

May 4, 2011

A Public Hearing was advertised and held May 4, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Present: Supervisor Thomas S. Hynes, Councilmen Gene Cronk, Edward Raeder, Allen Hinkley and Stephen Walker, Assessor Kimberly Cammer, Atty. Kevin Young and 18 residents.

The notice calling for the Public Hearing was read. Three letters were received requesting that their property not be included in the proposed hamlet designation and were as follows: Richard Bouton Estate Tax Map # 179-1-42.1 (has since sold and new owner has not requested to be removed from designation), Dennis Moore Tax Map #92-1-1 and #92-1-2 and Wilson Family Trust Tax Map #179-1-1.8.

Attorney Kevin Young discussed the background on the program adding that the Town can only review and make changes to the designated areas every five years and must decide whether or not to allow NYCDEP to purchase lands or easements in said areas. The Town Board must make their decision by June 22, 2011.

The floor was opened for comments.

John Wilson questioned if other Towns plan to adopt a hamlet designation.
Response from Atty. Young is yes

Cherie Serrie, representing Lila Conro, Tax Map #91-1-52.11 requested the parcel be removed from the designated hamlet so more options could be available to them if they want to sell.

Theresa Gier questioned how much revenue would be lost from sales to DEP.
Response from Atty. Young is that DEP pays tax on the parcels but assessment may decrease because they are assessed differently so revenue may decrease

Kimberly Cammer questioned how a property gets put in or taken out of a designated area.
Response from Atty. Young is that properties can be added or removed only every five years when the Town Board holds a public hearing and the Town Board makes a decision

Stephen Walker questioned if properties under the 1997 designation can be removed due to being under a different agreement.
Response from Atty. Young stated that there is an issue of clarity with the agreement but he interprets the policy that the parcels can be removed

Lewis Wendell expressed concerns with parcels that sell to DEP will not be maintained and will get overgrown without a maintenance plan.
Response from Atty. Young is that DEP plans to maintain the parcels

Gene Cronk questioned if DEP could eventually turn properties over to the State.
Response from Atty. Young is that they can't transfer any property for at least 30 years under the agreement and added that some feel State ownership would be better to keep properties open for recreational purposes

Frank Spinelli questioned if DEP could purchase properties with structures on them and questioned DEP septic requirements making it more costly for homeowners.

Response from Atty. Young is that they are not supposed to purchase property with structures except if the structure is deemed inhabitable and he discussed the process for septic systems

With all comments being heard the hearing closed at 7:45 pm.

Assessor Kimberly Cammer introduced Robert Boatwright of Appraisal Consultants who gave a presentation on his company and discussed the work he would do if the Board decided to conduct a Town assessment re-evaluation. A question and answer period took place.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.