

February 13, 2017

Schultzville, NY

A public hearing on proposed LL 1 of 2018, Timber Law was held on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Oberly, Councilmen Dean Michael, Eliot Werner, Michael Whitton, Nancy Cunningham and Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin. There were eight people in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 6:15 PM, Supervisor Oberly called the public hearing to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town Clerk read the legal notice that appeared in the Poughkeepsie Journal on January 25, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Oberly said this is a public hearing concerning the adoption of proposed LL 1, referred to as the Tree law. He opened the floor for comments.

Norene Coller- Aware of other Towns' laws due to excessive timber harvesting on a steep slope; one town had water fill in a former forest. Regarding safety for creeks, the law is a good idea. We have amazing wildlife in town due to very little development and the development that was done had an eye on preserving wildlife.

Russ Tompkins – this is unnecessary, the \$1 million insurance level is excessive. Tree harvesting does not usually take the stumps, which is when the problems occur. This draft is better than the first draft but he is opposed to the law.

Jim Brands – talked about creating a utopia where someone's idea is pushed on the rest of us. He asked the board if anyone residents spoke to them about tree harvesting being a problem; they said no. Feels this is just the beginning of more control over the towns people. Feels the laws we looked for comparison were not local towns who compare to Clinton. Asks Board to vote no.

Idan Simms – Urges a no vote, the board is taking up more legislation that interferes with personal property rights. Feels there is no clear cutting problem in the town.

Jody Rathjen – agrees with Jim Brands. Lived here for 30 years and has seen laws passed that are pet projects of individual town board members. Feels this law

can't be enforced; feels that people should not have to ask permission to cut trees when there does not seem to be a problem.

Arthur Weiland – the Law does not seem overly onerous to him.

At 6:30 PM, there being no further comments, the Supervisor called the public hearing portion to a close.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 PM, MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael to adjourn the meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk