

Benson Town Board
Regular Meeting
Oct. 8, 2014

DRAFT

Meeting Opened at 6:30 PM
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Public Present: Dom Cusano, Michelle Cusano, Dick Barlow, Cheryl Gregor, Peg Schutze, Beth Junquera

Present: Supervisor Phil Snyder
Councilmen: John Stortecky, Robert Cox, Douglas Gregor, John Shepard III
Hwy. Supt.: Cecil Blowers

Public Input: Peg Schutze requested that a picture of the new Town Garden be sent to the Hamilton County Express.

Board Response: That is up to the Ladies of Benson. Go right ahead.

Peg also requested to explore putting up a sign in the new Town Garden. If it should be possible to do and you are willing, I would be happy to pay for it. It would be of a rustic nature.

Mr. Snyder replied that he would be happy to have Peg donate a sign for the new Town Garden.

Mr. Gregor said he would be happy to donate a hanger for the sign. The hanger is about three feet long. It will be looked at.

Peg has had requests from residents on North Road for a monthly report from the Hwy. Dept. as to what works gets done for County and Town.

Board Response: Cecil will give a monthly report as to such work. Mr. Gregor reported that he keeps track of work done for County and Peg acknowledged that.

Mr. Barlow asked about permission from State to put a sign in the garden.

The town clerk will get in touch with Mr. Marsshadi for requirements of such a sign.

Reports from Special/Standing Committees:

Bldgs. And Grounds: Large Flood light will be turned on Nov. 1, 2014 for more visibility.

Annual furnace service approved.

Preface: There is a dispute before the Town Board as to whether Mr. John Stortecky is an acting councilman because he resigned his seat in July, 2014. He withdrew his resignation in Sept., 2014. A vacancy was placed on the Nov., 2014 election ballot by the Board of Elections.

Mr. Shepard III left the meeting. He stated that he did not want to be a part of an illegal town board meeting which he considered it to be as long as Mr. Stortecky remained at the board table.

Mr. Stortecky reaffirmed that he had every legal right to sit at the board table since he was again a councilperson.

Mr. Cox stated that where the legislature has put forth a law, one institution may not reconcile that law with another institution. He stated the case should go to an attorney and be settled in court.

Mr. Snyder stated he would have to close the meeting if Mr. Stortecky would not sit in the audience.

Mr. Stortecky stated that Mr. Snyder had no authority to tell him to do so.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to close the meeting. It was not seconded.

Mr. Gregor contended that the BOE yielded to the prior case rulings of the Attorney General's Office. "I feel you are closing the meeting because you want to. I am sitting here to conduct a meeting. Mr. Stortecky is in full authority based on the law to sit here," stated Mr. Gregor.

A brief discussion ensued.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:35PM by D. Gregor. It was seconded by R. Cox

Jeanne Cox
Benson Town Clerk
Oct. 18, 2014