

June 4, 2012 – WORK SESSION

The Work Session of the Town of Dickinson Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Michael A. Marinaccio at 5:30 PM on Monday, June 4, 2012 in the Town Hall, 531 Old Front St., Binghamton, NY.

The members of the Town Board present were:

**Danny F. Morabito, Councilman
Thomas J. Burns, Councilman
Stephen M. Gardner, Councilman
Sharon M. Exley, Councilwoman**

Also attending:

**Oliver N. Blaise III, Esq., Town Attorney
Wanda R. Broczkowski, Town Clerk**

Absent: Michael A. Marinaccio, Supervisor

Councilman Gardner chaired the work session in the absence of Supervisor Marinaccio and called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing on revisions to the competitive bidding threshold for the Town's condemnation local law was opened at 5:30 PM. The new threshold to require competitive bids will be \$35,000, but alternative quotes will be required pursuant to the Town's procurement policy. Also, the new law requires the submission of performance bonds to accompanying bids or quotes, at the Town's discretion. Mr. Gardner asked if anyone present was interested in the bidding threshold for condemnation. No one volunteered to speak. There was no public comment. The Board members thought the changes were a good idea. It will be voted on at the next meeting, on Monday, June 11, 2012. The public hearing was closed at 5:32 PM.

ATTORNEY

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Attorney Blaise stated his Labor and Employment department would have a revised draft version by July or August.

FLAPGATE STUDY

Regarding the research of the flood gate study, Supervisor Marinaccio, Public Works Commissioner Kie, and Engineer for the Town, Ron Lake's met with Rick Woidt, the engineer that is performing the flap gate study. The written study has not yet been submitted although all indications are that the flap gate can provide protection for Chenango Shores.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTION

Revised copies of the Organizational Resolution were reviewed. Nothing has changed except section 22 on Procurement Policy which includes the revised threshold, be it verbal or written. It will be placed on the regular town board meeting June 11th.

GLENWOOD ROAD PROJECT

As of today, no Site Plan application has been received. Supposedly, BOCES is no longer interested although it is reported the developer may have a new client. Code Enforcement Officer Rafferty has a meeting tomorrow morning, Tuesday June 5, at 9:30AM with the developer's engineer. He will email the board about the new client once he finds out as a result of his meeting.

CHAIR

Councilman Gardner reviewed some of the items Supervisor Marinaccio asked he communicate to the board.

ALTERNATE POSITIONS RECOMMENDED FOR PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS

Supervisor Marinaccio would like to recommend we create two (2) alternate positions for both the Planning and Zoning Boards. These positions will be non-paid unless they fill in for a meeting to cover attendance or a conflict of interest. The board can come up with a per-meeting fee schedule. These positions could start in January of 2013 if the Board accepts the recommendation. Councilman Burns questioned why wait until January as he feels it is a very good idea and we should not wait. Councilman Morabito says to do it now. Attorney Blaise says we would need to pass a resolution at the next meeting and schedule a Public Hearing. I will be put on next week's agenda.

Engineer Lake pointed out other towns do have them and they are required to attend all meetings as part of the audience as to be familiar with all current issues. Chair of the Zoning Board, Jeanne Compton spoke of similar issues she currently has experienced. Councilman Burns suggest one member from each board be present along with chairs of each board for discussion at the next meeting.

SUNRISE TERRACE CONTACTED BY NYSEG FOR SPRAYING CHEMICALS

Supervisor Marinaccio received calls and emails from residents on Lawson Court in Sunrise Terrace in regard to notices that were sent out by NYSEG stating they would be using insecticides and herbicides in their right away that is above these properties. After talking with Bob Pass from NYSEG and mentioning our concerns about the use of these chemicals so close to residential properties, NYSEG cannot move forward with this project without written consent from the residents. It looks like the use of these chemicals will not take place.

ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES UPCOMING MEETING

June 14th @ 5:30 the Association of Towns will host a meeting at the Spot Restaurant. Supervisor Marinaccio stated this is a must attend by the board. Speakers representing the Joint Landowners Coalition regarding Ad Velour Taxes will give a presentation as a result of the taxes benefits generated from the natural gas drilling process. Board members kindly RSVP for this important meeting.

MARIA ZOBNIW DAY

Tentative date is set for Tuesday July 24th at the Prospect Terrace Park. The time will be posted later.

IDA PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING TIOGA LEARNING PROPERTIES, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Broome County Industrial Development Agency on the 6th day of June at 12:00 noon, at the Town of Dickinson Town Hall, 531 Old Front Street, Binghamton, New York from Broome County Industrial Development Agency by Richard D'Attilio, Executive Director. It is regarding a pilot program for the Marchuska project at 270 Glenwood Road. It should be noted the developer was not aware of the public hearing.

PROPERTY REPORTS

13 BELLAIRE AVENUE

Attorney Blaise stated public notices will be posted by LCP, the contractor, for the demolition of 13 Bellaire Avenue.

FLAPGATE STUDY

There will be a meeting about the flap gate study and that representative of DOT will be present. All indications show it is a good idea and it should help us. Per Public Works Commissioner Kie, the State is requesting Rick Woit to clarify several items and include more elevations in the report and to pick 2 spots downstream to show the effects.

STATE EQUALIZATION RATE STEADY

Supervisor Marinaccio reported our State Equalization Rate has remained at 65.00. We may want to begin researching the possibility of conducting a re-assessment in the near future. He will discuss this with our Assessor for the Town, David Hamlin, and have Dave meet with the board to further discuss this. Assessment rates to change would be a 2 to 3 year process.

PROSPECT TERRACE FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL BBQ

The annual chicken barbeque will be held on Saturday, June 9th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Tickets are being sold ahead of time or you can buy them at the door.

ROUTE 17 AND INTERSTATE 81 PROSPECT MOUNTAIN PROJECT

An update was provided explaining what they are doing in regards to the blasting. Ron Lake stated the disturbed area must be seeded within 14 days of grading if nothing is going to be done. Blasting will take place from 10AM to 2 PM. There will be 10 minutes intervals of traffic slow down. During the blasting, traffic will be stopped both ways.

NATURAL GAS RESOLUTION

Attorney Blaise spoke of gas resolution in April. The following towns have passed or are considering it: Kirkwood, Conklin, and the Town of Sanford. This resolution says the Town will follow what the state is planning to do for regulating natural gas drilling. Some protests have come from anti-fracking groups who want towns to ban fracking. Councilman Gardner wondered what would happen if we do nothing. Our position is no position.

PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing to report on.

OTHER

PROPERTY REPORTS

1. **478 Glenwood Road** -Public Works Commissioner Kie reported that the lawn needs mowing and the property has been vacant for the last 10 years. Recommends issuing a new appearance ticket. Glenwood property is not condemnable.
2. **26 Pulaski Street**-This property also needs mowing. It sits on 2 parcels with the shed on the Sowden Street parcel. He will mow the property and bill it to taxes.

On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the work session was adjourned by motion of Councilman Morabito and seconded by Councilman Burns at 6:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda R. Broczkowski

Town Clerk