

May 1, 2017– 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, May 1, 2017 in the Town Hall, 531 Old Front St., Binghamton, NY.

The members of the Town Board present were:

**Michael A. Marinaccio, Supervisor
Stephen M. Gardner, Councilman
Danny F. Morabito, Councilman
Thomas J. Burns, Councilman**

Also attending:

**Cheryl Sacco, Esq., (o/b/o Oliver Blaise III, Esq., Attorney for the Town)
Susan Cerretani, Town Clerk**

Absent:

Sharon M. Exley, Councilwoman

Also in attendance:

**Public Works Commissioner Joel Kie, Town Code Enforcement Officer
Stephen Rafferty, Town Engineer Ron Lake, Planning Board Chairman and
Town Historian David Wasser, Town Assessor Jack Cahill, President of
Kowalik & Associates Thomas Kowalik and associate Evan Bixby, and one
member of the general public.**

CHAIR

Supervisor Marinaccio introduced Thomas Kowalik, President of **Kowalik & Associates** and associate Evan Bixby who gave a presentation on the **Clean Energy Communities Program**.

The **Clean Energy Communities (CEC)** designation is a **NYSERDA** program which encourages municipalities to adopt 4 of 10 high impact action items by offering non-matching grants to designated communities for clean energy projects. Designated municipalities which have completed with populations greater than or equal to 40,000 are eligible for up to \$250,000 in non-matching funds, and communities with populations less than 40,000 can be eligible for up to \$100,000 in non-matching funds to be used for clean energy projects.

These awards are given on a first come, first serve basis with only 4 awards available for populations greater than or equal to 40,000 and 14 awards for populations less than 40,000.

Mr. Kowalik's presentation included detailed information regarding the eligibility selection criteria of the program, which included the following action items:

1. Benchmarking
2. Clean energy upgrades
3. LED street lights
4. Clean fleets
5. Solarize
6. Unified solar permit
7. Energy code enforcement training
8. Climate smart communities certification
9. Community choice aggregation
10. Energize New York finance

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There was a discussion as to which action items would be attainable for our town. Supervisor Marinaccio was designated as the point person for the program. Mr. James Love, who is a Town of Dickinson Solar Committee member asked to be included with the communications.

Supervisor Marinaccio thanked Mr. Kowalik and Mr. Bixby for their presentation.

Supervisor Marinaccio presented his Work Session report:

May 1, 2017 Work Session Supervisor Report

- **THOMAS KOWALIK - CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**
- **CREDIT CARDS FOR TOWN FEE**
Town Clerk Cerretani and Administrative Assistant Wike continue to do research on the prospect of instituting a credit card system for our residents to pay for various fees, water and sewer bills, etc.
- **MUNICIPAL CLEAN UP DAY MAY 20TH, 2017**
- **231 BEVIER STREET UPDATE:**
The County now has possession of 231 Bevier St. The Land Bank asked the Town to get several demolition quotes which Public Works Commissioner Kie took care of and forwarded them to the Land Bank.
- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** has a purchase bid on a piece of property located on Glenwood Road, diagonally across from **BOCES**. Their plan is to move the home that was built at **BOCES** to this location. They are working with Steve Rafferty.
- **COUNTY SHARED SERVICE MEETINGS/HEALTH INSURANCE PRESENTATION, TOMPKINS COUNTY:**
Supervisor Marinaccio stated that the second shared services meeting was held last Wednesday but it was not well attended. Discussion focused on shared services that are presently in place. Mr. Marinaccio was surprised as to how many municipalities do not have formal shared service agreements. Don Barber, former Town of Caroline Supervisor from Tompkins County addressed a shared service meeting on Friday and presented how Tompkins County developed their Health Insurance Consortium. Supervisor Marinaccio stated that it was extremely interesting and he would like to see Broome County municipalities begin researching the possibility of doing the same. The key factor in this is having the County and the City join in as partners - which includes labor unions as well.

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ATTORNEY

Attorney Cheryl Sacco thanked the board for having her fill in on behalf of Attorney for the Town Oliver Blaise as he is in Syracuse in trial.

LOT SIZE FOR RURAL AREAS

Attorney Sacco stated that Mr. Blaise has been working with code enforcement regarding the minimum lot size for rural areas and some progress has been made.

FENCING LAW

Attorney Sacco stated that Attorney Blaise previously provided samples of certain fencing laws to the board. Mr. Blaise's intent was for the board members to discuss their likes and dislikes of sample local laws and provide feedback so that a local law could be drafted.

SOLAR LAW

Attorney Sacco stated that Attorney Blaise informed her that there will be a solar committee meeting in May. Ms. Sacco mentioned that she has seen the standard solar permit; that some municipalities have adopted it. She noted that pertaining to this evening's presentation from **CEC**, the legal department could potentially help going after grant money and help with the permit and benchmarking outlined in the program.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Public Works Commissioner Kie reported that there was a water pipe break last Friday at 12 am on North Louisa Street. The break was actually a hole in the pipe. Mr. Kie stated that it appears that the pipe was not embedded in stone and the underlying dirt ate away at the pipe. He stated that it would probably be a replacement job in the future. Mr. Kie mentioned that depending on money available, he may consider replacing a cluster of valves located in the street above that area.
- Mr. Kie reported that the Longview Avenue storm has been completed. A 6 inch water main is being installed up Twining and the Water Department will put a fire hydrant at the end and then Longview and Twining will be paved at the same time.
- A "no parking" restriction on Terrace Drive between Front Street and Iris Drive was discovered in the code book by the Town Clerk Cerretani and brought to Mr. Kie's attention. Mr. Kie will erect a sign where Iris Drive comes in to Terrace Drive.
- Mr. Kie stated that the sound wall panels should be delivered this week. Sowden Street has been widened and we are waiting to put the top coat on.
- Mr. Kie stated that the conduit for new **LED** lights in being installed on the left side of the Front St/Highway Bridge.
- Sidewalks are being installed on Terrace Drive.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Rafferty will follow up with the **BOCES/Habitat for Humanity** project ongoing at the Glenwood Rd. location.

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PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS

None

HISTORIAN

Historian David Wasser stated that a meeting was held with people who live in the town or have lived in the town who are interested in working with Mr. Wasser to record some oral histories which will then be made available on the Town's website.

NYPIRG

Supervisor Marinaccio read a copy of a letter received by Town Clerk Cerretani from **NYPIRG**, informing the town that their non-profit, non partisan organization will be conducting a door to door outreach from May thru August. They will be circulating support statements, collecting small contributions, distributing information and recruiting support on a variety of issues of concern to the community.

On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the work session was adjourned by motion from Councilman Morabito and seconded by Councilman Burns at 6:19PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cerretani
Town Clerk