

DRAFT

TOWN OF URBANA BOARD MEETING February 23, 2010

The Urbana Town Board held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, 8014 Pleasant Valley Road, Bath, New York.

PRESENT:	Gordon Lanphere	Supervisor
	Joe Carroll	Councilman
	Paul Martuscello	Councilman
	Jim Presley	Councilman
	Barb Yahn	Councilwoman
	Mary Farmer	Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Erwin Robinson, Bob Hicks, Brian Snyder, Ruth Barry, Gary Vogt, Mike Hanna, John Jensen, Steve Veley, Trafford Doherty and Lance Locey.

Supervisor Lanphere opened the Meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilwoman Yahn and carried, all voting Aye, to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2010

Public Input

Erwin Robinson spoke to the Board about his research in pricing Town scrap metal. He said the price was lower because the charges for hauling and mixing were deducted from the price.

Old Business

Keuka Maid – Supervisor Lanphere explained that the eviction hearing for the boat is to take place this Friday. He said George Winner’s office keeps postponing and intentionally stalling the proceedings. Councilman Martuscello wants the Town to get tough and get the media involved. He will draft a timeline of the all the issues concerning the Keuka Maid and Robert Pfunter.

New Business

Curtiss Museum/ Trafford Doherty

Mr. Doherty presented the Glenn H. Curtiss Heritage Trail plan to the Board. The museum wants to ensure that people passing through the area encounter evidence of Glenn Curtiss and his contributions. The trail will have six “then and now” interpretive markers similar to the National Park Service.

On motion by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Martuscello and carried, all voting Aye to give tentative approval based on final plans from the museum for the Glenn H. Curtiss Heritage Trail.

Mike Hanna

County Legislature Mike Hanna gave the Board a map of the Steuben County road work projects which includes the process that is being used to determine each project. Mr. Hanna explained the extensive work being done and also offered to see if there was anything he can help the Town with.

Bob Hick’s

Mr. Hick’s apologized for not moving his boat and explained how several things had come up that prevented him from doing so. Mr. Hick’s said he will move the boat right away. He asked if any action had been taken on the dock repairs and Supervisor Lanphere told him that Mr. Veley has submitted a full assessment at no charge. Mr. Hick’s would like to know as soon as possible about the plans for the dock in order to move forward.

Chamber of Commerce / Palettes of Keuka

On motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilwoman Yahn and carried, all voting Aye to sponsor a palette for the 2010 season for \$200.00. Councilman Martuscello noted that the Chamber contributes over \$400.00 each year for our summer programs art supplies.

Chamber of Commerce Lease

The Chamber would like a 20-25 year lease with a \$1,000.00 rent per year. The Chamber plans on having their improvements completed by summer.

Chamber of Commerce / Pet Waste Receptacle

On motion by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Presley and carried, all voting Aye to allow the Chamber of Commerce to put Pet Waste Kits on Town garbage cans and maintain them.

DEC Park Permit Application

After a lengthy discussion about the park, the Keuka Maid and the volunteers work, the Board decided to approve sending in the Permit Application but even if approved, the Town doesn't have to act upon the permit.

On motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilman Carroll and carried, all voting Aye to approve the Permit Application Only.

Dave Buckley – highway equipment request

Superintendent Buckley submitted a proposal to purchase a sanding unit. Councilman Martuscello asked why this request wasn't brought before the Board at budget time and asked why Mr. Buckley doesn't show up to the Town Board meetings as requested. Councilwoman Yahn agreed. The Board agreed to table the matter and will ask Mr. Buckley to attend the next meeting for further discussion.

Voting Machines

Steuben County Board of Elections sent a letter regarding the old voting machines asking what the Town would like to do with them now that there are new machines. Supervisor Lanphere will talk to the village and the school about their needs and will also contact the County to see if they print ballots for special elections.

I-86 Travel Guide

The Board discussed the idea of advertising in the guide and decided that it isn't a publication we need to be in.

Supervisor's Reports

The December 2009 and January 2010 reports were not voted on because there were inconsistencies and questions for the bookkeeper.

February Abstracts

On motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilwoman Yahn and carried, all voting Aye to approve the February 2010 Abstracts.

Other

Zoning Officer Bob Magee submitted a letter to the Board on the subject of problematic areas in our Town Codes.

Bob Magee
February 23, 2010

To: Town Supervisor and Town Board Members
From: Bob Magee
Re: Revision and Clarification of the Town Codes

An excerpt from the Town of Urbana Comprehensive Plan:

Goal 13: Maintain clear, effective, efficient, and up to date land use regulations and procedures.

Objectives:

Revise the Zoning Code to reflect the new Comprehensive Plan land use recommendations **as well as making it easier to understand and use for local officials and landowners, including a more clear set of terms and definitions.**

A few months ago I sent out a copy of the steps required to use our Town Code to arrive at the definition of "Lot Width". This was done in an attempt to highlight the absurdities that are required to arrive at a seemingly simple calculation. There are numerous sections of our code that are equally confusing and/or continue to cause problems and confusion for both the public and Town officials. Several problematic sections of the code have caused, or have the potential to cause expensive litigation.

- A. Definitions are vague, often illogical and need to be updated.
- B. Every summer problems arise over issues of signage. The Planning Board, in conjunction with area business owners, drafted a revised sign law that resolved these issues. The final version was approved by the Town Board but was never codified.
- C. The "Residential District" zoning classification contains a subsection "Keuka Lake Shoreline" that is a continual source of controversy and needs to either be further clarified or eliminated.
- D. The code contains outdated references to application fee amounts that are inconsistent with fee revisions which have been already approved by the Town Board.
- E. The Subdivision Code contains sections that are inconsistent with NYS Town Law.

All of the aforementioned are issues and problems that reoccur with increasing regularity. All have a very simple solution: The Town Board should charge the Planning Board with the task of identifying the specific areas of concern and submit their recommended revisions to the Town Board for codification. If this was viewed as a "high priority matter" the solutions can be in place prior to the busy summer season.

Supervisor Lanphere will talk to Planning Chairman Randy Robinson about the above letter.

At 8:05pm on motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilman Martuscello and carried, all voting Aye to enter into Executive Session to discuss Union negotiations.

At 9:11pm on motion by Councilman Presley, seconded by Councilwoman Yahn and carried, all voting Aye to open the regular Board meeting.

On motion by Councilwoman Yahn, seconded by Councilman Martuscello and carried, all voting Aye not to change the pay frequency for the employees paid monthly.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Martuscello, seconded by Councilman Presley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Farmer
Town Clerk