

JULY 11, 2023

Schultzville, NY

A public hearing on proposed local law No. 4 of 2023 was held on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Mike Whitton, Deputy Supervisor Eliot Werner, Councilmen Dean Michael, Katherine Mustello, and Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin. Chris Juliano was absent. There were approximately 21 people in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town Clerk read aloud the Public Hearing Notice.

PUBLIC HEARING

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Michael to open the meeting to the public. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

Jeff Newman – described the need for the law and how we support new generations of farms to give broader protections than the Ag and markets Law. Creating new paths of revenue to help support farms.

Katherine Mustello for Ron Mustello – page 14 sect 2. Temporary permits should not be necessary and set back requirement is too much and not necessary.

Dean Michael – thought he addressed set back requirements in the zoning law which we have yet to pass.

Katherine Mustello commented on changes that were made and what defines what a sound agricultural practice is. Page 7 - what should the acreage be it says 10 but wants to review the number.

Dean Michael regarding setbacks addressed the issue in the zoning law. 100 ft from neighboring resident not from the lot line. Katherine added that setbacks make ag properties lose a lot of land use.

John Calogero - comments that the Town Board has a right to place reasonable restrictions on a new farm.

Jeff Newman – in the draft written there is a place for these farms and activities.

Andrew Lessing legal rep for Adrience farms. Concerns, feels the changes are profound. Specific concerns: feels conflicts with ag and markets law and state law. Feels the draft law it a large change. Wants to work with the Board to address some of these issues Asks to extend the public hearing to work with the Board. Wants to review county planning and ag and markets comments.

Stacy Higgins - Adrience Farm gave family background. Has filed for her ag event permit. Feels she has short notice on this 17 page revision. Need more time to review the document. Dean Michael asked that we should reach out to all of the farms, which the Board discussed.

Mike Whitton - it is not our job, it's your job to make sure to know what the town is doing. It is costly to do and a mailing and then taxes would go up.

Pat Phelan – suggests setting up an advisory committee of ag businesses to be more inclusive.

Mike Whitton - said we have many avenues available to find these documents. Appreciates comments and always looking for better ways to reach out the community.

Dean Michael - We can have a workshop to address individual issues. This law addresses something new in town.

Jeff Newman - this draft was borne out of the zoning revision workshops; this item was singled out for a separate law.

Eliot – reaching out to individuals who we may think will be affected by a draft law is a slippery slope, if you miss some, they may be concerned that they were not contacted; we may be accused of showing favoritism.

At 6:43 PM, there being no further comments, MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to keep open the public hearing until August 8, 2023, at 6:15 pm at the Clinton Town Hall. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

At 6:45 PM, MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to adjourn the meeting. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk