

York Town Board Meeting  
July 26, 2007

Present: Supervisor Gerald Deming, Council Members: William Hasler, Norman Gates, David Sliker and Lynn Parnell

Absent: None

Others: George Worden Jr. (Highway Supt.), Anne Sapienza (Town Assessor) and Norman Barrett (Senior Water & Sewage Treatment Plant Operator)

Supervisor Deming opened the Town Board Meeting at 7:32 p.m.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Hasler to approve the minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of Boards and the Regular Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

1) Anne Sapienza:

a- Assessment Program:

Town Assessor, Anne Sapienza attended the meeting tonight to discuss with the Board the short term and long term goals she envisions for the Town of York. Mrs. Sapienza stated that the most important issue is whether or not to continue with the 4 year time table for the re-assessment process, or sign on for the annual format. Currently the Town of Ossian is the only town in Livingston County that re-assesses annually, everyone else is on the four year cycle.

Mrs. Sapienza stated that she plans to conduct another re-assessment in 2009, because she feels four years is much too long of a wait when properties are being updated and sold on such a frequent basis, but added the final say lies with the Town Board on which format to proceed with.

Supervisor Deming and Councilman Sliker stated when Mrs. Sapienza interviewed for the Assessor position, the Town of York as well as the Town of Leicester, conveyed to her their thoughts on the matter hoping to be able to achieve a yearly re-assessment within a three year period, which she felt comfortable doing.

Mrs. Sapienza informed the Board that yearly re-assessments are definitely more work, but she will have the ability to adjust on a more frequent basis the necessary information to keep each of the parcels more current. Mrs. Sapienza added, she is a firm believer that the best way to keep residents informed is to hold public informational sessions, which she is more than happy to conduct.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Hasler and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to support the re-assessment program for the Town of York, as outlined by Town Assessor, Anne Sapienza. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

b- Arkema:

Supervisor Deming reported that he received a copy of the letter prepared by Paul Boylan regarding the Arkema court petition. Mr. Boylan stated that the Town offered to settle with Arkema for a 10% reduction in the assessment for the 2007 tax year, but has yet to hear a response. Mr. Boylan added, if he does not hear from Arkema prior to September 27<sup>th</sup>, he plans to appear and inform the Court that he has made attempts at a settlement but have been unsuccessful, and ask that the Court enter a scheduling order for the exchange of appraisals and discovery.

c- Unit charges:

Mrs. Sapienza verified with the Board a list of organizations in roll section 8 of the tax roll, that should have water and/or sewer unit charges added to them.

After much review the Board agreed before any changes can be made, we would like legal verification from Town Attorney, Mr. Cicoria on a few of the accounts.

## HIGHWAY

1) Craig Road:

a- shoulders:

Highway Superintendent, Mr. Worden reported that last Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup>) the Highway Department began the shoulders process for Craig Road. Mr. Worden stated we were grateful that the surrounding towns of Caledonia, Avon and Mt. Morris were able to assist us for those few days.

b- ditch issue:

Mr. Worden addressed with the Board a continued issue at the corner of Route 36 & Craig Road. Mr. Worden and Senior Water & Sewage Treatment Plant Operator, Mr. Barrett reviewed the ditch area at that corner and suggested as a coordinated effort of the two departments, to restore the ditch to its original form before the sewer project came through.

Mr. Deming stated, restoration work has been done in this area two years ago by Don Barnhart and asked if something more could be done because the water continues to wash away all the topsoil Mr. Barnhart put down.

Mr. Worden explained that Lawnel Farms has a current field tile in that area, but excess water will continue to be a major problem unless the ditch is restored properly.

After much discussion the Board agreed, if our departments corrected this issue, we can anticipate more requests coming forward on Main Street, and should not have Town employees working on State roads.

( DOT maintains routes 20, 36 and 63 in the Town of York)

\*\* The Board decided to table this issue until more information has been obtained.

## WATER/SEWER

1) River Crossing:

Mr. Barrett informed the Board that the Water Department and Burrows Brothers flushed out and pressure tested the new line under the Genesee River. After documenting specific times and pressures, we were quite pleased to record that we never lost a drop of

water, nor lost any pressure, which are two excellent signs that the line was secure. The next steps are to chlorinate the line, then bleed it, flush it out on Monday and then finish it off by taking water samples.

2) One-ton truck:

Mr. Barrett reported that the 1-ton truck for the Water/Sewer Department experienced some difficulties this week with the shifting mechanism. Mike VanGelder informed us that he located a used steering column for \$ 600.00 and should be in his shop by Friday. He will be working on the truck Monday and Tuesday of next week and should have it back to us by Wednesday.

3) Engineering Service Bids:

Mr. Barrett stated after speaking with the Board on July 12<sup>th</sup> regarding the change in Engineering Services, he did have the opportunity to speak with both companies. Timothy Rock, from Larsen Engineers faxed a copy to Mr. Barrett and to the Town office, confirming his bid of \$ 6,000.00. Paul Chatfield spoke with Mr. Barrett about their willingness to accept the Boards decision to proceed with Larsen Engineers, but we have yet to receive that statement in writing.

**Upcoming projects**

North Road 400 feet

Tuttle Road 900 feet

Retsof Road 3,500 feet

**NEW BUSINESS**

1) Re-Appointment:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to re-appoint Anne Sapienza as Town Assessor for a six year term. The re-appointment will begin October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 and end September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

2) Soil distribution:

Supervisor Deming stated at the Town Board Meeting of May 24<sup>th</sup> the Board made a resolution authorizing the Highway Superintendent to keep all roadside ditching material on town sites only. After a great deal of discussion and numerous requests for such material, the Board re-evaluated the matter.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mr. Hasler to rescind the resolution of May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 regarding the disbursement of roadside ditching material and further resolve that the Highway Superintendent may disburse to the residents no more than 2 loads of “fill dirt” per calendar year, and to local businesses will be disbursed at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

3) Zoning procedures:

Mr. Worden updated Supervisor Deming and Councilman Sliker on the July 12<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting. Mr. Worden stated that the meeting went quite well and was very well attended. The group discussed the need to prioritize the upcoming revisions and decided to focus on the subdivision regulations and land use areas as the starting points.

Mr. Deming reviewed the minutes from the meeting and suggested to the Board that we might want to re-structure some of the potential committee members in order to receive more community input on the actual revision process.

4) Rodger Property:

The Board briefly discussed the Rodger Property and the need to begin the procedure of removing the 40 acres closest to York Central School out of the Empire Zone. The future discussions will decide whether or not to use that area for residential or Industrial purposes and the Board stated they will be suggesting that the 40 acres be used for residential structures.

5) David Clark:

Supervisor Deming informed the Board that he spoke once again with David Clark this week about his request for additional land from the Town of York. Mr. Clark stated that his original request of 90 feet was rejected, and the Board offered roughly 20 feet, which unfortunately will not help him. Mr. Clark hopes to discuss with the Board the matter once again in order to make them more aware of his situation.

After a brief discussion the Board agreed to have Supervisor Deming, Town Attorney, Mr. Cicoria and Water & Sewage Treatment Plant Operator, Mr. Barrett meet with Mr. Clark within the next few weeks to survey the area to determine the proper footage needed.

BILLS

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve all claims brought before the Board. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Retsof Sewer District	# 78-81	\$ 901.80
York Sewer District #1	# 32	\$ 193.17
Consolidated Water District	# 152-159	\$ 649.36
General Fund Claim	# 232-242	\$ 4,315.32
Highway Fund Claim	# 122-127	\$ 1,040.94

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Sliker to adjourn the Town Board Meeting until August 9<sup>th</sup>. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Town Board Meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk