

## TOWN OF AMITY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

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### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 17, 2016

Present: Wendy Skinner, Doug Serra, John Clouse, John Maynard, Lois Reynolds, Town board liason Barb Zlomek; members absent: Paula Van Dyke

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Skinner at 7:00PM.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

W. Skinner led the pledge of allegiance.

#### **Secretary's report**

Motion to waive approval of the secretary's report due absence of secretary by D. Serra; seconded by J. Clouse; vote: 5-0; motion carried.

#### **Report from Town Liason**

B. Zlomek shared that the town board wants to move ahead with a land use law. They have received the comments from the planning board review of a model land use law, and will have a joint meeting with the planning board on May 12, 2016 to continue the discussion. The town supervisor also would like to see the review and possible implementation of a right-to-farm law. The town board approved the high superintendent acquiring bids for a bulldozer. There has been some progress in discussions between the village and the town regarding establishing water districts and improvements outside the village boundaries.

#### **Old Business**

Discussions about land use for the town of Amity continued, following two additional work sessions held since the 2-11-16 planning board meeting. J. Clouse commented that the model didn't seem to go far enough to address the goals of the Comprehensive Plan; D. Serra questioned changes to slope numbers; W. Skinner shared Deputy Town Supervisor J. Francisco's concerns about "all water bodies....." citing new federal regulations about clean water.

W. Skinner handed out the current building permit in use by the Town of Amity. Discussion about how to revise or align it with potential new land use regulations. Should there be a new form created, or a page added to the building permit regarding land use permit or site plan review? The board members were asked to review it and bring comments to the next meeting.

The right to farm models (county, town, boilerplate) were discussed at the town board's request. The models provided by Cooperative Extension are very similar, and are included in part in the land use model under review. W. Skinner has invited Lynn Bliven of that office to present information on right-to-farm law at the next planning board meeting. She will provide copies of the three samples to the town board members for review.

#### **New Business**

W. Skinner handed out information for board members' consideration concerning solar energy zoning/regulations. This topic may need to be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

There are some areas in the town that could support this type of alternative energy production. Additional material was also provided on some land use control mechanisms (moratoria) provided by the New York Planning Federation.

W. Skinner provided the contact information of the planning board members to the NYPF so that they could receive the on-line monthly newsletters keeping them informed of developments in NYS Planning activities. NYPF will send back-copies of their semi-annual print newsletter for our reading pleasure.

There are two trainings of note for the planning board members:

1. Southern Tier West Local Government Conference at Houghton College on May 11, 2016. (Please let the town clerk know asap if you will attend so that she can register you and one check can be submitted by the town bookkeeper to pay the attendance fees).
2. NYPF Conference at Saratoga Springs, April 17-19, 2016 (half or full day options available). Deadline to register is 4-7-16; no refunds after that date. Check with town clerk about training fees being paid.

The joint meeting between the town board and the planning board to discuss land use regulations, and right to farm law is May 12, 2016 at 7PM in the Horn Room.

**Next regular meeting** was scheduled for 4-14-16 at 7PM.

**Meeting adjourned** – motion to adjourn by D. Serra; seconded by J. Maynard; motion carried; meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy J. Skinner