

October 7, 2024 – 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, October 7, 2024, at the Town Hall, 531 Old Front Street, Binghamton, New York.

The members of the Town Board present were:

**Michael A. Marinaccio, Supervisor
Stephen M. Gardner, Councilperson
Sharon M. Exley, Absent
Danny F. Morabito, Councilperson
Thomas J. Burns, Councilperson**

Also attending:

**Keegan Coughlin, Esq., Attorney for the Town
Wendi Evans, Town Clerk**

Also in attendance:

**Code Enforcement Officer Kyle Doyle, Public Works Commissioner
Joel Kie**

PUBLIC HEARING

1. 5:30 P.M. “A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 528 OF THE TOWN CODE REGARDING PARKING ON GLENWOOD ROAD”

Supervisor Marinaccio opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 P.M.

No Public Comments

Supervisor Marinaccio closed the Public Hearing at 5:31 P.M.

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT
Town Board Work Session
October 7, 2024**

I want to make everyone aware that the Broome County Executive, working with Broome County Real Property Tax Service, is proposing a \$2.00 per parcel fee in addition to the printing and postage costs and legal advertisement fees. I do not know as of this meeting, what those additional costs would be.

Broome County began collecting our taxes around 2003-2004, thus saving the town a sizeable amount of revenue. We eliminated the tax collector and deputy tax collector positions plus all of their expense items and benefits. There is nothing in the contract that we have with the county regarding future costs of tax collection.

Mr. Garnar stated that a recent Supreme Court Case, Tyler V. Hennepin County, Minnesota, ruled that it is unconstitutional for municipalities to retain the surplus funds generated from tax lien foreclosure sales. In response to the ruling, New York State also updated their foreclosure laws which we must follow, increasing requirements to the counties which in turn has added extra costs to the counties. These decisions will cost Broome County Government well over \$1,000,000 per year.

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I have called several county legislators to voice my concerns regarding this proposal. I also had a lengthy discussion with the county executive I reminded everyone that our preliminary budget is complete though we can make some changes in it. I suggested to the County Executive that he should call a meeting with those municipalities that the county collects taxes for and have an open discussion and further explanation regarding the costs associated with tax collection. The County executive also stated that it may be possible to propose a \$1.00 per parcel fee for 2025 then increase it to \$2.00 in 2026. I replied that that would be more acceptable and would give municipalities the opportunity to plan ahead though I was still opposed to the added fee.

Not that long ago the county was profiting over \$1,000,000 per year through the auctioning of foreclosed properties and that they did not share that with the municipalities. And in most cases, if water and sewer bills were owed to the municipalities, we lost that revenue.

We have 2271 parcels in our town. Large towns such as Union will take a hit of over \$40K. At \$2.00 per parcel, that equates to \$4542 plus whatever the postage and other fees would be.

I also spoke to our Assessor, Jack Cahill, and he is also looking into this new proposal. I will keep everyone informed about this issue as it moves forward.

2025 BUDGET

Supervisor Marinaccio explained that we need to make a \$20,000 adjustment on highway/general repairs-salary line item to cover one additional person for employment which will cover both positions that are needed. A public hearing date will be set to approve the budget at the next meeting.

ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION 2024-22

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Morabito, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Burns to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: THE BOARD OF THE TOWN OF DICKINSON AUTHORIZES THE TOWN OF DICKINSON TOWN COURT TO APPLY FOR A JCAP GRANT IN THE 2024-2025 GRANT CYCLE UP TO \$30,000.00.

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Absent
Councilperson Morabito voting Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

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RESOLUTION 2024- 23

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Gardner, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Burns to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: A REVISION TO THE 2024 HOLIDAY CALENDAR TO REMOVE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 2024 AS A HOLIDAY FOR THE TOWN HALL OFFICE STAFF AND REPLACE IT WITH FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 2024.

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Absent
Councilperson Morabito voting Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Commissioner Kie commented that the paving in the town is done for the year.
- BOCES did groundbreaking and have not applied for their water/sewer permit. They have reached out to the engineer, and no one has touched base with our water/sewer department. Attorney Coughlin is going to speak with the attorney that represents BOCES to see if they can get that taken care of.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Officer Doyle commented that he spoke with the owner at Econo Lodge regarding the amount of garbage overflowing and laying on the ground. The owner explained that he has increased his garbage pick up to help with that. If that does not help, then he may need to purchase a second dumpster.
- Officer Doyle explained that he spoke with the owner of 165 Bevier St. and is looking to have it demolished. He is still looking into the details of it but wanted to make the board aware of it.
- Officer Doyle went to see the solar project to check on the progress. They are currently working on the transformer pads, and he also gave Officer Doyle their schedule for the next 3 weeks so we can see how they are going to progress. Officer Doyle also spoke with the supervisor on the sight regarding the request we have gotten on screening and improving on that. They replied asking that if they were to put trees, what kind would we like and how many we would put there. They are very willing to help us address that situation for us. Some discussion was made, and the board is going to discuss some different options and communicate that with the developers. The developers have been very cooperative to work with.

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On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the Regular Meeting was adjourned into **Executive Session** to discuss contract negotiation with the Village of Port Dickinson and potential code related matter on a motion from Councilperson Morabito and seconded by Councilperson Gardner at 6:03 PM. All in favor.

On a motion by Councilperson Morabito and seconded by Councilperson Burns to return to regular session at 6:15 PM. All in favor

On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the work session was adjourned by a motion from Councilperson Morabito and seconded by Councilperson Burns at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi Evans
Town Clerk