

February 8, 2007
Public Hearing
7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Others: Stephen Gates and Andrew Schwan

Supervisor Deming opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

PURPOSE

Supervisor Deming opened the Public Hearing by explaining the purpose. Mr. Deming stated that the hearing was called to discuss Increasing the Maximum Allowable Veterans Exemption under Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

Mr. Deming stated that the proposed increase would increase the dollar figures from \$ 15,000 (wartime veteran) to **\$ 21,000**, \$10,000 (combat veteran) to **\$ 14,000** and \$ 50,000 (disabled veteran) to **\$ 70,000**. Supervisor Deming added, if approved, this increase shall be effective with the 2007 assessment roll, and would be listed with the Town of York as Local Law #1-2007.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to close the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk

Regular Town Board Meeting
February 8, 2007
7:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Others: Norman Barrett (Senior Water & Sewage Tr. Pl. Op.), David Deuel and Stephen
Gates (Town Historian)

Supervisor Deming opened the regular Town Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the minutes of the January 11th Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

HISTORIAN/ HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1) Stephen Gates:

Mr. Gates came before the Board as a representative from the York Historical Society as well as Town Historian. Mr. Gates stated that he intends to inform the Town Board every month or so on the upcoming events and activities.

Mr. Gates stated after receiving approval from the Board late last year, he recently purchased a digital camera for the Historians office and has been quite busy familiarizing himself with it. Mr. Gates added that he hopes to purchase a computer relatively soon, but is unsure whether to buy an office computer or a lap top.

Mr. Gates also informed the Board about the Historical Society's activities. This upcoming weekend at the Samuel Warren house (the new home of the Historical Society) the group will be acknowledging the history of the local farms with "Farm Days". The Society hopes to have a good turn out on Saturday (10th) and Sunday (11th). In May and June the Historical Society will be celebrating "Mothers Day" by displaying old wedding dresses from different time periods. The Society's town picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 12th. Mr. Gates stated that the home is open to all visitors every Sunday from 1-4 p.m., and has had people visit every week. The donations have been coming in quite steadily and hope it will continue to do well.

The Board thanked Mr. Gates for his update and stated they look forward to his next visit.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

1) David Deuel:

Mr. Deuel thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak this evening. He wanted to discuss with the Board developmental rights for agricultural purposes. Mr. Deuel stated that he has given this matter a great deal of thought and asked the Board if they had ever heard of a State program allowing farmers to donate their land to the program, and not taxing them on such parcels.

Mr. Deuel stated that he has spoken with several agencies about the need to keep agricultural land secured and asked if the State could compensate the parcel owners accordingly, which he would be in favor of. Mr. Deuel was informed of the Conservation Easement Program which allows a 25% tax credit toward your school & property taxes. Mr. Deuel believes he as the land owner now could receive the advantage of the credit, but future land owners should be able to as well. The main purpose for the incentive program is to keep the land agricultural as long as they can. Mr. Deuel stated because his farm is incorporated, he has not been able to apply for any programs, but hope that in the near future something may be available.

After some discussion Supervisor Deming stated that he will contact Assembleman, Daniel Burling, Livingston County Planning Department Representative, Heather Ferraro and NYS Ag. & Markets to discuss the possibility of scheduling a meeting with the Town Board, Mr. Deuel and any other farm families in the area, to review and discuss the options available for agricultural programs in the State.

WATER/SEWER

1) Treatment Plant:

Mr. Barrett reported that he and the men have completed the piping installation at the Retsof Treatment Facility. The piping was put in to take the effluent (run-off) off the spirogester and put it into the primary clarifier, previously the effluent went directly to the tricklefilter. Mr. Barrett stated after the new piping was put in place we have already seen quite a difference at the plant.

2) South Wadsworth:

Mr. Barrett reported that he is quite sure that 4 or 5 meter pits will need to be installed in the south Wadsworth area. Unfortunately, due to the weather the men have not been able to re-evaluate the area completely, but will do so when weather permits.

3) River Crossing:

Mr. Barrett reported that the River crossing project is still on delay because of the freezing weather conditions.

Mr. Barrett informed the Board that once the project has been completed, we will be responsible to make sure that the temporary hose we borrowed has been thoroughly cleaned before we return it. Mr. Barrett stated that he considered purchasing a hose cleaner but after viewing the prices, he concluded that he and the men might be able to make one, which they did at a much cheaper price, and works great.

HIGHWAY

1) Seasonal Part-time MEO:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Hasler to approve the following people for a Seasonal Part-time MEO position for the Town of York Highway Department:

James Kennedy III
James Mayes
Carl Peter

Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Empire Zone:

Supervisor Deming reported that the meeting held on January 24th regarding the Empire Zone went extremely well. Mr. Deming stated that the meeting was well attended and very informative.

2) George Worden Jr.:

Supervisor Deming stated that he received an email from Town Attorney, Mark Boylan verifying George Worden Jr. on the Town Planning Board. Mr. Worden resigned his position as Chairman on the Board when he was appointed late last year as Highway Superintendent, but stated he would like to continue on if allowable.

Mr. Boylan explained that Mr. Worden is welcome to continue on the Planning Board, and could in fact remain Chairman if he wishes because the Board appointed him

Highway Superintendent, he was not elected to that position. Mr. Boylan added, because of the appointment rather than the elected position, the Town may compensate him as well.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Liv. Co. Traffic Safety:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to appoint Walter Purtell to the Livingston County Traffic Safety Board for a period of 3 years as the Town of York's representative and to appoint Norman Gates as alternate. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

2) Dieter letter:

Supervisor Deming reported that we received a letter from Roger Dieter outlining his view of what transpired last year to present, regarding the additional water and sewer unit charges. Mr. Dieter believes he should be reimbursed for the extra charges due to the fact that the issue was not handled in a timely fashion in October, which would have eliminated the 2nd unit charges immediately.

The Board discussed at great length the reimbursement issue, but ultimately decided no change was in order.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mrs. Parnell that there will not be a reimbursement refund issued to Roger Dieter for the Water & Sewer unit charges on his 2007 County/Town tax bill. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

3) Local Law #1-2007:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Sliker to approve Increasing Maximum Allowable Veterans Exemption under Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law, which will be Town of York Local Law #1 of 2007. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

4) Leicester Kid's Place:

Supervisor Deming reported that the Board received a written request from the Leicester Kid's Place asking the Board to consider waiving the rental fee for the Town Hall. Mr. Deming stated that the group has rented the building for a fundraiser on March 3rd and asked if it would be possible to use the Hall without the required fee.

Supervisor Deming and Councilman Hasler stated they would be willing to waive the \$ 150.00 fee because of the nature of the organization and knowing that many Town of York families are affiliated with it. Councilmen Sliker & Gates and Council Member Parnell felt that due to the location of the Leicester Kid's Place, it would not be appropriate to waive the rental fee because this business is located out of the Town of York. Councilman Sliker stated that the group might be able to have a rent free function at the Leicester Fire Hall, and should be encouraged to look into it. Mrs. Parnell stated, we allow the fire departments, churches, scouts and local organizations to use the Town Hall, but need to continue to charge for "out of town" organizations. We must charge the rental fee because they will be making money when they use our building.

After much discussion....

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Sliker to allow the Leicester Kid's Place to use the Town Hall on March 3rd, but must pay the required \$ 150.00 rental fee. Voted on and approved, Yes-3, No-2.

5) Water Service Restoration Requests:

a- 3557 Tenth Street:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Hasler and seconded by Mr. Gates to approve the Water Service Restoration request submitted by Stanford J. VanDorn for property located at 3557 Tenth Street, in the amount of \$ 200.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

b- 2872 Main Street:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Sliker and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the Water Service Restoration request submitted by ERA First Team for property located at 2872 Main Street, in the amount of \$ 200.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

6) William Vitale:

Supervisor Deming reported that he spoke with Bill Vitale recently about property he owns in Piffard. Mr. Vitale asked if the Town of York would be interested in purchasing the parcel, which consists of 5 acres with a very large shop situated on it.

After a brief discussion the Board agreed to review the site with Mr. Worden and Mr. Barrett in order to render a decision at a later date.

7) Meeting:

Supervisor Deming informed the Board that a meeting has been scheduled at York Central School for Thursday, February 22nd at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called by resident Pat Gardner to discuss parking issues near the Greenway Trails. Attending the meeting will be Tom Manko (YCS), DEC, Parks & Recreation, George Worden (Highway Supt.), Supervisor Deming and Mrs. Gardner.

8) Assessor:

Supervisor Deming reported to the Board that he recently had a conversation with Town Assessor, Anne Sapienza. Mrs. Sapienza explained to Mr. Deming that she has given notice to the Town of Stafford that she will no longer be their Assessor, and asked if the Town of York would be interested in having her here for an additional ½ day. Supervisor Deming stated to the Board when Mrs. Sapienza interviewed last year she was told that the Town of York and Leicester would require only 1 day for each town, and is being paid for that day. Mrs. Sapienza stated that previous Assessor Mr. Quinlan had 1 ½ days per week for York and suggested that the Town Board consider adding additional time.

The Board discussed whether or not additional time is necessary for Mrs. Sapienza due to the extensive amount of time put in by her Clerk, Mrs. Messana. The Board agreed that the ultimate goal is to have a yearly update for the Town of York within a 3 year period, which will require a great deal of time and effort on the part of the Assessor to bring us to that point.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Hasler to increase the number of days for Town Assessor, Anne Sapienza from 1 day to 1 ½ days per week, with an additional increase in salary by \$ 4,050.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

9) Donation:

Mr. Deming informed the Board that we received a donation a few days ago from the Quilters, as a thank you for allowing them to use the York Town Hall. Cindy Dieter dropped off a new microwave for the building along with a check in the amount of \$ 250.00.

The Board stated that they are grateful for the gift of a microwave, but do not feel that it is necessary to accept the financial donation, which we will be returning to the Quilters.

Supervisor Deming stated he will ask Mrs. Barefoot tomorrow morning to send a thank you card to the Quilters and return the check as well.

10) Bid results:

Mr. Deming stated that the Bid Opening for the revision of the Town's Zoning Law and Subdivision Regulations was yesterday, February 7th at 11:00 a.m. The Town received only 1 bid, Passero Associates, in the amount of \$ 42,500.00.

The Board referred the sole bid by Passero Associates to the Town Planning Board for review.

BILLS

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

Retsof Sewer District	# 7-8	\$ 287.37
Retsof Sewer District	# 9-20	\$ 4,868.98
York Sewer District #1	# 3-4	\$ 1,037.71
York Sewer District #1	# 5-7	\$ 3,350.26
York Sewer District #2	# 2	\$ 2,080.00
Consolidated Water	# 17-20	\$ 6,991.96
Consolidated Water	# 21-41	\$ 106,515.23
General Fund Claim	# 31-34	\$ 13,996.64
General Fund Claim	# 35-66	\$ 30,610.21
Street Lights	# 2	\$ 1,909.11
Youth Fund Claim	# 2	\$ 138.16
Highway Fund Claim	# 9	\$ 114.26
Highway Fund Claim	# 10-25	\$ 22,498.01

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Sliker to adjourn the Town Board Meeting until February 22nd. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Town Board Meeting closed at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk