

March 5, 2018 – 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, March 5, 2018 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:

Oliver N. Blaise III, Esq., Town Attorney
Susan Cerretani, Town Clerk

Absent: Sharon M. Exley, Councilwoman

Also in attendance: Broome County Office for Aging Director Lisa Schuhle on behalf of the Broome County Executive's Office, Public Works Commissioner Kie, Town Code Enforcement Officer Rafferty, Town Engineer Lake, Administrative Assistant Wike, Planning Board members Sue Kirkland, Kathy Groover and Jerome Ford, Zoning Board Chair Jeanne Compton, and 2 members of the general public.

Supervisor Marinaccio welcomed Lisa Schuhle, Director of Broome County Office for Aging, representing Broome County Executive Jason Garner. Ms. Schuhle outlined the State of the County address themed as “2018 - BUILDING A BETTER BROOME” with these key points:

- **FINANCE**
 - The fund balance is very low – \$250,000 on a \$350 million budget. Not a lot of reserve in the event of an emergency.
- **SHARED SERVICES**
 - The County is looking to save \$5- 10 million dollars in prescription costs by joining a pharmaceutical coalition.
- **JOBS**
 - Nearly 750 new jobs :
 - **Dick's Sporting Goods** expansion
 - **Endicott Imperium Battery Plant**
 - **Syracuse Behavioral Health**
 - Still thousands of jobs are unfulfilled in Broome County because people lack the skills and training for the positions.
 - Home health aides are desperately needed
 - **Broome Tioga Workforce** helped over 18,000 people last year at training
 - 16 job fairs were held last year
 - Over 100 job recruitment events were held last year
- **BETTER HOUSING – HOUSING COALITION – FIGHTING BLIGHT**
 - The **Victory** building (the massive, white, eyesore building) located at 59 Lester Ave. in Johnson City was sold to a developer who will invest \$60 million dollars to create much needed senior housing.

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- The former **ANSCO** building at 6 Emma Street has a developer who is investing \$20 million dollars to bring in market-rate housing and commercial spaces that will attract young professional.
- **Broome County Executive Garner** is looking for grant money to demolish old **EJ** building on North Page Ave in Endicott next year.
- Protect good tenants and punish slumlords.
- **TOURISM**
 - **Dicks Open**
 - **Spiediefest**
 - **LUMA**
- **ARENA, FORUM AND GOLF COURSE**
 - **Senator Akshar** is responsible for Grant funding for upgrades at these county owned facilities: **The Arena, The Forum and Ely Golf Course.**
- **HEROIN EPIDEMIC – OPIOD CRISIS**
 - The ribbon cutting for **Syracuse Behavioral Health** at **Broome Developmental Center** is scheduled for April, 2018.
 - A substance abuse coordinator has been hired.
- **PUBLIC AND SCHOOL SAFETY**
 - **Safer Schools Task Force** is a new group that just started up.
- **EMERGENCY SERVICES**
 - There were 3 State of Emergencies last year in Broome County.
- **RED CROSS**
 - There is a plan to open up some of our senior centers for emergency shelters.
- **AIRPORT**
 - The County is actively recruiting another airline carrier.
 - **Evolution Jets** – a private carrier with 7 jets will bring 20 jobs to the area.
 - The County is looking for other business opportunities for the future of the airport.
- **OFFICE FOR AGING**
 - Ms. Schuhle provided an overview of the services and goals of the **Office for the Aging**. Ms. Schuhle provided Clerk Cerretani with informational brochures to distribute relating to services offered through the **OFA**.

Ms. Schule remarked that Broome County is recognized as a very comprehensive and cohesive county with a full package of resources.

COMMENTS:

Ms. Schuhle fielded questions from the attendees and offered to take unanswered questions to county officials and staff for follow up.
Supervisor Marinaccio thanked Ms. Schuhle for her presentation.

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CHAIR

Supervisor Marinaccio presented his Work Session report:

- **Association of Towns training NYC**
Supervisor Marinaccio reported that the Association of Towns classes in New York City were excellent. He and Councilman Gardner attended separate classes so that they could take advantage of as many of the various town related classes as possible.
 - Round table discussion on working together for a better New York.
 - Proper use of Appropriated Fund Balance.
 - Understanding of disability and municipal obligations.
 - Vacant & Unsafe properties. Zombie properties. Pitfalls in budgeting. Just to name a few.
- A Resolution that was submitted by our town regarding the ability of towns to add an occupancy tax was voted on and passed unanimously by the total **AOT** membership during the business meeting in New York.
- **Land Bank/vacant properties list**
Public Works Commissioner Kie, Town Clerk Cerretani and Assessor Cahill developed a list of about 6 vacant properties in our town. Supervisor Marinaccio forwarded that list to Margaret Scarinzi for the **Land Bank** at her request. There may be some additional funding for demolition of vacant, condemned and unsafe properties through the **Land Bank**.
- **Department of Transportation Plans**
Plans have been submitted to us by the **NYSDOT** regarding the pedestrian crossing islands on Front Street. Public Works Commissioner Kie voiced his concern about this and we will be meeting with **NYSDOT** representatives on Friday afternoon - time to be determined.
- **Sunrise Terrace Letter**
As mentioned at our last meeting, a letter has been written and delivered to all Sunrise Terrace residents explaining the community center issues and asking for donations to cover the cost of mitigating the serious building issues. Supervisor Marinaccio talked briefly about this on the **Bob Joseph Show** last week. Kathy Groover will be a guest on the show this Wednesday at 9:30 am to further discuss the building problems.
- **BC AOTV reorganization**
Councilman Gardner, Johnson City Mayor Deemie and Supervisor Marinaccio are in the process of reorganizing the **BC AOTV**. Letters are being mailed out to all the Village Mayors and Town Supervisors as well as the annual dues notice.
- **August Meeting date changed**
The date for our August board meeting has been changed from Aug. 13 to August 6, 5:30 - combined work session and regular board meeting.

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SUPERVISOR’S WORK SESSION REPORT CONT’D

- **Habitat/BOCES**
The home that was built at the **BOCES** campus by students and **Habitat for Humanity** volunteers has been moved to its permanent location on Glenwood Rd, on the corner of Linda Dr. Public Works Commissioner Kie, Code Enforcement Officer Rafferty and Supervisor Marinaccio observed the moving of the home and placement on the foundation.
- **Public Works crew**
Supervisor Marinaccio would like to recognize the great job that our Public Works Department did during the recent snow storm that hit our area last week.
- **NYSEG Tree Trimming**
Supervisor Marinaccio commented that **NYSEG** hired a tree service to trim the tress along the power lines. In doing so, many branches and logs were left behind. The Town of Dickinson Highway Department is not responsible for the tree trimming or the removal of the branches; however, the Supervisor stated that the Highway Department would help residents clear the branches with the summer brush pickup. Supervisor Marinaccio lodged a complaint with **NYSEG**.

ATTORNEY

BOCES PROJECT GLENWOOD ROAD

Code Enforcement Officer Rafferty reported that he received recommendations back from the County regarding the **BOCES Glenwood Road Project** and stated that there were no major concerns and once the town gets the **SWPPS** and landscaping plan the county wants to look at it. The deposit amount totals \$7,500.

IMA – ENFORCEMENT OF CITY OF BINGHAMTON SNOW PARKING REGULATIONS

Attorney Blaise reported that he has not heard back from the City of Binghamton regarding the Intermunicipal Agreement regarding the enforcement of snow parking regulations of city residents on shared town/city streets by the Town’s Public Works Commissioner.

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PUBLIC WORKS

- Public Works Commissioner Kie reported he, Mr. Rafferty and Mr. Gardner have been working on the **NYSERDA** Grant. The town must commit to **NYSERDA** (tomorrow) whether or not we want to proceed. Mr. Kie reported to the board that in order to receive the \$50,000 grant money we must spend \$25,000 out of pocket. Mr. Kie learned that there is a requirement that the foam insulation must be coated with a fire retardant and that will increase the cost of the project by approximately \$25,000. The board members discussed the benefits of proceeding with the plan. The consensus of the board members was that the savings in energy and upgrade would benefit the whole building and Ok'd the plan.
- Councilman Gardner mentioned that the town needs to consider replacing street lights in the future.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS

ZBA Chair Jeanne Compton reported that a date will be set for **BOCES** special use permit (educational use in a R1 district) and a variance.

There is a Planning Board meeting scheduled for March 26, 2018 at 6 PM. to review the **BOCES** site plan.

On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the work session was adjourned by a motion from Councilman Morabito and seconded by Councilman Burns at 6:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cerretani
Town Clerk