

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN PUBLIC HEARING FEBRUARY 13, 2004

Call to order:

Supervisor Downing called the public hearing to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call, Councilman Bristol, Councilwoman Halsey, Councilman Parkhurst, Councilwoman Schmidt, and Supervisor Downing present. Also present were Town Attorney, Thomas Reynolds; Engineer, Bob Guminiak of Burley- Guminiak and Associates; Tom Bullard, Town of Scriba Water Commissioner; and 29 residents of the Town.

Purpose of Public Hearing:

To hear comments in favor of and opposed to forming the proposed Nine Mile Point Water District and the proposed Lazzaro Lane / County Route 51A Water District #2. The public hearing was legally advertised in the Oswego County Weeklies and posted on the public bulletin board outside the Town Clerk's office.

Comments:

Bob Guminiak explained the proposed project and the costs associated with it.

A woman asked if there was anything that could drive the cost of the project up. Bob Guminiak explained that if the cost were even one dollar over the proposed cost, the whole process would start all over again. There would be a new public hearing and a new vote on the project.

A gentleman asked if there is an additional cost to run water lines from the pipe to the home. Bob Guminiak explained that as part of the project line would be run to a meter on each property. The property owner will be responsible to run the line from the meter to the home.

A gentleman asked how road frontage would affect the cost to the homeowner. Bob Guminiak explained that road frontage has no bearing on cost. Each property owner will be charged one unit for each home and one half unit for each vacant property regardless of lot size or road frontage.

A gentleman asked if the cost should drop due to the number of units being added to Scriba's project. Bob Guminiak said that the more units in a district the lower the cost.

A gentleman stated that he understood that in Scriba the project included 100 feet of copper to each home. He asked if this would be the same in New Haven. Bob Guminiak said that if the project came in under cost the cost of the payments could be lowered or the extra copper could be included. A show of hands from the Lazzaro Lane / County Route 51A water district indicated they preferred the copper. If the copper is installed it will not come within ten feet of any house for liability reasons.

A gentleman asked what size copper would be used. Bob Guminiak said the copper would be one inch. The homeowner can use a smaller size if he wishes.

Charles Parkhurst questioned why residents of Nine Mile Point Road could not decide individually rather than to be in the water district or not since Scriba was running the line down the road anyway. Tom Bullard said the law required either everyone be in the water district or there is no water district.

A woman indicated that she owns property that is partially in New Haven and partially in Scriba. She questioned why she has to pay in both towns. Thomas Reynolds said the two towns could possibly work out an agreement where she would pay only one town. Tom Bullard assured her that the two towns could work something out.

A woman who lives on Lazzaro Lane urged the Town to form the water district as she currently cannot drink her water, her fire insurance would go down and her property values would go up.

Charles Parkhurst said the woman's situation was unique, that he had plenty of good water and did not see why he should have to pay for her water.

Adjournment:

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted

Debra J. Allen
New Haven Town Clerk