

The regular Newfield Board Meeting was held at 166 Main Street, Newfield New York on May 10, 2012 was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Driscoll. Also present were: CP Trask, CP Lauglin, CP Powers, CP James, Recreation Director Dustin James, Justices Payne and Dresser, Planning Board Members: Randy Brown, Anthony Russo, and Russ Mains acting Town Attorney. Supervisor Driscoll opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Opening Privilege of the Floor**

Randy Brown: Planning Board Member gave an updated report of the status of completing the Comprehensive Plan draft to the Board Members. The Planning Board has hopes of having all the final drafts done by August. He also mentioned that he had reconciled the Planning Board Budget since inception.

Anthony Russo: Planning Board Member, he has concerns with fiscal responsibility with the addition of special consul for the draft moratorium. He feels if the Town follows through with the moratorium that the town will incur thousands of dollars in attorney fees. As a taxpayer and resident of the Town he feels the Board needs to be for fiscally responsibility and avoid expenses.

Eugene VanZile, Fishkill Road: Voiced his concerns about the proposed Transfer Station on Bishop Road. He feels the surrounding roads are not built for the heavy trucks that will be hauling the trash in and out. He also feels that safety issue is of grave concern, as well as the financial concern of rebuilding the roads from the damage done by the large trucks.

Serena Morse, Shaffer Road: She also has concerns of finances and the moratorium. She was also hoping the Board would entertain the idea of someone to come in to educate the residents about pros to fracking, and what that could possibly mean to Newfield and how it could bring in money.

Becca Harber, Piper Road: Voiced her concerns about hydro fracking, and asked the Board to support the moratorium and a ban. She is worried about water contamination, lack of sleep from the passing large trucks, as well as safely driving on the same roads as the large trucks, losing health, as well as paying higher taxes to fix expenses as the result of the trucking.

Jeff Golden, Douglas Road: asked to express his concern of the proposed Transfer Station and Douglas, Bishop, and Fishkill Roads. He asked the Board to understand the reality of having a Transfer Station within a baseball throw of his home, will greatly reduce his property value. He hopes the Town Board understands the fire ball that waits if the Transfer Station were to proceed. He considers the of the proposed transfer station owner a friend, a wonderful person and good neighbor, unfortunately, what he feels he is doing for his family, is ruining Mr. Golden's personal home, nest egg, and livelihood. He would hope the Board would consider there be a huge drop in assessments if the Transfer Station were to go through.

Crista Bowen, Shaffer Road: She had concerns for fiscal responsibility in Newfield, and what she feels will ultimately come to the taxpayers, either by fighting the gas companies, or the cost of putting a moratorium in place. She stated that New York State had not given Municipalities the right to put a moratorium in place, and could override it at this point. She has concerns of spending the money for attorneys when the Town does not have that right yet. She said it would be fiscally more responsible to let New York State make the decision. If the Town were given that option and the ultimate say what can happen in the Town limits of Newfield, then the Town knows what it can do. She feels it does not hurt to explore, but taking on increasing lawyer fees to look at something that the Town may not have an option on at this point, seemed a little ridiculous to her. Concerning traffic on roads, she understands

the concerned about large gas trucks, but she remembered when Brown Cow was in business, and there large trucks going up and down Shaffer Road, and today there is large construction trucks going through, she feels that is the cost of doing business.

Todd VanOrman, Blovsky Hill Road: Had concerns about hydro fracking, and the possible effects on our watersheds. He stated he is in favor of a one year moratorium, and a ban as well concerning hydrofracking.

Lynn Watros, Newfield Fire Company Member: Invited the Town Board to tour the Fire Company facility. This year is the end of a three year contract and before the end of the year the Fire Company and the Newfield Town Board will be meeting to renegotiate a new contract.

Bob Seely, Starks Road: is concerned about the effects of horizontal water hydrofracking.

Amy Amabile, Seeley Hill Road: Would like to see a budget for the legal fees concerning investigation of the moratorium. She also wondered how the road repair would be paid for near the proposed transfer station. She stated she supported the moratorium, and a possible ban. She mentioned that recently she had traveled through the Dakota's and eastern Montana, and saw the destruction from the oil industry that has befallen the Towns. She is concerned about the roads being destroyed and at most are marginal in condition. She would also like to see a budget of how things will be paid for as a result of extensive truck use. She mentioned that with natural gas prices being down, and there is not a lot of income, will there be much of a tax base increase from the oil companies? Is there enough to offset the decrease in property values?

Alex Ribero, Bishop Road: He moved to Newfield in 2005, and lives with his wife and 3 sons on property that is adjacent to the proposed transfer station location. He is concerned about the increased traffic and the safety of his children and neighbors. He has concerns of his property value decreasing.

Rebecca Ribero, Bishop Road: She also has concerns concerning the proposed transfer station. She understands that a proposal may have been submitted to the Town Board that contained a diagram of the proposed site, and feels it is an important fact that it is located in the middle of houses, boarder by a creek, homes that have families, children, pets and dogs. She is concerned about future industrial traffic coming into an area that is not zoned but is in an agricultural district. There are also wets lands that run through the property and eventually make their way to Treman Park. The plan calls for a 3000 gallon underground tank to collect the waste water, she is concerned for leakage, breakage, and flooding. She also has concerns about her property value, her well is also downhill from the propose site, and she would also like to know where the road is going to access.

Scott Thomas, Bishop Road: His property also borders the proposed transfer station location. One of his main concerns is he has a hand dug well, if anything were to happen he has grave concerns for his water supply. Noise is also a concern, at the moment, there is filling being trucked into the site, and he can hear the trucks coming in throughout the day, if the transfer station were to add to the increased traffic six days a week, he would find that unbearable. He also just planted an orchard of fruit trees, and planned on them being organic, but with the proposed transfer station, he will not be able to do that. His greatest concern is his 4 year old son's safety.

Tom Reynolds, Van Kirk Road: Feels that a lot of the statements being made about the environment are incorrect to uninformed. He stated that the gas industry coming to the town could be our economic recovery. He proposed that the board and he have a debate at the Newfield Fire Hall.

Lillian Lightborn, Newfield Garden Apartments: supports the proposed the Newfield Farmers Market.

Elery Rumsey, Main Street: Came with noise (loud music) concerns in areas where houses are closely populated. He would like to see the Board sit down and talk about a possible noise ordinance. He would like to see some sort of compromise and respect for the neighbors.

**Agenda Changes**

Add a presentations by Tina Winstead for the Newfield Public Library, to be followed by a presentation by Justices Payne and Dresser. Supervisor Driscoll asked to remove resolution # 4, and review at a work session. He also asked to add an additional resolution.

Tina Winstead and Jill Henry from the Newfield Public Library gave the Report to the Community for the year ending 2011. She noted there were a 48% increase people visiting the library and an 44% increase in items checked out in the last for years. She reviewed the grants and donations received from different organizations. Also reviewed were the various programs and events that the NPL has sponsored in 2011.

Justices Payne and Dresser were present to discuss Resolution # 21-2012, and thank the Board for the time invested into it. Justice Payne shared with the Board, a fresh new process that occurred in the court last week. **RESOLUTION # 21-2012** was read by Supervisor Driscoll as follows: Motion was made by Council Person James and seconded by Council Person Powers

Resolution to Transfer in the amount up to and not to exceed \$3,000 from A1990.4 Contingent Account and to establish 2012 Budget Modification by adding Account A1110.113 Personal Services Court Clerks CDR in the amount up to and not to exceed \$3,000.

Motion was made by Council Person James and seconded by Council Person Powers

Discussion was opened with Council Person Laughlin asking if there would be two lines, as there are two court clerks. Supervisor Driscoll stated it would remain in one line as a work line. Justice Payne responded that this is being called the "Criminal Disposition Report Project", as it will entail using both court clerks and their hours. Justices Dresser and Payne have a duty and obligation to the Town to review each file, before the CDR is done. Council Person Laughlin asked if the project had been started, Justice Payne responded that there had been no time to do so. Council Person James was glad that this was being set up as a personnel code, and she was glad to see it was a collaborative effort. Council Person Laughlin asked if had been discussed putting part of the money would be put into the line to start with to see how the process went. Supervisor Driscoll responded that it reads that it is an up to, and not to exceed, and that he would be making the transfers as needed from the contingent line to the salary line, and this permits him to do this without coming to the Board each time there is a need for a transfer. Justice Dresser asked how the CDR time tabulated differed from the regular clerk tabulated time. Supervisor Driscoll replied that the times would be kept separately on the same time sheet. Council Person Trask commented about an earlier discussion that there are a monthly accounting of the hours, and the monthly progression of the cases being taken care of. He also asked if there were a possibility of the project being completed in less time. It was responded by the Justices, that there was a possibility, but they cannot be sure.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

**Correspondence:** Supervisor Driscoll reported that the Board had received a letter from the Newfield Senior Citizens reporting on their programs and requesting a stipend of \$ 1,500.00. Supervisor Driscoll asked that it be added to the agenda for the work session. He reported he and the Board received correspondence the proposed transfer station from residents from Bishop Road as well.

**Adoption of the April 2012 Board Minutes:** Motion was made to accept the April 2012 minutes by Council Person Laughlin, and seconded by Council Person Trask.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

**Reports:**

Highway: Absent

Water/Sewer: Absent, a report was included in the Board Packets

Code Enforcement: Absent

Tompkins County Legislature: Absent

Recreation: Recreation Director Dustin James reported that he was starting to transition to summer activities, and adding a teen program and an outdoor summer movie program in late June. He is working with local people to start a summer youth gardening initiative and have it tie in with the Newfield Farmers Market. He mentioned there are grants available to help pay for these opportunities.

The Rec Advisory Committee met and they have put together a community survey, about the Recreation Department, that should be sent out soon. He is also working on a golf tournament for a fund raiser for the Recreation, for late summer up at the Trumansburg Golf Course. The Volley Program ended at the end of April and was a big success. Youth Track and Baseball are both up and running well and the softball program is involved with the Desi Jacobs league in Ithaca, with the Youth Bureau. There are 25 children participating with the youth track program, and good increase from last year. Summer Camp is on at the school. The pool will be open this year. The Cafeteria received a grant for free lunch and breakfast for any for any Newfield children. Supervisor Driscoll announced that Dustin had taken his Civil Service Exam, and can now be permanently appointed as Newfield Recreational Director.

Supervisor Driscoll read **Resolution NO 22-2012**

**ADOPTION OF THE 2013-2017 INTERMUNICIPAL RECREATION PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT:**

**Resolution NO. 22-2012**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Newfield agrees to renew the August 17, 2007 Intermunicipal Recreation partnership Agreement for an additional 5 years, expiring December 31, 2017 and further

RESOLVED, that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Recreation Partnership Board c/o Tompkins County Youth Services, 320 W. State Street, Ithaca NY 14850.

Motion was made by Council Person Laughlin, and seconded by Council Person James.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE

Motion Passed.

Supervisors Report: The audit of 2011 will begin on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> through Friday. Council Person Trask asked who would be over seeing the audit as the Town representative. Supervisor Driscoll responded that Nadine Bennett and he would be.

Supervisor Driscoll read **Resolution NO. 23-2012**

**ADOPTION OF DRIVEWAY PERMIT AND CULVERT FEE TO THE TOWN LAW ON EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION IN MUNICIPAL ROADWAYS AND HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY:**

RESOLVED, that the Driveway Permit fee is established at \$25, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Culvert Installation fee is established at \$200 for up to 30 feet of pipe and \$50 for each additional 10 feet such pipe to be supplied by the property owner according to the specifications of the Highway Superintendent.

Motion was made by Council Person Trask to adopt Resolution 23-2012 and seconded by Council Person Powers.

Discussion: Council Person Laughlin asked if the Town would now be installing culverts on Town roads.

Council Person James asked if the fees that were indicated were suggested by Highway Superintendent Berggren, in that it would cover the cost of the installation. Supervisor Driscoll replied that yes, the fee would cover the costs of installation, and were comparable to the Town of Enfield.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

Supervisor Driscoll read **Resolution NO. 24-2012:**

### **ADOPTION OF NEW ROAD CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS**

WHEREAS the Town of Newfield (the Town), from time to time, accepts the conveyance of roadways built by private developers in the Town, and

WHEREAS the Town accepts such conveyance provided that the roadways meet the required specification for Town roadways, and

WHEREAS the Town, from time to time, updates the required specifications

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Town Highway Superintendent, Town of Newfield roadway specifications are hereby updated and that attached the specifications are outlined in the attached schedule.

Motion was made by Council Person James to adopt Resolution 24-2012 and seconded by Council Person Trask.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

Supervisor Driscoll read the proposed **Resolution NO. 25-2012**

### **APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANCY ON THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD PLANNING BOARD**

RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Town of Newfield Planning Board Nancy Dolge of 127 Puhalka Road is hereby appointed to a three year term to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Christine Ranney.

Motion was made by Council Person Powers to accept Resolution NO. 25-2012, and seconded by Council Person James.

Council Person Laughlin asked if there were more than one applicant. Randy Brown responded that there was another.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

Supervisor Driscoll read **Resolution NO. 26-2012**

**RESOLUTION NO.26-2012**

**TO ENDORSE A FARMER'S MARKET IN THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD**

Whereas the residents of Newfield have expressed an interest in a Farmers' Market as a means of access to fresh foods, for small farms and community businesses to sell their products, and a place for community members to gather; and

Whereas, the State of New York is encouraging Farmers' Markets as a way to provide outlets for farm products and provide improved food access;

Now Therefore be it resolved that

The Town of Newfield applauds and endorses the creation of a Farmer's Market in the Town and will add the Newfield Farmer's Market as an additional insured to its liability insurance coverage.

Motion was made by Council Person Trask to accept Resolution NO. 26-2012, and seconded by Council Person Laughlin.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

Supervisor Driscoll read Resolution **NO 27-2012**

**RESOLUTION NO. 27-2012**

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Newfield (the Town) is provided cable service by Time Warner Cable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town recognizes the advantage of cooperation with other municipalities with regard to cable franchise issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is interested in exploring, through the Tompkins County Council of Governments, the possibility of entering into an agreement with other municipalities to form a Consortium to negotiate, on behalf of (the Municipality), a renewal franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent would be to form a Consortium with the authority to conduct public hearings, conduct surveys, and engage in all activity, within the limits of applicable State and Federal Law, that is necessary and appropriate to negotiating a renewal franchise agreement for its member municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Consortium may be charged with analyzing the financial, technical, and legal issues related to cable television regulation to enable the member municipalities to reach sound judgments in exercising their regulatory authority with regard to such matters as cable television rates, franchise fees, and nature and quality of service; and

**WHEREAS**, all members of the Consortium would individually reserve the right to approve, disapprove, or amend the franchise agreement so negotiated on their behalf; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, it is

**RESOLVED**, that the Town does hereby express interest in exploring the possibility of forming a consortium of municipalities to negotiate on its behalf for the renewal of its franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town does hereby reserve the right to refrain from joining the consortium should the terms and conditions of joining the consortium prove to be unacceptable to the Board.

Motion was made by Council Person James to adopt Resolution NO. 27-2012 and seconded by Council Person Powers.

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin, AYE, CP Trask: AYE, Supervisor Driscoll: AYE  
Motion Passed.

Supervisor Driscoll read proposed Resolution **28-2012**

**Resolution Urging the Governor and the New York State Legislature to Develop a Blend of Revenue Streams and Other Taxation of Natural Gas Extraction and to Establish and Accurate, Transparent, and Verifiable Method of Measuring and Reporting Shale Gas Production**

Whereas New York State is preparing to permit the process of extracting natural gas from the Marcellus Shale areas in our region in the near future, and

Whereas local governments have already incurred expensed in preparation for the extraction of natural gas and will incur expenses such as repair for roads, higher social service costs, emergency services, ect.,when this industry comes to town and before any ad valorem revenue is received, and

Whereas, ad valorem tax on production is the only revenue source for local governments to offset the cost of incorporation the gas extraction industry into its community, and

Whereas, ad valorem tax on production is not a revenue source for a municipality adjacent to one that has gas extraction, yet the adjacent community will also incur impacts and expenses from the gas extraction industry, and

Whereas, the State and local process for levying and ad valorem tax on gas production has a built in delay for a minimum of 3 years( 1 gas produced but not reported until year 2 when it is added to assessment role for year 3 when the gas producers are sent tax bills for year 1's production) between the time that the gas is extracted( not the well pad constructed, well drilled and pipelines connected)and the year the local government will receive revenue which means that t under the current system, tax payers will need to pay for the impacts of this industry on the local government and community before any revenue is received to offset those costs, and

Whereas, other states that have hosted the gas and oil extraction industry for many years have a blend of fees and several taxes including ad valorem and severance to cover expenses to governments as they are incurred and do not saddle the civil society with this burden, and

Whereas the calculation for Unit Production Value (UPV) in determining assessment of natural gas in New York State has not been completed for tight shale deposits like Marcellus so any planning for ad valorem revenue from as extraction is impossible yet the prospect for impact is imminent, and

Whereas, the yet undetermined UPV is multiplied by self-reposted gas production to determine the assessed value of given well, and

Whereas, there is no independent oversight of the gas meter accuracy, its installation, or its reading of extracted natural gas (self-reporting by the energy companies) which is an affront to the assessment process used for all other taxable properties within our County, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Town of Newfield strongly urges the Governor and the New York State Legislature to develop a blend of revenue streams through fees and other taxation of natural gas extraction to provide funds for state and local governments when expenses are incurred,

Resolved, further, That the Town of Newfield, NY urges the Governor to direct the Office of Taxation and Finance to establish, through an open and transparent process, the Unit Production Value for assessment of shale natural gas like Marcellus,

Resolved, further, That the town of Newfield, NY demands that the Governor and the New York State Legislature establish an accurate, transparent, and verifiable method of measuring and reporting shale gas production.

RESOLVED, further, That copies of this resolution shall be sent to Director Bradley J. Field of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Mineral Resources, Governor Andrew Cuomo, NYSDEC Commissioner Joe Martens, Chair of the Senate Committee on Environmental Conservation Mark Grisanti, Commissioner of Taxation and Finance Thomas H. Mattox; Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Telecommunications, George D. Maziarz, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Deputy Senate Majority Leader Thomas W. Libous, Senate Minority Leader John Sampson, Deputy Minority Leader Neil D. Breslin, New York State Senators James Seward, Michael Nozzolio, Thomas O'Mara, [Liz Krueger, Thomas Duane, Bill Perkins], New York Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation Robert Sweeney, Chair of the Assembly Energy Committee Kevin Cahill, Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Chair Jeff Bingaman, United States Senate Subcommittee on Energy, Water, and Power Chair Jeanne Shaheen, United States Senators Charles Schumer, and Kirsten Gillibrand, United States Representatives Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee Chair Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy Member Diana DeGette, United States Representatives Maurice Hinchey, and Richard Hanna, and the New York State Association of Counties, the New York Association of Towns, and the New York Conference of Mayors.

Motion was made by Council Person Powers and seconded by Council Person James

Council Person Trask commented that there had not been any discussion about this resolution at the work session, and thought it should be tabled until there was a work session. Council Person Laughlin asked if an ad valorem tax is based on the assessed value of property, Supervisor Driscoll said it would be on the gas. She also felt the Town needed to look at this at a work session. Council Person Powers stated that the purpose of the resolution was to ask the Governor to look at the resolution. Council Person James also stated it was confusing to her as well. And that in earlier discussions that there is not severance tax in New York State?

Motion to table the Resolution 28-2012 was made by Council Person Trask and seconded by Council Person James until it can be discussed at the work session on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

April 2012 Expenses:

General Fund: Vouchers Totaling: \$66,067.24

Recreation Fund: Vouchers Totaling: \$2595.26

Highway Fund: Vouchers Totaling: \$52,059.52

Streetlight Fund: Vouchers Totaling:	\$1,218.29
Sewer Fund: Vouchers Totaling:	\$3,182.27
Water 1 Fund Vouchers Totaling:	\$2,118.80
Water 2 Fund Vouchers Totaling:	\$1,250.73
Trust & Agency Fund Totaling	\$3,597.78

Supervisor Driscoll asked for a motion to approve the April 2012 expenses, Council Person Trask asked concerning the payment of the January payment to Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Supervisor Driscoll, and what the repayment schedule would be. Supervisor Driscoll stated he hoped to repay it to the Town by the end of the year. Council Person Trask thought there should be a resolution to accept that note as was not to be part of the bills for 2012. Supervisor Driscoll said he could pay the Town \$50.00/month until the end of the year to clear it up. Council Person Powers asked Supervisor Driscoll if he could do that, his response was he would try. Council Person James made a motion to table this discussion for a work session, and Council Person Laughlin seconded it.

Council Person Trask stated that the bill was being presented this evening for payment; under bills that should not have happened to begin with. Supervisor Driscoll said the bill could be withdrawn and hold it until the work session. Council Person James stated she was comfortable with paying the bill and expecting repayment.

Council Person Laughlin asked why the Court Fines for February dated; March 7, 2012 was just being paid. The Town Clerk clarified that sometimes the Court Fine bills do not come as expected, and it was not held. She also asked about a Simply Prescription bill that was presented late. Supervisor Driscoll stated he thought it had to do with an underpayment, and the Town had asked Blue Cross/Blue Shield for a complete accounting of all of the billings and payments. He was asked if it should be coming from the 2011 budget rather than the 2012? Supervisor Driscoll stated he would research that.

Motion was made by Council Person Trask and seconded by Council Person Laughlin

Vote: CP James: AYE, CP Powers: AYE, CP Laughlin: AYE, CP TRASK: AYE, SUPERVISOR DRISCOLL: AYE

MOTION PASSED

#### **CLOSING PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Nancy Dolge: asked that her address be corrected to 127 Puhalka Road, rather than Miller Road

Eugene VanZile: Commented additional concerns of people that work the night shift, and sleep in the day, how would they sleep with the noise from the trucks going to the transfer station in the neighborhood? He also mentioned that there was a conflict of the truck route being told to various neighbors.

Sandy VanZile: She has concerns of accidents with the curve on Fishkill Road, the hill and the bridge that does not have guard rails on the sides. She is worried safety for children in the school buses and on foot.

Anthony Russo: Wanted to confirm he is interested and thought he was confirmed as a member of the planning board for the next five years. He was not sure why it was up for question.

He also wanted to restate that a lot of the positions which were expressed about the moratorium and the gas are really not based on fact but rather anecdotal. He would appreciate when that subject is discussed, that it be based on fact, not about anecdotal things that we hear from PA. or Alaska.

Tom Reynolds: He stated with the ad valorem tax that was being discussed is a good example of why there needs to be more discussion on gas drilling. He added that the residents of Newfield need to know the real information, based on facts, not on anecdotal information. He said he was more than willing to sit down and debate the topic, in any way the Board would like. He would be not willing to do so however if there would be complete control by the Board where comments could be spun off and misstatements made that are inaccurate and mislead the public.

Randy Brown: Sympathizes with the residents in regards to the proposed transfer station, but said, with a Town that has no zoning, does not have any rights to say where the transfer station can be. But perhaps it could help find a different place for it. He said the Newfield School had just received an A rating from the Standard and Poor's, showing that its finances are better than most school districts, and will be able to refinance bonds without additional costs or years, with substantial savings. Speaking on behalf of the Planning Board, they believe in the moratorium in order to finish the comprehensive plan. They hope to have the comprehensive plan done within a year.

Becca Harber: stated that when it comes to people getting sick or animals having still births, deformities, she did not know how else you would have anything but anecdotal information, unless you are living in the thick of it. She reported she had attended a meeting in Spencer last year and that a representative from Fortuna Gas had told them it took 1200 tanker trucks of water for one well per frack. She said there would be traffic well beyond what was felt when Brown Cow was operating.

Evie Marques: suggested that people bringing in opinions might also bring in documentation with factual information that substantiates what they what they are saying.

Serena Morse: reminded everyone that the evolution of fracking changes every day. Perhaps, by the time it gets to Newfield, the concerns that are being voiced here tonight may be obsolete. She thinks we need to leave our selves open to the ability and thought process that this could take us on a journey that is not what it is right now. She would like Newfield to stay open and educate ourselves.

Christa Bowen: Commented that she was hearing concerns of oversized vehicles on the roads and from the sounds of thing things, there are no horse and buggies outside. She assumed everyone drove to the meeting tonight, using gas fueled cars, and everyone is ok with heating their homes with natural gas, and putting gas into their cars every day as long as it is not in their back yard. And she feels that we cannot be hypocrites about it. She feels it can be an opportunity as long as it is done responsibly. She said that the men and women who are serving this county overseas are fighting for our international gas interests. She said until we correct information, the Board cannot make a judgment call because of what you hear. She would like to have here to give the facts.

Ed Laine: responded to someone stating that only the land owners benefit from the gas drilling, he stated that was not true. Spencer had a gas well that is assessed at twelve million dollars. The whole town, the school and the residents benefits, not just the land owners.

Supervisor Driscoll asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:58 PM, Motion was made by Council Person Trask and seconded by Council Person Laughlin.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Miller Kenerson  
Town Clerk

May 17, 2012

