

**April 21, 2010
PUBLIC HEARING**

Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan

6:30 P.M.

Present: Supervisor Post
Deputy Supervisor Underhill
Councilman Lang
Councilwoman Michalak
Councilman Gerace

Others Present: Town Clerk Morasco
Barb Johnson, Stuart I. Brown Associates
Jim Duval, Genesee County Director of Planning

Supervisor Post called the Public Hearing to order at 6:34P.M. and the Supervisor presented the notice as published in the Daily News.

Barbara Johnson, Stuart I Brown Associates, addressed the Town Board. She explained the revisions (dated March 15, 2010) to the proposed Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan since the January public hearing. At the last public hearing there were comments and concerns on the amount of land designated for protection and the amount of land designated in the comprehensive master plan for development. In the summary of the revisions they tried to clarify the issues. The revised plan responds to comments from Genesee County Department of Planning and the concerns about drainage. The map clarifies the trade off of the lands that are protected and the lands that are proposed agricultural protection zone. They added other agencies that would be involved to support job creation and specified that the Town Board appoint a committee to implement the recommendation of the plan with the guidance of the Town Board. The committee would include farming and non-farming residents. Copies of the summary of the changes and the map were made available for anyone interested in a copy. Ms. Johnson clarified that the purpose of this plan is a guide for the Town Board (if adopted) and just the beginning of the process to implement the recommendations of the plan. Any actions on the plan recommendations would require further public review process and such.

Deputy Supervisor Underhill informed the public that the committee had quite a discussion after the last meeting. There was some misunderstanding on the zoning issues and Mr. Underhill addressed these with the individuals. Any changes in the zoning laws will require Town Board action, which would include public hearings.

Building Inspector Worthington commented that through this Agricultural Protection Plan process, it has brought farmland business to his attention. He now has a better understanding. The Town ordinance can be improved on with clearer provisions for farm business. It is a benefit for farmland.

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Jim Duval, Director of Planning addressed the Town Board. After review of the revised draft plan, the County Planning is concerned that the tools proposed do not offer long term agricultural and farmland protection. A copy of his statement was given to the Town Clerk.

The Supervisor commented that it is a delicate balance. It is a better proposed plan than we had two years ago.

Vickie Wheeler addressed the Town Board representing herself and her brother. They again protest the proposed rezoning of the land and request that the Town Board take no action. Ms. Wheeler, her brother and other property owners are in the process of preparing a proposal to address the zoning of their property and the nearby properties and will submit it within the next few weeks. A copy of her statement was given to the Town Clerk.

Supervisor Post declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:55 P.M. as no one else spoke for or against the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa M. Morasco
Town Clerk