

York Town Board Meeting
April 26, 2012

Present: Supervisor Gerald L. Deming, Council Members: Norman Gates and David Deuel

Absent: Council Member Lynn Parnell and Frank Rose Jr.

Others: George R. Worden Jr. (Highway Superintendent), Roger McCracken (Water and Sewer Operator) and Carl Peter (Zoning and Code Officer) Davies Nagel, Larry Smith, Paul Schneider, Lee Gratwick and Roberta MacLean

Council Member Gates opened the Town Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to approve the minutes of the April 12th Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Several community members were in attendance this evening to ask the Board their thoughts on the recent Fracking Forum held at York Central School on April 11th. Mr. Nagel asked if the Town of York considered the forum to be beneficial to the residents. Supervisor Deming conveyed that in his opinion the meeting was an excellent starting point and had hoped that the turn out would be greater with more residents in attendance. In addition, Supervisor Deming was pleased that both sides of the issue were presented as well as represented, given the controversial nature of the topic. Mr. Deuel also added that Mr. Nagel and Ms. Gratwick should be complimented regarding their efforts in planning the meeting and the guests invited to speak as well as getting the message out to our community and surrounding areas.

During the discussion several questions were raised by the residents in attendance regarding the lack of information available on the topic. In addition to clarification on terminology associated with the fracking procedures, Ms. MacLean's expressed concern that York is primarily a farming community and fracking and farming are not compatible. Mr. Deuel offered Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide substantial information and web links. Councilmember Deuel also suggested that the Town of York consider putting something similar to a straw poll on the Town website to see where our local residents stand on the issue. All agreed that it would be helpful to have our community informed and will continue to share information sites where facts may be obtained.

Mr. Smith asked the Board if at this time the Town should be considering a possible moratorium on fracking. Supervisor Deming replied that no moratorium has been ruled out at this point as of yet. The Supervisor has been in

contact with an attorney to discuss procedures if necessary but that the Town needs to look to our current Zoning and Comprehensive Plan in place regarding permits pertaining to fracking. Supervisor Deming reminded the group of his initial suggestion back in January 2012 of the need for the Planning and Zoning Boards to get started on putting policy in place.

Mr. Nagel reiterated again this controversy will eventually be coming to our Town and that we need to do the necessary preparations and have proper legal documentation in place. General concerns addressed by the group this evening are that we can not sit back and wait on this issue and all will continue to gather relevant information on the topic.

Mr. Nagel, Mr. Schneider, Mr. Smith, Ms. Gratwick and Ms. MacLean thanked the Board for listening to their concerns and exited the Town Board meeting at 8:10pm.

HIGHWAY

Mr. Worden stated the Highway Department continues to ditch roadsides throughout the township, which has kept them very busy in addition to a recent unexpected snow event requiring the employees to plow in two towns this past week.

Supt. Worden explained to the Board that they are waiting for blacktop plants to open in order to complete paving projects on River Road, Retsof and Chandler Roads. He also reported that the Livingston Co. Highway Department will begin tiling on Monday on York Road West, weather permitting.

Notices have been received by Mr. Worden and Supervisor Deming from the Livingston County Highway Department that the bridge on Simpson Road will be closed effective May 7th with an approximate date of re-opening on August 1, 2012.

Supt. Worden brought up the issue of inadequate parking at a business located on Mt. Pleasant Road as cars are parked along the roadside daily. With ongoing ditching in the area, the limited space does not allow for Highway or Farm equipment to pass through. All Board members agreed that the Town welcomes the business and that a viable solution to the parking issue is possible. Supervisor Deming will contact the homeowner to discuss options to provide ample parking for the business.

Mr. Worden also mentioned that he has spoken with Geneseo Highway Supt. Levey and they are ready to move forward with the Shared Services agreement for an excavator. The Town of York will draw up the agreement and the Town of Geneseo will take the lead.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to approve a Shared Services agreement with the Town of Geneseo to purchase machinery equipment.

Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0.

WATER/SEWER

Mr. McCracken informed the Board that painting of the Tuttle Road Water tank has come a long way in a short period of time and looks great. With the cooperation of the weather, a few more days are all that is needed to finish the project. During the painting process, Amstar of Western NY proposed touching up spots for an additional \$27,000.00. Based upon recommendation of our Town Engineer, the Board declined the service and all power washing and sanding will be done by Town of York Highway or Water/Sewer employees. Water/Sewer Operator McCracken explained to the Board that the Solar Bee has not yet arrived but that local electrician Peter Scondras met with utility company National Grid to prepare for a new electrical service to be installed on the Town property in anticipation for the equipment's arrival.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Deuel and seconded by Mr. Gates to approve the installation of an electrical service for the Solar Bee equipment project not to exceed \$5,000.00

Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0.

Mr. McCracken informed the Board of the updates on Flats Road digging project as well as pump issues in the area that needed cleaning out and have recently been taken care of.

The Board and Mr. McCracken discussed the recent bid opening on Monday, April 16th for a new 1/2 ton pick up truck. Four bids were submitted as follows:

- 1) \$28,695.00 – Ken Barrett Chevrolet Cadillac Inc.
- 2) \$27,405.00 – West Herr Ford
- 3) \$24,060.81 – Wentworth Motors Inc.
- 4) \$23,897.00 – Emerling Chevrolet

Upon the lowest bidder not meeting the specified rust proofing undercoating requirements,

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to purchase one Victory Red, 1/2 ton, 4 wheel drive pick up truck w/towing package from Wentworth Motors Inc. 139 Franklin Street, Dansville, New York 14437 in the amount of \$24,060.81. Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Deuel mentioned that the Farmland Open Space Committee recently met and discussed encouraging all farmers to post profiles on the Town website to share with the community. Mr. Deuel reiterated that Agricultural assessments are on the rise and Town Assessor Anne Sapienza is doing well to educate farmers as to the new formula used to derive at the current figures.

In addition the committee provided two framed posters for the Town Clerk's office as well as a larger one to be displayed within the Town Hall.

Supervisor Deming reminded the Board that there are still seats available if anyone wished to attend the informational bus tour on Monday, April 30 to Pennsylvania coordinated by Sparta Supervisor Mark Shuster in conjunction with Chesapeake Energy Corporation. The tour will include Fracking sites and offer additional information on the issue. To date, Councilmember Gates, Councilmember Deuel and wife, Assessor Anne Sapienza and several members of the Planning Board have secured seats as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Deming shared with the Board that Congresswoman Kathy Hochul with New York's 26th Congressional District will be at the York Town Hall on Friday, May 4 to host a Livingston County Agricultural Roundtable Forum. Co-hosting the event with Congresswoman Hochul will be Senator Patrick Gallivan. The event is not open to the public and is by invitation only, allowing local farmers an opportunity to speak regarding issues that affect their farms.

Mrs. Nora Coleman, Treasurer of York-Leicester Towners submitted a letter for the Town Board asking permission to store and maintain a donated piano on the stage for the Seniors Citizens group to use at their monthly luncheons and functions. Mr. Deming reminded the Board that after many years of having a piano in house, the Town sold it to a local resident due to maintenance and space issues. After a brief discussion, the Board regrettably was not able to accommodate the Towners request in part due to the possibility of future restructuring plans to relocate Town Court in the main hall.

BILLS

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to approve all claims brought before the Board. Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0.

• General Fund Claim	#113-124	\$ 6,704.48
• Joint water & Sewer	#103-116	\$139,525.14
• Youth Fund Claim	#8	\$ 31.00
• Highway Fund Claim	#82-88	\$9,036.75

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to adjourn the Town Board Meeting until May 10, 2012. Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-0.

Town Board Meeting closed at 8:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Barefoot
Supervisor's Clerk

