

TOWN OF MURRAY PUBLIC HEARINGS

June 21, 2021

Present: Supervisor Joseph Sidonio, Councilmen Randall Bower, Lloyd Christ, Paul Hendel and Michael Mele, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Attorney John Sansone, Highway and Water Superintendent Dirk Lammes Assessor Louise Passarell, Scott Underwood, Barbara Johnston of LaBella Associates, Elaine Berg, Chad Fabry, Alana Fabry. David Piedmonte, Dave Knapp, Art Knab, Edward Kennedy, Amelia Sidonio, Amy Machamer, Kathy Lammes, Samuel Lammes, Kerri Neale

Moment of silent reflection.

Pledge to the American Flag.

Barbara Johnston of LaBella Associates spoke about the Comprehensive Plan and all that it entails. What the Town of Murray is today and what goals we'd like for the community in the future. It includes land use, tourism, a land use plan map, and identifies hamlet areas and business zones. The Board will consider all comments from the public, make changes if they desire and then they can adopt it by resolution.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to open the public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Ron Vendetti spoke of his concerns. There has not been anything changed since the last comprehensive plan regarding business. Since the business district on Ridge Road is reduced, there should be something that would allow businesses that were there prior to the change. For example, Christo's Diner will not be able to re-open as a diner since that property is no longer designated as business. Agriculture is not the only thing in our town and we should allow for growth. Because of the pandemic, meetings had to be handled differently making it difficult for the public to know what was happening. He didn't receive copies of the comprehensive plan and zoning changes until after the last meeting. He believes there needs to be more discussion before this is adopted.

Amy Machamer feels that an outline of suggestions is needed to ensure that the comprehensive plan is actually implemented and comes to life. She spoke about protecting the landscape and tools that could be used to accomplish this. She feels a demolition permit for all structures should be required, giving the town the opportunity to assess and document any lost culture. She suggested a section of special designations/areas of special significance that would include: the forest north of Ridge Road, the banks and waterway of Sandy Creek, 104 corridor and archaeological sites if there are any.

No further comments from those present.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower to close the public hearing on the comprehensive plan.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Public Hearing on the comprehensive plan was closed at 7:28 p.m.

Barbara Johnston spoke briefly about the zoning changes. A zoning map is included which divides the town into districts. Stream corridor overlay district, Erie Canal overlay district, flood zones, wetlands, have not really been changed.

Rural residential district has been taken off the zoning map. Hamlet areas were made squarer and the boundaries of zoning districts have been adjusted so they followed boundary lines.

Each district lists the uses that are allowed within that district. If it is not listed, it is not allowed.

Procedures have been updated to make sure they complied with state law. The sign law was changed to a more visual sign law. Certain businesses are allowed in your home that do not require any permits. Special events and farm stands have been updated. The property maintenance section has been changed. The Building Code addresses code enforcement and zoning and their recommendation is that they be kept separate.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to open the public hearing on the zoning updates.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Ron Vendetti feels we are missing opportunities for businesses to come into our town. You are boxing yourself in and not allowing for any development. For example, the lumber business that wanted to open on the corner of Ridge Road and Peter Smith Road was lost and they opened their business in Kendall because of the zoning along Ridge Road. Allowing commercial along with residential allows growth. In regards to Zoning and Code Enforcement being kept separate; Both Zoning and Code Enforcement are done by one person. The Property Maintenance law of the state is almost ineffective for prosecution. He believes that both the comprehensive plan and zoning amendments need more work.

Chad Fabry stated that the comprehensive plan does not box the town into anything. It is a general direction that the committee thinks the town should be going in. There are ways for people to get around both zoning and the comprehensive plan. It is perfectly okay to deviate from the comprehensive plan. It is not a law; it is a guideline. Ron Vendetti stated it is a mistake to update your comprehensive plan and not change areas where you've had business interest. Why make it harder for someone to put a business here and make them go through extra steps?

The town has our own property maintenance law which is a separate local law and it stands on its own. It is not in the zoning ordinance.

No further comments from those present.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower to close the public hearing on the zoning ordinance updates.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Public Hearing on the zoning ordinance updates was closed at 7:35 p.m.

MEETING OF THE MURRAY TOWN BOARD

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Mele to open the regular Town Board meeting at 7:36 p.m.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower approving the minutes of the April 30th emergency meeting as submitted.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Hendel approving the minutes of the May 13th work meeting as submitted.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Christ approving the minutes of the May 17th town board meeting as submitted.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Town Clerk

May receipts totaled \$691.00 with \$220.32 going into the general fund.

Cindy received notice from Paul Spitzer of the Dept. of Transportation informing us that they have received Form TE-9 and they will investigate traffic conditions on Gulf Road between County Road 272 and Bennetts Corners Road, relative to the establishment of a lower speed limit. When the study is completed, they will notify us of their determination.

Hickory Ridge Golf Resort has notified us that they are applying for the renewal of their liquor licenses for the Pro Shop, Club House additional license, golf cart and for their catering license which allows them to sell alcohol, wine and beer at the party house.

Assessor

Grievance Day was May 25th. No one came in on this day but we had a few informals.

While they were conducting the audit, the auditors asked for 2020 payroll folder and 2020 worksheets for Highway and Water Dept. They said they left them in front of Town Clerk's door in the secured Deputy Clerk area but those specific folders are now missing.

Louise considered waiting another year for the revaluation to see if the market settles down but Dawn Allen, Director of Real Property said if the market does not settle down, we will be raising assessments even more.

Highway and Water

Projects worked on included ditching work on Hindsburg Road, fixing damaged curb stops, mowing road shoulders and shop work.

The Village of Holley spoke to Dirk about sharing the cost for a meter pit on North Main Street Road which would allow access to water for both the Village and Murray. Last year Ed Morgan had to manually turn the water on during a house fire. This would avoid having to manually do this. The Town Board is open to the request but more information is needed.

Dirk asked for a resolution allowing the highway department to install a culvert pipe at 17152 Route 31. Discussion regarding this issue. This is a state road and if the Town installs the culvert, it will be our responsibility and we will have to maintain it. Councilman Mele said this will set a precedent and we cannot replace and maintain everyone's culvert upon request. The Board will discuss this matter further.

During the next couple of years, Sandy Creek Cemetery Association will be transitioning towards dissolving. Beth Schmidt, President of the Association would like a smooth transition which will allow the Town to be educated in all aspects before we fully take over. Attorney Sansone has prepared a draft resolution but needs more details and should get the information he needs when he speaks to Beth tomorrow. He said that, only when we have an agreement in place can the Town begin maintaining it.

Code Enforcement

Written report submitted by Kevin Moore. May activity included:

- 5 building permits issued
- 3 special use permits
- 4 site plan reviews
- 3 variance applications
- 4 County Planning Board referrals
- 5 inspections completed
- 2 Zoning Board of Appeals hearings
- 2 complaints received

Kevin would like to add/make changes to the building department's fee schedule and would like to speak to the board regarding our telecommunications law at the next work meeting.

New Business

Based on the feedback from those present and the Town Board, the comprehensive plan and zoning updates should not be adopted at this time. Elaine Berg thinks the committee should reconvene again and go through some of the issues that were discussed tonight.

Regarding a temporary moratorium on Wind Solar Biomass Renewable Energies, it is Councilman Hendel's opinion that there are a small handful of people in Orleans County who are very knowledgeable on this subject. He suggested Ron Vendetti work with the Planning Board to put together one of the best moratoriums in the county. Ron is willing to do this.

Brief discussion regarding the American Rescue Plan. The Town will share a percentage of the funding received with the Village of Holley.

An ad will be published for vacancies on the planning board.

Other Business

At the May Town Board meeting, Tracy Reis was present to discuss the problem of no reasonable or safe daycare options in our area. Councilman Hendel reached out to our school Superintendent and the Board of Education is meeting to consider an agreement with TLFC Child Care and Learning Center in Brockport. The school had this program for before and after school last year but it was not used very much.

Public Comments

Kerri Neale asked if the comprehensive plan addressed canal usage and tourism and spoke of only one side of canal being well maintained and also mentioned a boat launch, possibly in Hulberton.

Art Knab searched for the new billing program to pay the water bill on line. That cannot be done until the Town makes the changeover to a new water billing program.

Amy Machamer would like the opportunity to meet with whomever will be discussing the wind solar moratorium. She has quite a bit of information to bring to the discussion.

She thinks it is important for the Town to learn and understand all that is involved with taking on the responsibility of the cemetery. She is happy the Town will be doing this and that it is being done the right way.

Ron Vendetti thanked Highway Superintendent Dirk Lammes for the dead-end signs on Hindsburg Road.

Ron appreciates the fact that he was asked to help with the moratorium and thinks we need take advantage of the resources we have around us.

Ron also spoke of the maintenance in the Town. If laws are going to be passed, they should be enforced.

Public comments closed.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Mele approving the Supervisor's financial report and that the following bills be paid:

General Fund	\$23,720.73
Highway Fund	\$12,722.12
Water District No. 1	\$793.65
Water District No. 2	\$20.45
Water District No. 6	\$106.24
Water District No. 10	\$2.59
Water District No. 11	\$40.48
SW 8310.4	\$95.73
SW 8320.400	\$1,676.79
SW N 8320.400	\$56.00
SW N 8320.401	\$13,217.42
SW S 8320.401	\$7,288.17
Street Light Districts	\$602.46

After being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Ayes	3	Bower, Christ, Mele
Nays	0	
Abstain	2	Hendel, Sidonio

Resolution was thereupon carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Christ that the Town Board enter into executive session at 8:57 p.m. with Attorney Sansone regarding a personnel issue.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele that the Town Board return to regular session at 10:18 p.m. with no action taken.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver