

Meeting of the Town Board, Town of Yorktown held on February 23, 2016 at the Town Hall, 363 Underhill Avenue, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598.

Present: Michael J. Grace, Supervisor
Greg Bernard, Councilman
Thomas Diana, Councilman
Vishnu V. Patel, Councilman

Tardy: Edward Lachterman, Councilman

Also Present: Diana L. Quast, Town Clerk
Maura Weissleder, Deputy Town Clerk
Michael McDermott, Town Attorney

TOWN BOARD MEETING

Supervisor Michael J. Grace called the meeting to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Councilman Diana, seconded by Councilman Bernard, the Town Board moved into Executive Session to conduct interviews for volunteer boards. Councilman Lachterman entered the meeting.

Upon motion made by Supervisor Grace, seconded by Councilman Bernard, the Town Board moved out of Executive Session and proceeded with the meeting.

OSCEOLA BEACH PROJECT

A discussion regarding the Osceola Beach Project continued. Mr. Chris Sciarra and Mr. George Roberta were present to discuss the construction of 24 apartment rental units of approximately 1,000 square feet; 16 units of which would be 2 stories. Supervisor Grace mentioned that a push for commercial zoning rather than residential in this area would be more desirable; however, Mr. Roberta stated that his interest was only in residential. The Planning Department's main concern with this project is that public access to the lake be preserved. Supervisor Grace mentioned that the plan would still be an immediate major benefit to that area of the town even though it may not be part of the long range plan for the town. Councilman Bernard said that the impact on traffic in the area needs to be studied and feels that it might be a problem if not adequately addressed. John Tegeder said that the town could lose by changing zoning to residential. He further stated that this part of town needs assistance and the town needs to make sure what they approve makes this area back into a hamlet, which is what commercial zoning could provide.

Further discussion is required for a later date.

COMMERCE STREET

Yorktown Chamber of Commerce members Eric DiBartolo, Thomas Pomposello, and Tony Grasso presented a proposal to make Commerce Street a one-way street from the intersection of Commerce Street and Route 118 down to the Yorktown Fire House. This proposal is to encourage pedestrian traffic and shopping in the Heights area. The proposal would also create diagonal street parking on Commerce Street. The Chamber also feels that creating a one-way traffic flow will also give more visibility to the entire shopping area by funneling traffic around it. The proposal also includes a No Left Turn sign at Downing Drive onto Route 118 and better lighting on Downing Drive.

Mr. DiBartolo also asked the Board to consider contacting BOCES to request that they close the back exit to their property since the flow of school buses exiting from that area is creating a hazardous traffic condition in the Heights area. Supervisor Grace said he would be in contact with BOCES.

Supervisor Grace stated that there are no parking restrictions on this section of Commerce Street and there are many exits and entrances that need to be considered.

Councilman Greg Bernard suggested better striping of the roads would also be a traffic calming measure that can be taken and make people more aware of parking and turn-only lanes.

The Board needs to further review the proposal and Mr. DiBartolo with look into a computerized model of the Chamber's proposal.

EAST OF HUDSON STORMWATER

Rich Renna (Woodard & Curran, Paggi & Renna) and Bruce Barber, Environmental Consultant presented the Board with proposed areas for potential stormwater projects for years 6 through 10 of a ten-year plan to remove phosphorous in the Croton Watershed area. The proposed areas focused on town-owned properties since there is little interest on the part of private homeowners to participate. Projects on municipal-owned property have the potential to be bigger and, therefore, reduce the number of projects that need to be done. Some of the potential areas are near the pipeline project which may enable a merger of common interests. Several projects were also discussed that would, when completed, enhance town-owned property. It was stated that the town should try to meet its 5 year goals on our own without having to reach out to private owners.

ADJOURN

Upon motion made by Supervisor Grace, seconded by Councilman Bernard, the Town Board meeting was adjourned.

Diana L. Quast, Town Clerk
Town of Yorktown