

OCTOBER 13, 2011 – PUBLIC HEARING

Minutes of a public hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Somers held on Thursday evening October 13, 2011 at 8:17 PM at the Town House, 335 Route 202, Somers, New York.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Mary Beth Murphy
	Councilman	Harold R. Bolton
	Councilman	Richard G. Clinchy
	Councilman	Frederick J. Morrissey
	Councilman	Thomas A. Garrity, Jr.

ABSENT:

Also present were Kathleen R. Pacella, Town Clerk, Patricia Kalba, Deputy Town Clerk and Roland A. Baroni, Jr., Town Attorney.

The Supervisor said that this was a public hearing with regard to proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 158 entitled Vehicles & Traffic of the Town of Somers for stop signs on Entrance Way at Lake Way, Ridge Way and Side Way.

The Town Clerk presented affidavit of public notice of the public hearing that appeared in the Journal News on October 4, 2011 and posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board the same day.

The Supervisor declared the hearing opened and asked for comments from the public.

Ms. Nancy Joyce, President of the Lake Purdys Property Owners Association, said that she was there to represent her Community, it was a lovely little Community and they wanted to make it a safer Community. She said that she did a survey and there were only eight stop signs in the Community and there were many intersections that do need them. She said that they were looking at two intersections where there were two dips in the road. Ms. Joyce continued that the first was at Entrance Way and Fair Way, there was a stop sign on Fair Way but not of Entrance Way. She explained the contour of the road made visibility difficult and that there was a large School Bus stop at that location. She said that the next stop sign location they would like was at Entrance Way at Central Way and explained that the contour of the road made visibility difficult there and they would like to see a three-way stop there. Ms. Joyce said that they also would like speed bump at the lake and Club House.

Councilman Garrity said that they had placed temporary speed bumps seasonally at Lake Lincolndale and asked Ms. Joyce if that was what they wanted as well. Ms. Joyce said that was what they wanted.

Councilman Garrity said that he seemed to him what Ms. Joyce was saying was they wanted these stop signs because there were many blind spots throughout the neighborhood and this was not a speeding issue. Ms. Joyce said that she said that there was the occasional speeding although there were areas where the people who lived there knew to stop but the new drivers and people who did not know the area need to have the signs. The Supervisor said that the Law of the Road was when you came to a T intersection you are to stop. She said that was why there were not stop signs at every intersection.

Councilman Morrissey asked if they knew of any incident that happened on Entrance Way and Route 116. A resident of Lake Purdys said that when Route 116 closes because of an accident they reroute the traffic through Entrance Way and what happens is there are people driving through who do not know the area. He said that did not take into account delivery trucks and people who were visiting and what happens is that it opens them up to people who do not know where they are. He said that there were bus stops and blind spots and it could be dangerous.

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The Supervisor said that it looked to her that the stop signs Ms. Joyce were proposing were at intersections that were places that people should already be stopping and that should not be a problem to place them there. She went over the other locations where Ms. Joyce was requesting. She said that what she was requesting was not what was noticed. The Supervisor recommended that they withdraw the public hearing and start over. She said that she would contact Ms. Joyce if she had any questions with regard to the placement of the stop signs. She said once there was a new draft of the proposed Local Law she will e-mail it to Ms. Joyce for her review as well.

There being no one else to be heard on motion of Supervisor Murphy, seconded by Councilman Clinchy the public hearing was declared closed at 8:35 PM.

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Town Clerk