

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newfield was held at the Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield NY on September 12, 2013.

Present were: Richard Driscoll: Supervisor
Roy Trask: Councilperson
Joanne James: Councilperson
Christine Laughlin: Councilperson
Casey Powers: Councilperson

Also present were: Kevin Berggren: Highway Superintendent, Manager, Harry Wright: Code Enforcement, Ed Hooks: Town Attorney, and 35 residents in attendance.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Driscoll and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Privilege of the Floor

Robert Mente: wanted to let the Board know there had been concerns with the Department of Environmental Conservation with regards to the fill being brought into his property on Bishop Road. Ellen Hahn, Tompkins County Soil and Water and the Army Corp of Engineers had all been up to his property and have agreed that he is not close to the 43,000 square feet of fill and that he will continue to add fill up to 40,000 square feet. He expects to be at 40,000 by the end of the year.

Nancy Dolge: spoke on behalf of the Planning Board. She hopes that everyone will embrace the Comprehensive Plan.

Lois Beach: expressed thoughts and concerns for the historic King Bow Bridge. She feels that since its rededication in 2003 there has not been any maintenance other than snow removal to the bridge. She has concerns about the rotting wood deck and the condition of the abutments. She would like this to be addressed by the Board and the Town.

Brenda Lapp: encouraged all the Board Members to vote in favor of the Comprehensive Plan. She commented that a business does not go into business without a plan in order to survive the future and neither should our Town.

Brian McIlroy: asked about the progress of the Personnel Policy and encouraged the Board to work on it and approve it as soon as they could before Budget season.

Tom Gerow: echoed comments regarding the Comprehensive Plan and gave kudos to the Planning Board for an outstanding document. He felt it would be a strong message that the Town Board cares about Newfield by unanimous votes this evening.

Jeff Golden: urged the Board to sign into effect the Comprehensive Plan.

Eleanor Perry: voiced concerns from the previous work session about health insurance. She is not sure why this is still not worked out. She feels that everyone who works for the Town of Newfield should pay the same percentage input. She also has concerns about the pool being allowed to completely not be used anymore because of its condition. She would like a

public release of the damages, assessed repair value, how long the Town has known the repairs were needed, also when the Town was initially informed and why the Town did not attempt to move funds to act immediately to repair the pool. She also commented from statements made at the Work Session that some of the members of the Board believe that AWS is preparing for a transfer station. She is curious why the Town is not acting on that. She also echoed comments made earlier and encouraged the Board to do what would be good for Newfield.

Gene VanZile: thanked the Town Board and the Planning Board for all the work put into the Comprehensive Plan. He felt it was a team effort for a plan that is good for everyone not just a few. He felt there was no reason or excuse not to pass it. He also spoke about the transfer station: there have been property modifications being made that have openly continued for its preparation. He also commented that this was openly stated at the last Town Board Work Session and that Code Enforcement Officer received correspondence stating what the fill was to be used for. He also stated that Ensol plan called for complete control for erosion and sedimentation before any preparation took place. He asked where the sill fence was. He asked why the Town Board and the Code Enforcement Officer had not done anything to enforce this. He also asked about the issuance of a Storm Water Permit. He commented that the modified area had been measured by surrounding areas with leniency for a starting point that had never been legally established. He does not feel an accurate measuring can be calculated with a land calculator. He asked again about the sill fence and permit. He told the Board he is seeking legal counsel and guaranteed there would be consequences when it was done.

Bob Seely: supports the Comprehensive Plan and asked the Board to pass it.

Linda Calahan: supports the Comprehensive Plan and requested any of the Board Members are against the Comprehensive Plan; she would like a detailed reason.

Evie Marques: commented that she had helped the Planning Board work on the Comprehensive Plan. She observed at the meetings the hope felt by the people on the impact that could improve the quality of life in Newfield with the Comprehensive Plan. She urged the Board to adopt the Comprehensive Plan.

Randy Brown: a Planning Board Member commented on the 5 year task of working on the Comprehensive Plan. He felt it is a great start for a community effort by the Board supporting it.

Agenda Changes:

Supervisor Driscoll commented on an item in New Business to correct the wording in the second Resolution from Long Form to Full Environmental Assessment.

Attorney Hooks asked to add a short Executive Session to discuss a Collective Bargaining issue.

Adoption of the Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to accept the August 12, 2013 regular Board Meeting minutes. Councilperson Laughlin seconded the motion.

ADOPTED AYE 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin, and Powers
 NAY 0

Reports:

Highway: Superintendent Kevin Berggren reported that the Barnes Hill Road was winding down; 1.5 miles have been stone and oiled, the cost being between \$200,000.00 and \$250,000.00 which included base work and drainage and paving. He commented that his budget for this type of project is \$300,000.00 and he is limited what he can do each year. The Department is putting in culvert pipes and ditching currently. He reported that the Newfield Highway Department helped the Town of Enfield after the heavy rains and flooding.

Water & Sewer Department: none, Water Sewer Manager is on holiday

Recreation: Reid Hoskins Recreation Director was at an event and gave a report to the Board Members.

Code Enforcement: Harry Wright, Code Enforcement Officer, reported that addresss that had environmental issues have made great gains. He provided the Board Members with a list of permits issued.

County Legislature Representative: absent

Supervisor Report: reported that the budget process is underway. The department heads have their budget work sheets. The first formal review of the proposed budget by the Town Board will be September 27th. He also hopes to finalize the Personnel Policy draft at the work session on the 27th. as well. The calendar of meetings will also be set for the month of October at this work session.

New Business:

Resolution 39-2013

Motion was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson Powers the following Resolution

RESOLUTION 39-2013

To Establish Bank Accounts for the Strosnider Court

WHEREAS the Newfield Town Board has appointed R. Barry Strosnider to serve as Newfield Town Justice through December 31, 2013, and

WHEREAS the Strosnider Justice Court must have 2 separate Checking Accounts in order to conduct Court business,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Supervisor is authorized to open Checking Accounts for the Deposit of Bail Funds and Fine Collection Account at Tioga State Bank, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the signatories shall be Justice Strosnider and Supervisor Driscoll.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
	NAYES	0	

Resolution 40-2013

Motion was offered by Councilperson Powers, seconded by Councilperson James the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 40-2013

To Adopt Newfield Comprehensive Plan Full Environmental Assessment Form

WHEREAS the Town Board is intending to consider a Resolution to adopt a Comprehensive Plan (“the Plan”) for the Town of Newfield; and,

WHEREAS adoption of the Plan is a Type I action under DEC regulations (6 NYCRR Section 617.4(b)(1)) and consequently, such an action requires the Town to complete a full Environmental Assessment Form (“EAF”) prior to adoption of the Plan; and,

WHEREAS the Board carefully reviewed and considered the items set out in the completed full Assessment Form at its July public work session in connection with the Plan; and,

WHEREAS after due and thorough review of the items in the EAF, the Board has determined that acceptance and adoption of the Plan will not have any significant adverse effect on the Town’s environment; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board hereby adopts the Town of Newfield Comprehensive Plan Full Environmental Assessment Form in the form and content submitted with and made a part of this Resolution and the minutes of this meeting; and, it is further

RESOLVED that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute the EAF and to issue a negative declaration accordingly.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
 NAYES 0

Resolution 41-2013

RESOLUTION 41-2013

To Adopt the “Town of Newfield Comprehensive Plan”

WHEREAS the Town of Newfield established the Planning Board on March 7, 2007 under local law 1-2007; and,

WHEREAS the purpose and intent of the Plan is to provide a mechanism to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the community, and to facilitate planning for transportation, water and sewer, improvements, drainage, schools, parks and recreation and the like through the use of comprehensive planning; and,

WHEREAS over the last five years, the Town of Newfield Planning Board has received input via a community-wide survey sent to every address in the 14867 zip code; held three public input sessions in the Newfield Library in 2011; received input from a business focus group and an agricultural focus group in 2012; and,

WHEREAS the Newfield Planning Board presented the Draft Comprehensive Plan for public feedback and comments at the Newfield Town Website, in hard copy at the Town Hall and Library, and via flash drives for purchase, and held a public discussion on May 21 at the Fire Hall and an information booth at the High School Community Cafe; and,

WHEREAS the Newfield Planning Board made thoughtful revisions based on the public input to the plan and presented the Final Draft of the Comprehensive Plan for public review on June 19 at the Newfield Town Web-site, in hard copy at the Town Hall, the Library and via flash drives for purchase; and,

WHEREAS the proposed Comprehensive Plan fosters cooperation among governmental agencies planning and implementing capital projects and municipalities that may be directly affected thereby; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Newfield Planning Board held a duly advertised Public Hearing on the Draft Plan on July 2, 2013 at the Newfield Fire Hall; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Newfield Planning Board unanimously adopted a resolution to recommend and deliver its Final Draft of the Town of Newfield 2013

Comprehensive Plan to the Newfield Town Board which was formally presented on July 11, 2013, and,

WHEREAS the Newfield Town Board convened a Public Hearing held according to a public notice duly provided on the Draft 2013 Town of Newfield Comprehensive Plan on August 8th prior to its Regular Monthly Board Meeting; and,

WHEREAS at such meeting the Board heard and considered comments from the public relating to the Plan;

WHEREAS the Newfield Town Board has not made any substantive changes to the Plan as presented by the Planning Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Newfield Town Board hereby approves and adopts the Town of Newfield Comprehensive Plan with the minor modifications made thereto.

Motion was offered by Supervisor Driscoll and seconded by Councilperson James to adopt the Town of Newfield Comprehensive Plan.

Discussion: Councilperson Laughlin noticed an error in the second paragraph, the word "Law" was replaced with the word "Plan".

Councilperson Trask thanked Nancy Dolge, Randy Brown and Gene Yaples for their hard work and diligence. He feels the document shows the tremendous time put into it. He feels the document suits Newfield very well. He commented that he got the impression from commentary made by people in the audience that some of the Board Members do not support the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that was not true and the results would show with the vote. He felt the Board as a whole supports the Comprehensive Plan. He feels the Comprehensive Plan is good for Newfield.

Councilperson James commented that when she ran for election 4 years ago that one of her hopes for dreams was to adopt a Comprehensive Plan. She is grateful she is on the Board and able to vote for its adoption. She thanked everyone who worked so hard on it.

Councilperson Laughlin stated she had concerns going into it, but as a whole feels that Comprehensive Plan is the smart thing to do.

Councilperson Powers added that she ran for election 2 years ago she had wanted to see the Comprehensive Plan finished and put in place. She is happy it happening and thanked all who were involved.

Supervisor Driscoll added "Me Too- A lot!" He was very proud that it took everyone to bring the document to the Board for this cumulating moment. He was also very happy for its unanimous approval. He also echoed Councilperson Trask's comment about the Plan itself and the fact that it is as robust, complete and thoughtfulness. He also commented that this had not gone unnoticed by all of the people where it has had to pass approval or review according to law and have said they have not reviewed a document as complete, as well thought out, put together, easily readable and as lovely to look at as this one.

AOPTED: AYES 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers.
 NAYES 0

Old Business: none

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin and seconded by Councilperson Powers to approve the August Expenses:

Discussion: Councilperson Laughlin asked how the water meter installation was coming. She also asked about late fees incurred for lack of getting checks out on time. And also she questioned two fed ex mailings that were overnight mailed she asked if they were late going out. Supervisor Driscoll said one was for the IRS appeal and the second he could not remember, he added it the third time this method had been used this year and was not a habit. She also noticed a mileage bill that needs to have more detail added to it.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin, and Powers
 NAY 0

Vouchers were reviewed by Councilperson Laughlin and Councilperson Powers, the Board authorized to the payments of the following amounts:

General Fund	\$19,600.02
Recreation Fund	\$3,643.86
Highway Fund	\$144,197.38
Street light Fund	\$1,097.32
Sewer Fund	\$1,620.66
Water District 1 Fund	\$32,452.22
Water District 2 Fund	\$2,253.57
Trust and Agency	\$2,488.52

Work Session: Friday, September 27, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

At 7:50 p.m. Supervisor Driscoll moved the Regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board to recess and to reconvene to an Executive Session concerning a Collective Bargaining Issue at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

September 22, 2013

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC
Town Clerk

