

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE  
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND TOWN BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 7th, 2010

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Bush called the meeting to order at 7 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** From the Town of Elbridge: Supervisor Ken Bush, Councilor George Betts, Councilor Rita Dygert, Councilor Vern Richardson, and Councilor Bill Kuhn. From the Village of Elbridge: Mayor Hank Doerr, Trustee Allen Webster, Trustee Robert Conlan, Trustee Fred Weisskopf, and Clerk Jennifer Thorpe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Attorney Dirk Oudemool, Outreach Worker, Leo Cooper; Robert Herrmann, Codes Officer; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Celeste Karakas, Assessor; Dave and Todd Rinaldo, Dana Anthonson, Dan Conroy, Dan Leary, Doug Blumer, Tom McGuire, Cathy and John Meixner, and Clerk Deb Stapleton.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**#1 Public Hearing** to consider the petition to annex approximately 56 acres of land owned by Hourigan Farms of Elbridge, LLC, from the Village of Elbridge into the Town of Elbridge, Tax Map parcels 018.-01-01.0 and 019.-03-02.1, which land is located south of Dobbin Lane residences to where it meets with Jordan Road.

Legal notice that appeared in the March 17th, 2010 Eagle Observer was available and was posted at the Town Clerk's Office, Village of Elbridge Office, Jordan and Elbridge Post Offices, Elbridge M&T Bank and Jordan Lyons Bank.

Supervisor: Does anyone wish to speak for the annexation of property? No one.

Supervisor: Does anyone wish to speak against the annexation of property? Camille DiSanza of 204 Dobbin Lane is very concerned about what the Hourigan farm will be spreading and whether she'll be able to open her windows in summer.

Supervisor Bush closed Public Hearing #1 at 7:25 PM.

There was considerable discussion regarding this project, and another Public Hearing will be called for and held on May 5, 2010, for the easement of property pertaining to drainage issues. There are no residences on this parcel. This easement parcel will be in both municipalities.

The Village of Elbridge Board then moved to another meeting room, and continued their monthly meeting.

**#2 Public Hearing** to consider amending Chapter 30, by creating a new Section 30§48 to be titled "Prohibited Uses" which shall read as follows: "The exploration of land for natural gas by horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing is prohibited."

Legal notice that appeared in the March 23, 2010 Eagle Observer was available and posted at the Town Clerk's office, Jordan and Elbridge Post offices, M&T Bank, and Jordan Lyons Bank.

There was much discussion re: the pros and cons of horizontal drilling, and with the DEC investigation ongoing, there are many questions unanswered at this point. Attorney Oudemool spoke of what may or may not happen re: the contaminated water, and if we can control the locations, but not necessarily how they mine. There is further possibility,

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with Elbridge being a mainly rural town, it may be targeted for drilling. An idea may be a consortium of several towns to back one another up. There was a decision to limit the time on prohibiting drilling from June through November, and then revisit once DEC has finalized their analysis of horizontal drilling.

Supervisor: Does anyone wish to speak in favor of amendment? Tom McGuire of Towpath East in support of prohibiting horizontal hydrofracking.

Supervisor: Does anyone wish to speak against amendment? Doug Blumer of Whiting Road is not necessarily against this amendment, but felt the town could take a proactive roll in drilling and have some sort of permit process with a bond. Mr. Blumer also asked about his property assessment if drilling takes place.

Supervisor Bush closed Public Hearing #2 at 7:57 PM.

**REGULAR MEETING:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Bush called the regular meeting to order at 7:57 PM.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Ken Bush, Councilor George Betts, Councilor Rita Dygert, Councilor Vern Richardson, and Councilor Bill Kuhn.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Attorney Dirk Oudemool, Outreach Worker, Leo Cooper; Robert Herrmann, Codes Officer; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Celeste Karakas, Assessor; Dave and Todd Rinaldo, Dana Anthonson, Dan Conroy, Dan Leary, Doug Blumer, Tom McGuire, Cathy and John Meixner, and Clerk Deb Stapleton.

**ADOPT MINUTES:** On a motion by Councilor Betts, and seconded by Councilor Richardson the minutes of March 17, 2010 were approved. UC

**MOTION TO PAY BILLS:** On a motion by Councilor Betts, seconded by Councilor Richardson, Abstract #3, General Voucher #s 154-112, for an amount of \$60,303.35, and Highway Voucher #s 36H-60H, amount \$24,483.40, for a total disbursement of \$84,786.75 were ordered paid.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) Liquor license renewal for Jordan Mini Mart, LLC
- 2) Notification from OCWA re: hydrant use policies and procedures.
- 3) Town of Brutus adopted Local Law #1 of 2010 re: Alternate Energy- Small Wind Energy Systems.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Dan Leary of River Rock Drive questioned the field's hedgerow removal along Route 5 East (near Lynch Road). It will significantly change the look of the land and is destructive to wildlife habitat, along with drainage issues. There was discussion regarding farmers using hedgerows as property lines, and also farmers wanting to use as much land as possible, therefore removing hedgerows.

**REPORTS:**

Assessor: One of the busiest months with mergers and splits. Setting appointments now for informals, and grievances start in May.

Highway Superintendent: his report is on file if there are any questions.

Code Enforcement Officer: his report is on file and building permits have really picked up.

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Dog Control Officer: report on file.

Senior Program Director:

Outreach Worker: Leo reports it's been a busy month, and May is Senior Citizen Month.

Historian: report is on file.

Recreation Director: Joe's report is on file and they've had record numbers of kids signing up for softball. Planning summer rec. program.

Planning Board: Tessy has approached the Planning Board with a 99,000 sq.ft. addition that will max out their industrial park property.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

On a motion of Councilor Dygert, seconded by Councilor Betts, the following resolution was adopted as amended:

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Kuhn Dygert Richardson Bush  
0 NAYS

Resolution 65-10

**Resolved:** that the Elbridge Town Board votes to adopt the amendment to Chapter 30 by creating a new section 30.48 titled "Prohibited Uses" which shall read as follows: "The exploration of land for natural gas by horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing is prohibited".

Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Kuhn, made an amendment to this resolution that this will be effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

On a motion of Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Dygert, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Kuhn Dygert Richardson Bush  
0 NAYS

Resolution 66-10

**Resolved:** that the Elbridge Town Board authorize the office summer hours, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM on Friday will be effective May 3, 2010 through September 3, 2010.

On a motion of Councilor Kuhn, seconded by Councilor Richardson, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Kuhn Dygert Richardson Bush  
0 NAYS

Resolution 67-10

**Resolved:** that the Elbridge Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with the Village of Jordan to provide Bailiff service to the town court.

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On a motion of Councilor Betts, seconded by Councilor Dygert, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Kuhn Dygert Richardson Bush  
0 NAYS

Resolution 68-10

**Resolved:** the Elbridge Town Board calls for a Public Hearing on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010, for the proposed annexation of property used as detention basin drainage easement on the Hourigan Farms property on the south side of Dobbin Lane.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) Spring Trash Day
- 2) Traffic situation and study on Route 5.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilor Betts: Jordan Fire Department installation dinner is April 10, Saturday night, and Elbridge FD had their elections last night.

Councilor Kuhn: met with a window replacement rep for the municipal building- discussed the poor shape the existing windows are in. Also mentioned plantings for the front, and the possibility of stone, that would alleviate the weed problem and is more effective than mulch. There's an idea to put pavers down in the front semi-circle to finish it up. There was further discussion re: trash day and dumpster cost. Dennis will get prices and a final decision can be made.

Councilor Dygert: nothing to report

Councilor Richardson: tickets will probably spike in the justice office as highway construction is starting up. Last report on high speed Internet, as this area does not qualify for grant money. FIOS is around us, but will not be here any time soon.

Supervisor Bush: Monthly reports are on file.

**MONTHLY REPORTS ON FILE:** Supervisor, Town Clerk, Water Superintendent, Codes, Recreation, Assessing, Dog Control, and Highway Superintendent.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Dygert, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra H. Stapleton  
Elbridge Town Clerk