

MINUTES OF THE 457th MEETING
OTSEGO COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Meadows Office Building
Town of Middlefield, NY

September 13, 2010
6:00 P.M.

1. The regular meeting of the Otsego County Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Ron Streek at 6:00 pm in Classroom B of The Meadows Office Building near Cooperstown.
2. The roll was called and the following members were recorded as present: M. Babilonia, T. Clarke, P. Durkin, S. Fickbohm, D. Greene and R. Streek. Also present were T. Austin and T. Bliss – staff. J. House, F. Loomis and B. Schwerd were excused from the meeting.
3. No one was present to request the privilege of the floor.
4. Upon a motion by S. Fickbohm, seconded by P. Durkin and unanimously approved (6-0 vote), the minutes of July 12th meeting were accepted as presented.
5. There were no communications reported.
 - 6a. T. Austin presented referral #02-10-01 from the Gilbertsville Village Board of Trustees for a proposed zoning map amendment to modify the zoning map to include lands north and south of Vale St. into the Residential Hamlet (R-H) zone. The Board discussed potential ramifications of the zoning change with respect to allowed uses. M. Babilonia indicated that the change may represent a change to ‘zone out’ gas drilling activities. S. Fickbohm questioned some possible clerical errors in the referral documents, particularly with regards to the acreage of the area to be rezoned and a statement indicating that the area is *not* located over an aquifer as SWCD maps indicate that it is. Upon a motion by D. Greene, seconded by P. Durkin and approved (5-0 vote; Babilonia abstained), the board agreed the proposed project posed no significant county-wide or inter community impact and to remand it back for local decision.
7. There were no committee reports.
 - 8a. S. Fickbohm discussed the current water quality work being conducted by SWCD.
 - 8b. M. Babilonia discussed the status of the changes to the bylaws. The board discussed how that process would proceed.
9. T. Bliss updated the board on the following topics: natural gas drilling; the Public Works Committee’s work on road preservation and the impending contract with Delta Engineers; proceeding with MOSA; recent grant awards for telecommunications; the disapproval for funding for a housing project, and; recent local interest in wind power resources. T. Bliss continued by commenting on the lack of a county policy for various actions. The Board discussed what role they could play in assisting with policies and recalled previous attempts to do so.
10. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2010, a change to respect the Columbus Day holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Tavis Austin, AICP
Planner

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