

The Town of Fenton Town Board held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, April 12th, 2018, at 5:00 PM, at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

PRESENT: Town Board Members David Hamlin, Supervisor
Gary Holcomb, Deputy Supervisor
Michael Husar, Councilman
Thomas Moss, Councilman
Richard Pray, Councilman
Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Approximately 50 members of the General Public

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to review the first draft of the Local Laws establishing a new Zoning District that could be used to restrict and control development in certain sensitive areas of the Town. The area of most concern is the former DLA/Depot area consisting of about 128 acres. The intent was to define potential acceptable uses for this District type.

Mr. Hamlin opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and as is customary, opened the floor to comments by the Public.

Resident Mary Jo Bowie spoke as the Chairman of the Depot Committee that was formed to provide suggestions for acceptable uses for the District, again, focused on the sensitive area of the former DLA properties. She reported that the Depot Committee as well as other local Residents they questioned were not at all interested in having this area include any industry that would add to traffic that would have to go through a quiet Residential neighborhood in order to access the area including large trucks. They would prefer that grants be sought to have the large warehouse type buildings demolished and have the area become a Green Space. She indicated that this met the criteria of the latest published Town Master Plan. They proposed leaving the Zoning as it is: Residential B.

Several of those present repeated the concerns that the Depot Committee reported of the traffic and probable use of tractor trailers on Hoyt Avenue, a small Residential road.

One Resident raised the concern that he had heard that the Town was looking to rezone the entire Town with this new zone. Mr. Hamlin indicated that was not the case but that the Town was looking to control development in the area which had been industrial for many years, as the Federal Government used it for warehousing various materials. Because it was land locked by Residential housing, it was important to have strict controls on what would go in the area and establish special use permits.

The Attorney for the Chenango Valley School District expressed the school's position that no traffic should be allowed to enter Hoyt Avenue from the other end by the school entrance. New athletic fields and parking areas would put children in harm's way.

There was additional discussion concerning the ownership status of the property and what role the various governments (Town, County, and Federal) had, if any, in determining the use of the area.

There was discussion regarding elements the new Law should consider (traffic, noise, number of employees, use or storage of hazardous material, use of chemicals, etc.) that any applicant should provide for review.

Discussion continued for about two hours, mostly reemphasizing points that had previously been made.

At approximately 7:00 PM, Mr. Hamlin closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting and the meeting was adjourned with no additional review of the Local Laws.

Gary Holcomb, Deputy Supervisor