

A joint meeting of the Town of Newstead and Village of Akron Boards was held on January 25, 2010 at the Town Hall.

Present: Village Board Members

Mayor Carl Patterson
Trustee Peter Forrestel
Trustee Kathy Capan
Trustee Brian Wittlinger
Trustee Michael Middaugh

Village Attorney Don Shonn
Village Clerk Dan Borchert
DPW Supt. Bob Kowalik
Police Chief Rick Lauricella

Town Board Members

Supervisor David Cummings
Councilman Justin Rooney
Councilman Cheryl Esposito
Councilman Jim Mayrose
Councilman Dick Baran

Town Attorney Nathan Neill
Town Clerk Dawn Izydorczak
Highway Supt. Mike Bassanello

The Boards convened at approximately 9:00pm at the Town Hall with Supervisor Cummings calling the meeting to order.

Joint Facility project:

Councilman George recapped the recent committee meetings and went through the attached JMWF Progress Report. Jim Finella of Christa Construction gave the attached overview of the projected costs. The Town and Village Attorneys are working on the SEQR and Bonding paperwork. There is a meeting tomorrow (1/26) with the design team and a meeting on Friday (1/29) with the work forces.

Town Hall Addition Project:

Supervisor Cummings presented both boards with the current plans for the town hall addition and explained the proposed schedule for final design, bidding and breaking ground on the project.

Consolidation Items:

Courts- Councilwoman Esposito and Trustee Wittlinger reported the committee is still meeting to hammer out the details of joining the court services. The committee met with Judge Markey from the Town of Aurora who went thru this same process in joining the Village of East Aurora and Town of Aurora courts. He will continue to consult on the project as it moves forward and provided very valuable insight into the process. Councilwoman Esposito stated the consolidation could take place in less than the three years of Judge Freeman's term if he chose to step down from the Village position earlier than his term ends. Discussion still needs to be held on cost sharing and time frames need to be discussed with the judges. It was questioned what the Villages intent was, simply sharing court space or actual consolidation of the court services. The Mayor stated it is the Villages intent to dissolve the village court and all its positions and consolidate it with the Town Court.

Police Services- The town signed the agreement and sent it to the village for approval but the village never signed it and sent it back. The agreement was located and reviewed.

Trustee Forrestel made a motion to approve the agreement with the Town for police Services as presented, seconded by Trustee Wittlinger. The motion was carried unanimously and both the Supervisor and Mayor signed the contract immediately.

Code Enforcement- the original language of the proposed contract was originally okayed by both boards. Apparently the only remaining question was compensation value from the village to the town for services. The village will discuss and pass at their next meeting and forward to the town in time for their next meeting.

Akron Airport Proposed Drainage Plan:

The Supervisor apologized for not immediately sharing the drainage plan with the Village. It was an oversight on his part. He stated the airport is asking for comments on the plan, but at this point the board feels there is no need to comment as there is currently no official project proposed, so no need to react. Their opinion is this is merely a proposal drainage study and they will address specific concerns as the airport brings specific projects before them for approval. They will include at that time any concerns the village has as well.

Joint Comprehensive Master Plan:

2003 was the last adopted plan and the boards feel the plan needs to be re-looked at and updated. The Supervisor recommends that the town and village together look into grant funding to cover the costs of the new update. Clarence recently did a study on the needs and wants of its community that may be useful in this update. He will forward the study to both board members.

Sewer Capacity:

There is sufficient capacity for all currently planned village projects. The boards can begin looking at future expansion into areas of the town bordering the village as well as out to Rt.5 & Rt. 93 for commercial use. This issue should be looked at and addressed in the Master Plan update as well.

Rt. 93 & Main Project Update:

Benderson Developments project will definitely include the Rite Aid they are currently under construction on. The original plan called for four free standing buildings. As far as the town knows there are no contracted clients for the other three buildings yet. All paving and lighting for the entire complex will be completed and the concrete pads readied for the other three buildings as they put up the Rite Aid building.

Jackson St. Development Update:

The original plan on this subdivision was for 23 lots. The new plan under the new owners calls for 29 lots. Once the preliminary plat is completed it will be shared with the town to get comments, especially on the drainage issues. The owner and developer are looking to begin construction in 2010. The new owner is Kelkenberg Construction working with GPI Engineering.

Murder Creek Mitigation:

Carl updated both boards. 3 grants are out for review thru FEMA, SEMO and the NYSDEC. We should know the status of those grants by April. Whether we get grant funding or not the boards at least need to address plantings this spring which will help stabilize the bank for the short term.

**The Mayor reported there is a February 15th Public hearing on the Cornerstone Project if anyone is interested in attending.

Police Garage:

No grant funds are available at this time and the State Troopers are not able to donate any money towards the project. The Supervisor and Mayor will be sending out letters to all of our representatives in the County and Albany to find any funding that might be available for a joint venture such as this. Trustee Wittlinger suggested looking at homeland security funding sources also since this project has to do with two police agencies.

Mayor Patterson addressed those present stating that both boards have worked very aggressively over the past few years to consolidate and share services in the interest of saving tax payers dollars. He would like to form a committee from both boards that would meet with the two fire companies to look at ways for them to share costs/expenses in all aspects, while attempting to provide more efficient services. The goal is not to consolidate or merge the two companies, but rather to help them to work together towards better efficiency, thereby saving tax payer dollars.

The Supervisor thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman Baran.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn D. Izydorczak, Town Clerk