

A regular meeting of the Geneseo Town Board was held on Thursday, March 10, 2011 in the conference room of the Geneseo Town Office Facility.

PRESENT: William Wadsworth, Roberta Irwin, Felicisimo Manapol

ABSENT: David Dwyer, Richard Taylor

ALSO PRESENT: Ed Russell-Underberg & Kessler, Larry Levey-Hwy Supt, Robert E. Peri, Pam Smith, Larry Smith, David Woods-Town Planning Board, Josh Williams-geneseesun.com news, Margery Wilkie, Marlene A. Hamilton, Pattie Johnston-Liv Co Traffic Safety Board, Sharyn Duffy, Catherine Evershed, Don Higgins-Livingston County Highway Supt., Howard Appell-Liv Co News, William Mills-Liv Co Traffic Safety Board

MEETING OPENING, APPROVAL OF MINUTES & VOUCHERS:

At 7:00 pm Supervisor Wadsworth called the meeting to order. Councilwoman Irwin led the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence was held for service men and women serving around the world.

The Board reviewed the minutes of February 24th. Ms. Irwin moved and Mr. Manapol seconded the motion to approve the minutes of February 24, 2011 as presented. Motion passed with voting as follows: Wadsworth-aye; Irwin-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

The Board reviewed the abstract of vouchers. Ms. Irwin moved and Mr. Manapol seconded the motion to approve payment for all vouchers on abstract #3 except voucher #253, to MRB Group. A revised invoice will be requested, since the charges included some January charges which were already paid. Motion passed with voting as follows: Wadsworth-aye; Irwin-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY REQUEST:

Robert Peri and Pam Smith addressed the Board with a request for \$6,000 from the Town to be put in a fund to keep Mt. Pleasant Cemetery open. Mr. Peri indicated that if there are enough burials, the cemetery would not have to use the town's money. Additionally, the cemetery does have some money in a trust fund, but it is not supposed to be used for day-to-day operations. To save money, Mt. Pleasant has cut down on mowing and estimates they have enough funds to cover 2 months of mowing in 2011. Mr. Peri provided the Supervisor with financial statements. The Town's Attorney will check to see if the Town can legally provide any assistance.

PUBLIC HEARING

LOCAL LAW FOR 4-WAY STOP AT LIMA/COUNTRY CLUB INTERSECTION:

At 7:15 pm Supervisor Wadsworth opened the public hearing on a proposed local law amending Section 100-36 of the Code of the Town of Geneseo to authorize stop signs at the intersection of Lima Road and Country Club Road. He read the proposed local law aloud and asked if anyone from the public has any questions or comments.

Marge Wilkie expressed concern about installing a stop sign on a 55 mph road. She stated that she drives Country Club Road every day to and from work, and was hit by a truck even when she was stopped on Country Club Road at the Lima Road intersection. She worries that vehicles traveling at 55 mph may not come to a full stop at Lima Road, since it is out in the country.

At another local intersection Marge had stopped at a red traffic light. When it turned green for her, she did not immediately proceed through the intersection, waiting to be sure an approaching car was going to stop. The other vehicle “blew through” the red light and would have collided with Marge’s car had she proceeded.

Ms. Wilkie continued that she worries about the younger drivers, not the older, more careful driver. She suggested that, if the stop sign is placed in the 55 mph zone, that it be made known to the Geneseo Central School, as the school kids go that route all of the time.

Supervisor Wadsworth pointed out that both roads are 55 mph.

Robert Peri asked if the town is trying to put a stop sign without lowering the speed limit. Supervisor Wadsworth responded that NY State is responsible for speed limits. He stated he talked with a New York State DOT Traffic Engineer and the state won’t put up a lower speed limit in the middle of the country.

Robert Peri asked if the town could put up reflecting sign that says “4-way stop ahead”?

Supervisor Wadsworth responded that yes, they could. The town board will talk about what can be done.

Sharyn Duffy stated that this has been going on for at least 20 years. In 1991, there was a 4- way stop proposed. She read excerpts from the minutes/documents of the hearing. Ms. Duffy added that Larry Sherman of the NYSDOT did not agree with a 4-way stop. She stated that she agrees with Marge Wilkie but the area should have a lower/reduced speed, and suggested this might be the time to request a 45 mph speed limit.

Ms. Duffy added that on Stone Hill Road there are many intersections with 4-way stops, it is a rural road and there are reduced speed limits. Hwy Supt Levey responded that there are a lot of residences on Stone Hill Road.

Sharyn Duffy added that in 2008, there was a request to have a 45 mph speed zone on Lima Road. Ms. Duffy has documents relating to Lima Road reduced speed limit requests submitted to DOT since 1991. In 1991, the increased traffic was a part of the record. As taxpayers, she felt the Town should have a say about the speed limit on Lima Road.

Marge Wilkie asked if it is common for a 55 mph speed zone to come into a 30 mph speed zone. Supervisor Wadsworth responded that he asked DOT that question and the DOT uses Lima Road/Volunteer Road as an example of the houses “mentally” making vehicles slow down.

Marlene Hamilton suggested a “roundabout” at the Lima/Country Club Road intersection be considered.

Sharyn Duffy stated she believes that if a 4-way stop is put at the Lima Road/Country Club Road intersection, a 4-way stop should also be installed at other Lima Road intersections, such as the Lima/North Road intersection. This would make it more consistent and people may be more inclined to stop 2(+) times. She added that the Lima/North Road intersection is more dangerous, since it is more “blind”.

Kathy Evershed added that she feels the installation of a 4-way stop at Lima and Country Club Road intersection is “reactive”. She lives on the Lima Road “s” curve and has had vehicles run over her mailbox, as well as ending up in the gully. Ms. Evershed agreed with others that the speed limit should be lowered and added that by suddenly installing stop signs at this intersection, it may cause more accidents. Ms. Evershed stated she does not know if there has been a study done on the number of vehicles using Lima/Country Club Roads. She suggested that if a 4-way stop is approved, there should be a warning sign that there is a stop sign ahead. Ms. Evershed stated that the Lima/Country Club Road intersection is a level area, the stop signs on Country Club can be seen from a long distance, with good sight to Lima Road traffic. She would like to see the speed limit lowered rather than a 4-way stop, or else she would like to see multiple stops as Ms. Duffy suggested.

Traffic Safety Board Member Bill Mills said the Livingston County Traffic Safety Board discussed the issue at length at their meeting, including the volume of accidents. It was their opinion that a 4 way stop at Lima/Country Club intersection would: 1) decrease the severity of the accidents; 2) lower the speed of vehicles on Lima Road; and 3) discourage people from exiting 390 at exit 9. Mr. Mills added that the Livingston County Sheriff’s Department gets a lot of complaints about speed on Lima Road.

Livingston County Highway Superintendent Don Higgins spoke to the Board. He said the intersection at Lima and Country Club has an accident history that does not make sense. It is a wide-open stop area. Mr. Higgins continued that he does not like 4-way stops since the more stops there are, the faster people drive to try to make up time. Still, he added, if the state lowered the speed limit to 45 mph, people would still drive 55 and he is not sure a 45 mph speed zone would solve the problem.

Both Mr. Higgins and Mr. Mills were of the opinion that at this time, a 4-way stop is the easiest and quickest way to make the intersection safer.

Kathy Evershed stated that Lima Road has heavy truck traffic traveling on it which should not be there since those trucks are over the posted weight limit. She feels that the weight limit on Lima Road is not enforced enough.

WATER/SEWER ISSUES:

A memo from Jim Oberst of MRB Group was reviewed by the Board regarding a request for providing water to a potential future development at tax map #81-2-6.2 on Crossett Road. Neither current hydrant flow nor hydraulic impact by the addition of another user to the system for the Crossett Road watermain has been determined, but it was Mr. Oberst's opinion that unless there are issues either with low pressures or flows on this line, the addition of one residential home would most likely have a negligible effect. However, he cautioned the town board that they should consider if they wish to set a precedent by granting permission to landowners of vacant parcels to connect to any watermains if the watermain may potentially be considered to be substandard.

It was the consensus of the Board to communicate with the owners/sellers of tax map #81-2-6.2 on Crossett Road that the lot would have to go through the process for water district formation and the responsibility of the cost for the district formation would be theirs.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

Other items/issues the Board discussed included the following:

1. LCWSA memo regarding their customer water leak hardship policy and asking if the Board would like to authorize LCWSA to apply this policy to Town of Geneseo customers. It was the consensus of the Board to decline LCWSA's and continue to have customers claiming a "water leak hardship" apply for water payment relief to the Town Board;
2. After reviewing sections of the Town of Geneseo Code, it was Attorney Russell's opinion that the Hwy Supt has the authority to install weight limit signs;
3. A notice of a public hearing for a Special Use Permit and Site Plan Review for the Wadsworth Homestead to be held on March 23rd was reviewed by the Board. Any comments should be communicated to the Village Planning Board.
4. 2010 Annual Report;
5. Reminder of the March 14th meeting at 6:30 pm at Livingston County Government Center regarding phase II of the Streambank Remediation grant;
6. Included in Board packets was communication from Code Enforcement Officer Maxwell to Morgan Estates regarding the storage units at the Senior Apartments being for the use of the senior apartment dwellers only, not for general public use/rental;
7. A request from Cub Scout Pak 72 to change the date of their campout at Long Point Park to Saturday June 4th from 6:30 pm to 11 am on Sunday June 5th. Ms. Irwin moved and Mr. Manapol seconded the motion to approve the

change in date for the Cub Scout campout. Motion passed with voting as follows: Wadsworth-aye; Irwin-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

PUBLIC HEARING, CONTINUED:

Supervisor Wadsworth questioned if there were any additional comments on the proposed local law for a 4-way stop at the Lima Road/Country Club Road intersection. Cathy Evershed asked if the town has a time limit for anyone wishing to send letters commenting on the proposed local law. Supervisor Wadsworth responded that the town board is closing the hearing, but assured Ms. Evershed that the board is studying this issue carefully and will look at any letters and comments anyone wishes to send/make.

At 7:50 Ms. Irwin moved and Mr. Manapol seconded the motion to adjourn the public hearing. Motion passed with voting as follows: Wadsworth-aye; Irwin-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:50 pm Ms. Irwin moved and Mr. Manapol seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Jean Bennett, Town Clerk