these documents and not go x number of months to then find out you do not like what is being worked on. Supervisor Geraghty said he has asked the people to try to attend some of these meetings.

Kathy Ferullo- asked if in the Master Plan they are thinking of moving the Blue Line.

Supervisor Geraghty asked if Mrs. Ferullo was talking about the Hamlet.

Jaclyn Hakes said it falls under the Hamlet Revitalization on the goal statement, it is something they have started to discuss with the community, they have done some research on what they would mean, what that would say and how it would achieve the overall vision for the community, something they need to talk to the Committee more about.

Supervisor Geraghty said the Town's Planning person, Chris has also been looking at that, he has had conversations with the APA and he is in tune with that, Supervisor Geraghty feels it is a simple process the Town should win but Chris is studying it, in that degree what trade offs would have to be done in order for the Town to gain more Hamlet.

Kathy Ferullo asked if the Town thought that if they extended the Hamlet then people would go more under the jurisdiction of the Town as opposed to APA.

Supervisor Geraghty invited Mrs. Ferullo to stop and visit with Chris, and, said he could show her his information.

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Councilman Markey said he was glad the incident with the safety of intersections had been brought up, and, said recently the Town Board has also had concerns on the River Street Farmers Market, towards the Park area on Fridays, the Town has had situations where it has become a safety issue and Dean (Councilman Ackley) goes through that area every day, it is a safety issue, it is right on the corner, the Town has crosswalks there and parking there, it may be something the Town wishes to put into the Comprehensive Plan to move the Farmers Market to another Park on River Street where there is more visibility.

Councilman Alexander commented it attests to the success of the event they are having down there but it leaves the question about the park, is it moveable, someone needs to look into it.

Discussion ensued on what the Town has put into the Park for electricity, bathrooms and the safety for pedestrians in that specific area.

Ms. Dagle told the Town Board there was multiple funding sources available for Farmers Markets, to improve that area or if the Town wished to move it somewhere else, as long as they document it in the plan, the plan is ultimately adopted by this body, when you write a grant application you can literally photo copy the pages and put it in the grant application, Elan writes grant applications as part of their business and they work with grant reviewers, she can tell them they literally put the planning document on the pile over here and it gets more attention than those applications that aren't referencing an adopted plan. Ms. Dagle told the Town Board the other link is the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor, the study that is being done by Warren County Planning Office, has Warrensburg as key to that with the trains over in Thurman and so there is some interest on Route 418 to think of that as a way for cyclists, the more attention they can bring to increase the safety of that road for this planning process will help as the Department of Transportation comes through with a possible improvement project through there.

Laura Moore – told the Town Board this document will be a moving document that the Town will take different pieces of for different grants for different processes.

Supervisor Geraghty thanked the Elan representatives for their information.

DISCUSSION – FARMERS MARKET

Councilman Ackley opened discussion saying the Farmers Market location is a serious situation; his concern is someone is going to be hurt or killed there. Councilman Ackley said they have enacted some steps to try and control some of it for the next couple of weeks, one suggestion that he liked that Austin made was to have the Town's black and white car sit on the corner right by the Farmers Market, the yellow bar light will definitely slow people down. Councilman Ackley said he will be there every Friday from now on, his recommendation is if they can not do something like putting no parking in that would relieve that.....

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Supervisor Geraghty said they can not do that, he went down there last Friday and it had cleared out, the State Police had a car there and the Sheriff Department had a car there, Teresa was out and there was no congestion when he was there. Supervisor Geraghty said as he saw it, the other side of the loop is owned by the Town and they could probably get another ten to twelve cars in there, that area could be graded off.

Rick Galusha said they had to check to see how close they could go to the river, to fill in.

Councilman Ackley said there are hard cement pillars there, Supervisor Geraghty said there is a cellar hole there, with education and a little enforcement on keeping them away from the corner, the Town needs to do better signage and better enforcement and look at extending the parking area because it is all about the ambience of being near the river and that is what they created, and as John says they have created a success, but we can alleviate these problems.

Councilman Markey said the Town could do a rough stone dust if they do not have the money to pave just to get the cars into that area.

Rick Galusha told the Town Board ninety percent of the bushes should be taken down. Discussion ensued about the bushes.

Councilman Ackley asked Steve Parisi what the stone pillars were from.

Mr. Parisi said that was the foundation for the Trolley Generator Plant, they have a picture at the Museum with the generator mounted on one of those, in the building that was there then.

Sandi Parisi – asked if the bridge construction would be continuing through the winter. Supervisor Geraghty said he did not know, they had 444 days to complete the project, they got behind because of the delay with Ni Mo and the design, he does not believe they are going to pour this winter, it won't be finished.

Mrs. Parisi said they go by there all of the time, she has a problem with the corner, even though she knows that light is there and is going to be red, you are still braking and she is concerned if there is going to be ice on the road. Supervisor Geraghty said he was not sure they are going to leave that there, that was to get their abutment poured and he thinks it is poured and that they will pull those Jersey barriers out of there, he will check and see if they are going to leave those there all winter.

Councilman Ackley asked Rick Galusha about cars coming around the corner and the branches blocking the view on the other side of Curtis, and his Department trimming them. Councilman Markey said he has called the State before about the bushes and asked them to be cut down. Supervisor Geraghty said that would be no problem, the Town will take care of it and take into consideration the abutments.

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Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board he did know the Beautification Committee did work very hard to get this Farmers Market where it is and they would really like to keep it there, it is his thought the Board should look at different things and different ideas.

Councilman Ackley said the bathroom at the Farmers Market park is locked, he would like to know why the town builds a bathroom and then locks it.

Sandi Parisi told the Town Board Teresa has the key to the bathroom, Supervisor Geraghty said the Town would get the keys from her. Mrs. Parisi told the Town Board Teresa questioned whether the bathroom should be open all of the time.

Councilman Ackley said it is a town park, just like the bathrooms at the Rec. Field and the Bandstand and where ever else, that is why they have them. Mrs. Parisi told the Town Board the Farmers Market organizers store their things in the bathroom.

RESOLUTION #160-10

AMEND SEWER PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION #150-10

On motion of Councilman Markey, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to amend resolution #150-10, setting the public hearing for sewer expansion for Library Avenue Extension, Thompson Street, Third Avenue, Fourth Avenue and Raymond Lane from Wednesday, September 8th to October 13th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION – HACKENSACK BID OPENING

Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board the bid opening for Hackensack timber review would be October 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Ackley asked Supervisor Geraghty if he was doing anything on the face of the mountain. Supervisor Geraghty said the forester has marked where he wishes to do, he will mark a few more and then bring it into the Town and it will be the Town Board's choice what they do. Councilman Ackley said he had two concerns: the appearance and the soil erosion on the one side of the mountain, he did not want to have logs dragged up the mountain to cause more erosion and scar the face of the mountain.

Supervisor Geraghty told Councilman Ackley he would have Chris bring in the map and give it to him so he can review the proposed areas.

RESOLUTION #161-10

RE-APPOINT EILEEN FRASIER TO BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW.

On motion of Councilman Rounds, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

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IT IS RESOLVED, to re-appoint Eileen Frasier to a five year term on the Board of Assessment Review.

RESOLUTION #162-10

SCHEDULE SPECIAL MEETING FOR TENTATIVE BUDGET

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Markey, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to schedule a meeting for the purpose of presenting the Tentative Budget for October 5, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION – STATE MANDATE ON DOG LICENSING

Town Clerk Combs told the Town Board the State of New York has mandated the dog licensing be done by towns beginning in January of 2011, each town will have their own unique dog tag, the town will be responsible for mailing their own renewals, all of the revenues will belong to the town with the exception of the mandated animal control fee which will go to a state agency that has not been decided yet. Town Clerk Combs told the Town Board she should have a local law prepared for the October Board meeting.

Councilman Markey said he and the Town Clerk have had discussion, the town has been trying to get on a schedule for enumeration, that can be an expenditure, if the Board has noticed on the monthly budget report the fees being charged for housing and everything has increased so this may mean a minor increase in fees to cover enumeration and added expenses, not to make a windfall or money maker just to make sure the expenses are covered.

Any action was tabled until the October town board meeting.

DISCUSSION – EXCAVATING FOR NEW FOOTBALL FIELD

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining the Junior Football Program volunteers were here in the Spring and discussed putting a new football field in down over the bank at the Recreation Field, they have not had much success getting the project moving and Councilman Ackley has asked to have the Town Highway and Town Recreation Department do the excavating work down there. Supervisor Geraghty said he has spoken to Rick and Ed and they feel they can get the equipment to do it as long as it is staked out where exactly we want to do it and somebody shoots the grade, Bryan has said he would help shoot the grade for the project.

Councilman Ackley told Supervisor Geraghty he would like to have that done.

Councilman Rounds said he had told some of the people who are interested that up to Braley and Noxon they have a brand new dozer and they seem to be pretty community minded, some of them are going to approach them to donate the machine for the time necessary.

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Councilman Ackley said this group has a lot of fund raisers, they will try to pay for the hydro seed and if it can get done this year and start growing grass, they will be able to use it next year.

Councilman Rounds said that was our concern, they did not want to get in there, tearing it up is one thing, but the money comes in topsoil and seed.

Councilman Markey agreed it was a good project to get started.

DISCUSSION – BID OPENING ON UV DISINFECTANT

Supervisor Geraghty announced the bid opening on the UV Disinfectant System would be September 15, 2010 at 2:00 P.M., immediately followed by a workshop session on Health Insurance to choose a program.

RESOLUTION #163-10

ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT FOR UV DISINFECTANT

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the attached resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

DISCUSSION-JOINT MEETING WITH SCHOOL BOARD

Supervisor Geraghty opened the discussion explaining he and John (Councilman Alexander) have been having discussions with John McGlire, the President of the School Board and he would like to do a joint meeting between the Warrensburg School Board and the Warrensburg Town Board at the School, tentative date would be September 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. for any Town Board members who would like to attend.

Councilman Alexander said that is the Comprehensive Planning Committee meeting night, so he would not be able to attend, if the Board wished to keep that date they could.

Councilman Markey said the one thing the Town Board needed to discuss at this joint meeting that they have done in years past are negotiations that are done for litigation, in the past with School having a much larger vested interest, they have worked well with the Town but they are no longer doing that.

RESOLUTION #164-10

BUDGET TRANSFERS

On motion of Councilman Markey, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the attached resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #165-10

PAY WARRANTS

On motion of Councilman Markey, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

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IT IS RESOLVED, to pay the bills as outlined on Abstract #9-10.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – PUBLIC CONCERNS

Kathy Ferullo – inquired if the Board of Assessment Review members are required to have any form of education, if they attend any kind of classes. Mrs. Ferullo told the Town Board she wished to go on record as disagreeing with their appointment of Eileen Frasier. Mrs. Ferullo gave the Town Board a vocal dissertation regarding her tax assessment problems with the Town of Warrensburg, the APA, the way the Board of Assessment Appeals presents themselves, and, informed the Town Board she is going to Small Claims again this coming Wednesday because of her property. Mrs. Ferullo told the Town Board it was her feeling the Town Board has made a mistake, and, said she has spoken to several of the Board of Assessment Review members who have given her their opinion.

Clara Bates –spoke about the Farmers Market, telling the Town Board she agreed with them, it is a total success, she is very glad it is a success, but the location is very dangerous, no one was using the crosswalk and she had to stop for six people crossing the street.

Rita Ackley- spoke about her concerns with the logging of Hackensack Mountain, saying everything the Town owns has been lumbered off, the Town will have nothing to fall back on if the Town needs the money.

No one else wished to comment.

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk

