

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
January 10, 2012

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Olive held Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 7:30 pm at the Town Meeting Hall.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
 Donald VanBuren, Board Member
 Linda Burkhardt, Board Member
 Bruce La Monda, Board Member
 Peter Friedel, Board Member

Recording Secretary: Sylvia Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Others Present: Drew Boggess, Planning Board Chairman; Bill Cook, Sole Assessor; Chris Winne, Fire Chief; Jennifer Vasta, Highway Superintendent Clerk; Brenda VanLeuvan, Deputy Court Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk; Jim Fugel, Highway Superintendent; Ray Nichols, Police Chief; Barry Creagan; Police Sergeant; and Tim Cox, Town Justice

On a Leifeld/ Burkhardt motion the Town Board approved the December minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk.

The following correspondence was read and filed:

#1-12

NYS DOT responded to the Town's request for a speed limit study on Deerfield Road and granted said speed limit reduction to 30 miles per hour. The Town Highway Superintendent will purchase and post the necessary speed limit signs in accordance with the National Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

#2-12

On a La Monda/Burkhardt motion the Town Board accepted the following members to the Olive Fire Department: Barbara Munz and Barry Creagan.

#3 & #4-12

Town of Ulster Police Chief Matthew Taggard extends his gratitude to Sgt. Barry Creagan for his support and assistance during planning Officer Travis Nissen's final honors. Pastor Wes Smith, Chaplain of the Ulster Police Department, thanked the Town of Olive Police for their support during the calling hours and the funeral service as well as their response to the accident. On a La Monda/Leifeld motion the Town Board requested a copy of these letters be put into the personnel files of both Sgt. Barry Creagan and Police Officer Mike Ashford.

Supervisor Leifeld read Resolution #1 of 2012 Proposal to Allocate Portions of the New York City Land Acquisition Program Funds for Flood Mitigation Watershed Affairs. On a Leifeld/La Monda motion and unanimous roll vote the Town Board approved Resolution #1 of 2012 Proposal to Allocate Portions of the New York City Land Acquisition Program Funds for Flood Mitigation Watershed Affairs. Roll vote being: VanBuren, yes; Burkhardt, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

Supervisor Leifeld presented Resolution #2 of 2012 Audit of Town of Olive Town Justice Court Records. On a Leifeld/Burkhardt motion the Town Board unanimously approved Resolution #2

**TOWN OF OLIVE
RESOLUTION #1 of 2012**

**TITLE: PROPOSAL TO ALLOCATE PORTIONS OF THE NEW YORK CITY LAND ACQUISITION
PROGRAM FUNDS FOR FLOOD MITIGATION
WATERSHED AFFAIRS**

WHEREAS, New York City Watershed Communities have experienced devastating floods of record in 1996, 2006 and again in 2011 in addition to severe localized flooding in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, it is official State policy that climate change is a reality and is no longer subject to debate; and

WHEREAS, due to changing weather patterns, New York City Watershed Communities are experiencing significant, frequent and intense storms that result in severe flooding; and

WHEREAS, assuming the current pattern is due to climate change, Town of Olive anticipates that the significant, frequent and intense storms will worsen over time as climate change continues; and

WHEREAS, the flood events of 1996, 2006 and 2011 delivered record levels of pollutant loading including nutrients, sediment, microorganisms, raw sewage, organic and inorganic chemicals from agriculture, homes and businesses along with debris such as fuel tanks, lumber, homes, businesses, automobiles and livestock to the New York City Reservoirs West of the Hudson; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities and property owners in the watershed have suffered catastrophic damage to property from these flood events reducing individual, business and community financial viability and severely impacting the long-term sustainability of the Watershed Region; and

WHEREAS, the significant, frequent and intense storms and their associated flooding and pollutant loading (if they continue into the future) pose a far more significant threat to the City's Filtration Avoidance Determination than the threat posed by the regulated activities of the existing humans living within the West of Hudson Watershed; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief, the pollutant loading from flood events far exceeds any long-term pollutant load reduction derived from the land acquisition program as currently administered; and

WHEREAS, as currently administered, the land acquisition program provides, little, if any, flood mitigation benefits; and

WHEREAS, many of the communities within the NYC Watershed remain in a state of emergency. Many of the major streams and water courses are filled with debris, sediment and trees along large reaches. If those materials are not removed and the stream bed/banks are not restored, the debris will block culverts and block stream channels causing the streams to again jump their non-existent banks; and

WHEREAS, FEMA provides funds to local municipalities (reimbursement) to repair and clear municipal property; there are very little funds, if any, to clear stream beds and steam banks along private property, and

WHEREAS, FEMA provides funds to local municipalities to repair and clear municipal property, flood plain regulation required by FEMA preclude and/or restrict property owners whose property damage exceeds 51% of its value to rebuild within the flood plain; and

WHEREAS, local municipalities with severe damage from the flood are concerned that many of the property owners with severe damage will abandon their property due to an inability to rebuild; an inability to afford to rebuild; due to a fear of the next flood and/or due to an inability to obtain financing to rebuild; and

WHEREAS, the local communities would like to allow these property owners to rebuild within the community outside of the floodplain but those property owners need funding, critical infrastructure (water, sewer, electric, telephone, road) and land suitable for development in the vicinity of their existing home and hamlet all at a price that they can afford to finance; and

WHEREAS, in order to prevent NYC from having to expend billions of dollars for filtration, NYC should invest in projects to mitigate and avoid the catastrophic impact from future floods and intense storm events. Such measures include clearing the streams of debris and gravel bars and maintaining those stream corridors on an ongoing basis; to stabilize the stream banks where feasible and practical; and to construct structures (where possible and practical) to slow and mitigate the impact from intense storm events; work with watershed communities to ensure affordable housing for its residents outside of floodplains; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Olive, as a watershed partner and a municipal government responsible for the welfare of its residents, wants to pursue flood mitigation throughout the county and wants to partner with NYC on these projects along with other resources; and

WHEREAS, there is a sentiment growing among the residents of the watershed that the status quo is no longer sustainable; the flood/storm damage has been too great; the risk of another flood too real; the cost to local residents to build a new home unaffordable; and the funding (including the local cost share) to protect the value of the NYC water supply allocated to controls has little, or no, measurable benefit; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Town of Olive and the NYC Watershed do not understand why they are required to spend tens of thousands of dollars to address the sediment loading in storm water from a building lot in watersheds scarce in impervious surfaces and new development while little is done to prevent or reduce the potential harm to existing structures and land from significant, frequent and intense storms; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Town of Olive and the NYC Watershed do not understand why USEPA and NYSDOH require NYC to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to buy potentially developable land outside the floodplain in communities that have had either stagnant or decreasing populations for over 150 years while, at the same time, not requiring any funds to be spent to prevent the existing hamlets from being severely damaged and carried away downstream to the reservoirs.; and

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo has come to the Watershed communities (and other communities impacted by the flood) on several occasions in recent weeks (more than any other Governor in recent memory) and he has promised his and the State's support in the rebuilding of our communities—not only to restore -- but to make them better than before the recent flood and we thank him for his pledge of support; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Olive Town Board requests that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Health, the USEPA and New York City revisit the Water Supply Permit and recommend that funding from the Land Acquisition Program be allocated to support flood mitigation that will reduce the long-term risk from pollutant loading caused by major flood events; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the pilot Riparian Buffer Program be specifically tailored for flood mitigation efforts thereby enhancing its effectiveness in reducing pollutant loading caused by flood events, retaining local community character and local sustainability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Olive Town Board respectfully requests that USEPA, NYSDEC and NYSDOH acknowledge that no amount of land acquisition (not even the acquisition of 105,000 acres over the next 15 years) is going to have a measurable impact on water quality unless flood mitigation is given the highest funding priority and measures are implemented to protect the communities and land from future flood events and intense storms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Kevin McCabe; Senator Kirsten Gillibrand; Senator Charles Schumer; Congressman Maurice Hinchey; Congressman Chris Gibson; NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman; NYS DEC Commissioner Joe Martens; NYSDOH Commissioner Nirav R. Shah; NYC Mayor Bloomberg; NYC DEP Commissioner Carter Strickland; NY State Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos; NYS Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, EPA Region 2 Director Judith A. Enck;, NYS Senator John Bonacic; New York State

Assemblyman Clifford Crouch; New York State Assemblyman Peter Lopez; Wayne Speenburgh Chair, Greene County Legislature; Harold Vroman Chair, Schoharie County Board of Supervisors; Jonathan Rouis, Chair, Sullivan County Legislature; Frederick J. Wadnola, Chair, Ulster County Legislature; Dennis Lucas of CWT; CWC Board of Directors; Thomas Snow DEC NYC Watershed Coordinator; Pamela Young Acting Chief, NYC Watershed Section NYS DOH; Alan Rosa Executive Director of CWC; The Catskill Center for Conservation and Development; Natural Resource Defense Council; River Keeper; Open Space Institute; William Harding, Executive Director, Watershed Protection and Partnership Council; Eugene Kelly, Region 4 Director, NYSDEC; and William Janeway, Region 3 Director, NYSDEC.

	Aye	Nay
Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor	_____	_____
Donald VanBuren, Board Member	_____	_____
Linda Burkhardt, Board Member	_____	_____
Bruce La Monda, Board Member	_____	_____
Peter Friedel, Board Member	_____	_____

Dated this 10th day of January, 2012

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Resolution #2 of 2012
Town of Olive
Audit of Town of Olive Town Justice Court Records

WHEREAS, the NY State Unified Court System's ACTION PLAN FOR THE JUSTICE COURTS included initiatives to improve accountability and controls over Justice Court finances and records; and,

WHEREAS, Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act requires that justices annually provide their court records and dockets to their respective town board and that such records then be examined or audited and that fact be entered into the minutes of the board's proceedings; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Olive Town Board did audit and examine said records and dockets provided by Town Justice Cox and Town Justice Wright for the fiscal year 1/1/2011 to 12/29/11 at the annual audit held on December 29, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Olive Town Board did by board motion approve said records and dockets of both justices as submitted on December 29, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the Unified Court System requires said Town Board approval be done by resolution;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Olive does hereby accept the books of Town Justice Cox and Town Justice Wright as previously audited and approved on December 29, 2011.

	Aye	Nay
Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor	_____	_____
Don Van Buren, Board Member	_____	_____
Linda Burkhardt, Board Member	_____	_____
Bruce La Monda, Board Member	_____	_____
Peter Friedel, Board Member	_____	_____

Signed and certified this 10th day of January, 2012

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk
Town of Olive

of 2012. Roll vote being: VanBuren, yes; Burkhardt, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

Supervisor Leifeld presented Resolution #3 of 2012 Participation in Enhanced Land Trust Program (ELTP) under Special Condition 33 of the Watershed Permit (WSP). Board Member Friedel asked why the town has to do this as he wants to make sure it's not a thing for NY City to use land trusts to acquire land. Supervisor Leifeld stated the intent is to let the City buy large parcels when a property owner wants to sell the entire piece including the house. He stated the City is not allowed to purchase structures, only vacant land. Board Member La Monda stated that most land the City buys is through a land trust. He stated the City cannot buy anything with a habitable building on it and all this is saying is that if the City is buying property through the land trust the property owner can subdivide off the house and sell the land to the City. In response to a question, it was noted the resolution originated through the Coalition of Watershed Towns (CWT). He stated that if the Town Board doesn't pass this then this can't be done in the Town of Olive.

Tim Cox stated in 2007 the EPA told the City they have to start using land trusts in their land acquisition programs and NYS told them the same thing in 2010. He stated this is for big parcels noting that if the City solicits the property, it would allow a land trust to purchase the entire property from that person and subdivide off the dwelling with the vacant land going to the City. The land trust cannot have any deed restrictions or covenants to the property. Also, there can be no deed restrictions placed on the parcel with the house on it. He stated the process would have to go before the planning board. He reiterated the City can solicit property; however, they cannot buy anything with a house. Board Member Burkhardt stated this would be a way for a person to subdivide their property and not have to pay for it. Board Member Friedel asked if this really does benefit the property owner or does it encourage the City to purchase more land. Board Member La Monda stated the board has always taken the stand of "willing seller, willing buyer". He stated if a land trust purchases the entire property then the vacant portion must be sold to the City. Tim Cox submitted correspondence #5-12 Enhanced Land Trust Program—Property Summary by County and Town which shows only 1 property in Olive qualifying under this program. He stated it is up to the town; but, this won't happen unless the town agrees to participate in the program.

Board Member Friedel stated he would like to table the resolution. Board Member La Monda stated he would like to second the original motion introducing the resolution. Supervisor Leifeld asked Tim Cox if there is a time limit on this issue to which Cox stated there is a deadline. Board Member La Monda stated he is very comfortable with this as he has been dealing with this for months and months at the Coalition of Watershed Towns meetings. He stated it is beneficial to the property owner. Supervisor Leifeld stated there isn't a lot of land in Olive which would come under this. On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board approved Resolution #3 of 2012. Roll vote being: Van Buren, yes, but would like to have more information on this; Burkhardt, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, abstained; and Leifeld, yes.

Supervisor Leifeld submitted Resolution #4 of 2012 Adopt "Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act". He stated the town may only have one parcel which qualifies for this. On a Leifeld/La Monda motion and unanimous roll vote the Town Board approved Resolution #4 of 2012. Roll vote being: VanBuren, yes; Burkhardt, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

Town of Olive
Resolution #3 of 2012
Participation in Enhanced Land Trust Program (ELTP)
under Special Condition 33 of the Watershed Permit (WSP)

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2010, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued a Water Supply Permit to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which authorizes DEP (and/or its agents) to purchase land in fee and to purchase conservation easements within the New York City Watershed West-of-Hudson River subject to certain restrictions. The permit has a duration of 10 years (with a one-time five year renewal for a total duration of 15 years). A copy of the Water Supply Permit (WSP) (Permit No. 0-999-00051/00001) is available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/70361.html> ; and

WHEREAS, Special Condition 33 of the WSP provides for the establishment of an Enhanced Land Trust Program (ELTP) whereby certain identified land trust organizations may work with DEP to acquire a limited number of large parcels containing habitable residential structures by facilitating the subdivision of a parcel containing the residence and selling the balance to DEP; and

WHEREAS, a process memorandum has been finalized outlining the procedures and requirements of the ELTP and this memorandum has been agreed to by the Coalition of Watershed Towns, DEP, CWC and the various environmental and land trust organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Olive has the opportunity to participate in the ELTP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, reviewing the ELTP Process Memorandum dated October 12, 2011 and determining that the participation in the ELTP is in the best interest of the Town, that the Town of Olive shall participate in the ELTP; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Olive may reconsider its participation in the ELTP in June 2016 and June 2021 per the conditions of the 2010 Water Supply Permit.

	Aye	Nay
Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor	_____	_____
Donald VanBuren, Board Member	_____	_____
Linda Burkhardt, Board Member	_____	_____
Bruce La Monda, Board Member	_____	_____
Peter Friedel, Board Member	_____	_____

Dated this 10th day of January, 2012

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Town of Olive
Resolution #4 of 2012

Adopt "Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act"

WHEREAS, the State of New York has adopted the "Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act", providing the opportunity for assessment relief for properties that have been catastrophically impacted by Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee, such that property loss at least 50% of its value due to such storms; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Olive is an eligible municipality under the act; and

WHEREAS, an eligible municipality may provide assessment relief according to the terms of the act by adopting the provisions of the act by resolution of the Town Board;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Olive adopts the "Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act.

	Aye	Nay
Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor	_____	_____
Donald VanBuren, Board Member	_____	_____
Linda Burkhardt, Board Member	_____	_____
Bruce La Monda, Board Member	_____	_____
Peter Friedel, Board Member	_____	_____

Dated this 10th day of January, 2012

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Town of Olive
Resolution #5 of 2012
Request State Funds be Re-allocated to Belleayre to Ensure viability of Businesses
along the Route 28 Corridor and the Economy of the Central Catskills

WHEREAS, Belleayre Mountain is the economic engine of the entire Route 28 corridor and has more than proven its worth not only during the winter season but during the recent devastating floods, it is essential New York State and specifically the NYSDEC, provide the necessary funding support the facility during the current operating season, AND

WHEREAS, In the past two years the DEC has made significant cuts to staff and at the same time reduced the operating budget 10% in 2010-11 and 14% for 2011-12. As a result of lack of funding for snow-making, rental equipment, and advertising as well as the elimination of promotional lift tickets the number of skier visits is down nearly 70% from previous years. Last season the Friday before Christmas over 1800 skiers were at Belleayre, while this year only 260 visitors came to the mountain. Statistics show that for every \$1 spent at Belleayre, \$8 is spent in the local economy AND

WHEREAS, after this year's floods, this area was severely hurt economically. Winter season is usually the time of the year for local businesses, lodging and restaurants, to prosper, however this year, when the income is most needed the lack of skier visits has greatly hurt any chance of economic recovery in the area AND

WHEREAS, while other area ski resorts have been experiencing an excellent season, mainly due to promotional efforts, increased snow-making capacity and aggressive marketing, Belleayre needs similar financial security in order to ensure the future viability of businesses along the Route 28 corridor and the economy of the Central Catskills.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Olive Town Board, along with other legislative bodies, formally requests that Belleayre be re-allocated the finances and promotional abilities that have helped the facility and the region, previously.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any further discussions on the future of Belleayre involve local elected officials from stakeholder communities along the Route 28 corridor and Ulster and Delaware Counties well prior to final decisions being made at the state level.

	Aye	Nay
Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor	_____	_____
Donald VanBuren, Board Member	_____	_____
Linda Burkhardt, Board Member	_____	_____
Bruce La Monda, Board Member	_____	_____
Peter Friedel, Board Member	_____	_____

Dated this 10th day of January, 2012

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Supervisor Leifeld submitted Resolution #5 of 2012 Request State Funds be Re-allocated to Belleayre to Ensure viability of Business along the Route 28 Corridor and the Economy of the Central Catskills. Supervisor Leifeld stated this resolution originated in the Town of Shandaken and they have asked that the Town of Olive support it. On a Leifeld/Burkhardt motion and unanimous roll vote the Town Board approved Resolution #5 of 2012. Roll vote being: VanBuren, yes; Burkhardt, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

On a La Monda/Burkhardt motion the Town Board approved a correction on the Organizational Meeting agenda of the Town Clerk's salary to read \$55,711. Said correction would also include the approval in the minutes.

The following committee reports were submitted:

PARKS & RECREATION liaison Board Member Burkhardt stated there was no December meeting but they will meet Wednesday, January 11th at the American Legion Hall. She stated they will be addressing summer recreation.

POLICE Commissioner La Monda submitted December 2011 report #6-12 stating there were 128 monthly calls answered by the Department. He stated that Olive Police Officers are usually the first on the scene for first aid calls.

FIRE DEPARTMENT Chief Chris Winne issued 2011 Chief's Report #7-12 noting this was the busiest year in history for the department with handling 405 alarms and in 2011 the volunteers put in the most hours that they have ever been called upon to do in one year. Chief Winne also submitted 2011 Man Hours report #8-12 with 1,883 hours of training, 1,803.98 hours of drills, 3,012.87 hours of meetings totaling 6,710.85 hours. In addition, there were 7,078.98 volunteer hours for fire calls making the grand total man hours for the department in 2011, 13,789.83 hours. A breakdown of the department calls (#9-12) was also submitted by Chief Winne. He thanked the town for the support of the Olive Fire Department. Supervisor Leifeld personally thanked the Fire Department members for their day to day work for the town.

TRANSFER STATION liaison Board Member Friedel submitted November 2011 report #10-12 noting total revenues of \$5,800.00 and total expenses of \$7,733.82. Sixteen (16) garbage bins were pulled weighing 72.14 tons at an expense of \$6,420.46, pull charge of \$640.00, recycling pull charge of \$240.00 and a fuel surcharge of \$433.36.

TOWN CLERK Rozzelle stated that she will be issuing burn permits through her office during normal office hours. Burn permits are issued until March 15th as there is no burning in NYS from March 16th through May 14th.

Supervisor Leifeld stated that Helen Chase and her friend were to be here tonight and those present tonight who were here last month know of the rantings at that meeting. He stated he will personally not allow that to happen again and will simply adjourn the meeting. He stated he's been asked by a few to implement Robert's Rules of Orders but feels that this would be restrictive. He stated that everyone should be allowed to express their opinions but to him it was a disgrace. He stated he's angry with himself for not stopping it, further stating that no one wants this. He stated it's a feeding frenzy and it has to stop.

Mrs. Halstead stated she was disappointed in the board's reaction to two items. She has been aware of what's been happening in Olive for 50 years, our tax base is getting smaller and smaller and hence those of us who live here are shouldering a larger and larger amount of what

is needed in taxes. In looking at this enhanced land program she questioned the Town Board being really in favor of this. She stated if anyone wants to sell their property then let them sell it on their own, and not let the City buy it. Consequently, those of us who live here might not be able to afford to live here much longer. She stated she was also here about the Scenic Route 28 and she saw possibilities of that. She stated there are scenic highways in Vermont and Pennsylvania and people along those scenic byways prosper from that. She stated it attracts tourists who buy gas, stop to eat, and spend money at local businesses.

Board Member Burkhardt stated the scenic byway is not a resolved issue that the Town Board has voted on. She stated it just hasn't been resolved as of today's meeting. There will be a vote on it at some point in the future.

Charlie Blumstein stated the scenic byway hasn't really been presented to the public and normally this would happen. Board Member Burkhardt stated that the people have been on this committee for several years and have held public meetings which are open to the public. Charlie Blumstein stated there appears to be things in there that weren't addressed at the meetings. Board Member La Monda stated there will be an upcoming meeting on January 19th. Charlie Blumstein stated the 130 page document wasn't available in advance.

In response to Mrs. Halstead, Board Member La Monda stated the Town Board could actually restrict selling to the City but the town has always taken the position of "willing seller, willing buyer". He stated this program is in no way promoting selling to the City; it simply makes it easier for the seller to sell their property and get paid quicker. He stated he is not going to sit here and tell people you can't sell your land. We're simply saying you can sell and get your money in a quicker fashion.

Carol La Monda stated the lands the City buys are based on fair market value and done by an independent appraiser.

Board Member Friedel stated the City will appraise their own property. Board Member La Monda stated the City has to hire independent appraisers.

Al Studt stated at the last Town Board meeting regarding the 100 plus page document on the scenic byway he noticed that the board was not on board with the total package. He felt the meeting should not have been held with the representative until board members were informed on the issue. He stated it probably would have been good if he had met with the board prior to it being presented to the public.

Mary Anne Shepard stated she was present at the last meeting. She stated scenic byways are positive things. We should try to bring tourists into the area. She stated we don't want to spend a lot of extra money; but, it's okay to say we could use a scenic byway. She stated it has been a good thing in a lot of places and we shouldn't have such a polarized view of it.

Board Member Friedel stated it appeared to him it was a power grab and we would have to turn it over to an outside group.

Charlie Blumstein responded to Ms. Shepard by stating a lot of things were omitted from the document and he will send that information to her.

Mary Ann Shepard stated we need to have a dialogue and not be attacking people. She agreed that people need to know and make an informed decision.

Drew Boggess stated the scenic byway has been going on for several years and the town has been passing resolutions over the past few years. Board Member Burkhardt stated that everyone who works on the collaborative are all volunteers and they are the ones who came up with this document. She stated that people who volunteer should be acknowledged. Drew Boggess stated he doesn't believe there is a scenic byway commission that oversees this. Charlie Blumstein stated that the document does refer to an over arching agency.

Board Member La Monda stated that not everything in it is bad, but, not everything is good. He stated his conversation with Mr. Selkowitz seems to indicate that he knows and understands that. He stated we are already bound by the Catskill Park regarding signs. He noted there are a few things he isn't comfortable with and is sure that they can be worked out.

Drew Boggess stated that being on the Planning Board he sees landowners come in to subdivide and sell to the City. He stated in cases where someone that owns 20 acres keeps five for themselves and sells fifteen acres to the City, 90% of the time it is land that you wouldn't want to develop anyway and in some cases along flood areas which could help with the flooding issues.

Supervisor Leifeld stated on the lands that the City is buying they can't challenge the assessment for 20 years noting this has nothing to do with reservoir land. He stated the town has a ten year agreement with the City on the reservoir land but any land they buy the assessment stays the same for 20 years.

On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board adjourned at 9 pm in memory of Betty Ann Clayton, Joseph Emrich, Karen Esposito, Gale McGovern, and Dorothy Monaco. Supervisor Leifeld thanked everyone for keeping this like an old time meeting as he was really upset with the last one.

Sylvia Rozzelle, Town Clerk