

TOWN BOARD MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING
May 13, 2016
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Patricia Wood, Supervisor Charles Gregory, and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

OTHERS PRESENT:

Village Trustees: Dave Breese, Teresa O’Leary, Alan Reynolds, Mayor Snow, Gale Sheradin, Paul Eskeli, Steve Dutcher, Rick Weidenbach, Bruce Dolph, Graydon Dutcher

This was a joint meeting between the Town and Village of Walton and Soil and Water, held at Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation 44 West Street, Walton, NY 13856.

Graydon Dutcher opened the informational meeting with introductions and explained that additional meetings will follow to keep the public informed.

Mr. Dutcher explained the LFA (Local Flood Analysis) and proceeded with a slide presentation.

The presentation targeted flood relief alternatives and how the Walton Flood Commission could potentially obtain them. Some options are sediment removal, modify or replace bridges, remove channel constrictions, remove floodplain constrictions, home and business relocation or elevation and business flood-proofing methods.

Mr. Dutcher pointed out that Water Street is currently higher in elevation than the 100-year flood.

Discussion took place on the benefits of reducing water on Main Street, however, Councilman Armstrong pointed out that a 1.4’ reduction will still cause damage.

Councilman Armstrong stressed the importance of informing the public of the purpose for the removal of the old Walton Reporter building and how that will tie in with future mitigation work.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated the purpose is to get water out of the buildings quickly, if not, the water could cause more damage.

Mr. Dutcher stated that currently they receive data from the West Branch gage approximately 8-12 hours prior to flooding.

Trustee Breese questioned if the models shown are based on smooth flowing water versus 1996 or 2006 flood waters. Mr. Dutcher stated the software does not assume debris.

Discussion took place on the presentation of future public information meetings and how proposed projects will be up to the property owners. Mr. Dutcher stated it will be done by incremental steps, the projects are on a 5 year schedule.

Councilwoman Wood questioned where the relocation funds would come from? Mr. Dutcher stated the CWC has programs and grants to fund this phase.

Supervisor Gregory stated the importance of holding public sessions to target owners within that tributary to ask their opinion and participation.

Supervisor Gregory questioned how deep to reclaim Water Street? Mr. Dutcher stated approximately 5’ but varies as much as 12-14’ in some areas.

Discussion took place on the East Brook gage and its importance to notify village residents of the potential of life threatening flood condition. The group will look into funding sources to try and have this operational again. Supervisor Gregory agreed to reach out to the USGS point of contact, previously established by Town Clerk Williams, to see what funding assistance might be available to help re-establish the flood gauge.

Mr. Dutcher concluded with information that Soil and Water will be funding a position through the Delaware County Planning Board for the purpose of handling relocation properties.

Supervisor Gregory presented the following resolution to the Town Board for action.

RESOLUTION #79 HOME RULE LAND EXCHANGE

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt
SECONDED BY: Councilman Govern

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE FOR THE AUTHORITY OF EXCHANGE A PORTION OF MORE PARK LAND FOR AN EQUAL ADJACENT PARCEL OF LAND

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton request authorization to exchange a parcel of land in the Town of Walton in More Park for an equally sized portion of land adjacent to More Park as illustrated in the attached Exhibit “A”, and

WHEREAS, such exchange requires parkland alienation legislation by the New York State Legislature, compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act and surveys of both parcels, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Town of Walton requests that New York State legislature adopt legislation authorizing the exchange of a portion of “More Park” for an equally sized portion of land adjacent to “More Park” as illustrated in Exhibit “A” attached, and it be

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Attorney, Carly Walas, Esq., is hereby empowered to prepare the necessary documents to obtain such legislation and is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution and all supporting documentation to the New York State Senate and Assembly home rule offices, Senator John J. Bonacic and Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch; and it be

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor, Charles F. Gregory, to his duly authorized representative is hereby empowered to execute any such agreements, documents, or papers, approved as to form by the Department of Law, as may be necessary to implement the intent and purpose of this Resolution; and it be

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Town of Walton is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution and all supporting documentations to the New York State Senate and Assembly home rule offices, Senator John J. Bonacic and Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch.

Vote: Councilpersons:

Armstrong	Aye	Govern	Aye
Rodriguez-Betancourt	Aye	Wood	Aye
Supervisor Gregory	Aye		

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk