

Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held on Thursday, May 6, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Supervisor Robert Tebbutt and Council Members: David Knapp, Steve Tucker, and Lydia Wright

ABSENT: Council Member John Quenell

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater - Town Clerk

RESIDENTS: There were 5 residents present and a representative of the media.

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Robert Tebbutt at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to answer any questions the public has on the Town Garage Project before the Special Election on May 11, 2004. David Knapp and Lydia Wright asked for the meeting to be called.

Notice of the Meeting was posted in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on Tuesday, May 4, 2004, and posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board on April 30, 2004, as well as at the three Post Offices and businesses in the Town.

The Floor was opened to the public for questions.

David Knapp said people were not assured that the \$600,000 was the maximum amount to be spent on the Garage Project.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said that was what the vote was all about. The vote would determine the amount to be spent. If the bids were over \$600,000 the board would have to pass another resolution subject to permissive referendum for the increase.

Lydia Wright said she understood if the bids come in at \$600,000 then they would have to be rejected since cost overruns would make it more than the bond amount.

David Knapp said if the bid comes in at \$620,000 the board would have to go put out the resolution first before the bid could be accepted.

Mike Quenell – Hoffman Road: The cost of the other parts of the project are known and that can be subtracted from the total cost to determine the cost of the building.

Lydia Wright said that the other costs of the project are not listed on the bond.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said the bond issue at \$600,000 sets the constraints on the project. There is a request out for a grant on the salt shed that is not known yet; the APA permit still has to be brought up to speed in a very short time.

Nik Santagate – McColloms: Asked if there was contingency fund money to cover cost overruns that the board could spend without a permissive referendum vote.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said he wasn't sure if the contingency funds were available or not. The Board would still have to change the resolution to increase the amount of funds spent. The board should go back to the people to ask for an increase.

Rouse Fountain – State Route 86: The board has committed \$600,000 to the project. If the cost of the project goes over this than other parts of the project could be put off until a later date.

Mike Quenell: The salt shed, the fuel storage, and the purchase of the land are all included in the bond.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said all these things can be worked out after the bond is approved.

Frances Hogan asked for a clarification on the cost of the bond. If the building alone is \$600,000 than the bid can't be accepted if there are other items that the money needs to be spent on.

Tracie Santagate – McColloms: Asked if the garage plan would be scaled down to fit the cost if the bids come in too high.

David Knapp said he would like to see bid alternates proposed so there are different costs to look at the first time around.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said the first bids do not have to be accepted and the project can be re-bid.

David Knapp said it would be less expensive to have the bid alternates already available in the first bid.

Rouse Fountain said the 4-bay garage with cold storage is what the Highway Garage Committee proposed as the plan that has been presented to the public. If the board is going to propose something else than the public needs to know. He said Art Robertson told him he resigned from the Highway Garage Committee because Art was not kept up-to-date on what the committee was doing.

David Knapp said he was surprised that Art Robertson felt that way but the committee never met again after the meeting that Art Robertson attended. Any other discussion was held at board meetings. He contacted Rouse Fountain to let him know what had transpired at those meetings.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said Art Robertson should be asked to stay on the committee since they will have a lot of work to do if the bond issue is passed. David Knapp will speak to him about this issue.

Steve Tucker left the meeting for a Fire Call at 7:25 p.m.

Tracie Santagate said there is nothing to assure the public that the Board has accepted the proposed plan. The issues from last year, components such as the cold bay and the records storage, are still issues.

Rouse Fountain said the cold bay could be removed to reduce the cost of the project.

Mike Quenell said that if the bond passes there should be more bids if the contractors know the money is available.

Tracie Santagate said a warm bay could be eliminated to save more costs than eliminating a cold bay.

There were no more comments from the public.

PROPOSED ADIRONDACK COUNTY:

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt talked about the information meeting he attended at noon on the proposed “Adirondack County” called by Shirley Seney from the Town of North Elba. Ten towns in the area were invited. If anyone is interested in pursuing this topic send an email to the committee to get more information. The Town Board has not voted on this issue yet and it will be discussed at the next Town Board meeting. It will take a long time to implement if supported. If not supported, it will be a “wake-up” call to the current counties especially for how money is being spent by the counties. Towns could also share services to help with increasing costs.

Motion made by David Knapp **to Adjourn the Special Board Meeting at 7:35 p.m.**, second by Lydia Wright

Roll Call Vote: Aye 3 (Tebbutt, Knapp, Wright) Abstain 0, Nay 0, Absent 2 (Tucker, Quenell)

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater
Brighton Town Clerk