

**MALTA TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**July 29, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

**Malta Town Hall**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Supervisor Darren O'Connor, Councilman John Hartzell, Councilman Craig Warner, Councilwoman Cynthia Young, Councilman Tim Dunn and Town Clerk Jennifer Holmes

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deputy Supervisor Vincent DeLucia, Town Attorney Tom Peterson, Comptroller Kevin King, Director of Parks & Recreation Alyssa Benway and Building & Planning Director Jaime O'Neill

**ABSENT:** Highway Superintendent, Roger Crandall

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Woody Sloat, Tim Downey, Marian Crandall, Mark E Hammond, Barbara Connor, Michael Carlito, Veronica Graff and Joyce Soltis

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND SILENT PRAYER:**

**ACCEPT TOWN CLERK MINUTES FROM 7/1/2019:**

**Motioned:** Councilman Dunn   **Seconded:** Councilwoman Young

**Vote:** Ayes-5   Nays-0

**COMMENTS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS:** None

**COMMENTS FROM TOWN BOARD & DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Councilman Dunn gave an update of activity that happened last week “shining a light on good things happening in Malta”. A launch of a series in line with the outgrowth of economic development coined “Malta Works”, highlighting on economic investment in Malta, promoting youth programs, community events and organizations. Highlights that occurred over the past week included GlobalFoundries tenth anniversary, with three thousand employees and two hundred current job openings. Windsor development at Exit 12 opened Starbucks and announced the new businesses opening soon at the location being Jersey Mikes, Five Guys, AT&T and Meche Hair Salon. “Malta Works” will be featuring the accomplishments of Elyse Young, Theater Director of Malta Spotlighter, bringing 30 years of entertainment to Malta.

Councilwoman Young said that she attended the Windsor Development opening announcements where “Malta Works” was presented to the press and public. She said she has no objection to the program although feels that individuals of the Town Board do not have the authority to develop and launch a program unilaterally. She said “we as a group should have discussed” and “have had input”. The Times Union article stated “spending a sum of money”, Councilwoman Young feels the Town Board as a whole should have been aware. Councilwoman Young said that there are one thousand responses to the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee Survey and asked if those responses were taken into consideration with the launch of “Malta Works”. She stated her feelings are that any program going forward should take into consideration the Comprehensive Plan, as well as resident and business owner’s survey responses. “If the direction of Malta Works is not in the same direction that our residents are looking, we will look disingenuous to voters”.

Councilman Dunn responded that Councilwoman Young’s opinion is fair. He said information regarding “Malta Works” was shared with the TB, revised, refined and finalized. It was then put out in conjunction with an event that was already planned. Councilman Dunn said the funding referred to was a line item in the budget that was voted on and approved by the Town Board. The funding was in place for an inconsequential logo and promoting good things in Malta. He said “I don’t think that every action taken in town is subject to a town vote”. He referenced that the TB did not take a vote for Roger and his crew to go take care of a problem on Raylinsky Road. Councilman Dunn then responded to the Comp. Plan Committee reference. The Councilman said that if there were a thousand responses to the survey how come he hasn’t had an update. The Councilman said that residents are asking him about updates on the Comp. Plan, and why they have not heard anything.

Councilwoman Young said she does not think that we have to vote on everything, but that discussion should take place in a public forum and not just announced as a program of the town of Malta.

Councilman Hartzell said it's nice to be talking in positive terms about business development in Malta. He referenced the year 2009 when he was campaigning reaching out to residents and businesses. He said the common response from businesses was "I'll never invest another dime in Malta". Now we are seeing that businesses are investing, "I think the Malta Works is positive", "Maybe we should openly discuss in a public forum in the future". He said he would like to see the Economic Plans tying into the Comp. Plan and giving more attention to the Tech Campus tying into economic development. We need to build and execute plans that will sync with the Master Plan. He thanked Councilman Dunn for "generously giving his time" in his pursuit with economic development. Councilman Hartzell said that at the County level, Partnership for Prosperity will be tasked with working with developers on placement within the County for business success.

Councilman Warner suggested, the County has several agencies, as well as Albany having an agency that we can partner with so we "Tim" doesn't do it all himself.

Councilman Hartzell said a few months ago the SEDC and Partnership for Prosperity has worked together to agree that the Partnerships role is to provide assistance to local economic and infrastructure development assistance. He said that the trajectory should be to bring them in and build upon the work that Tim has already started. Councilman Hartzell stressed his emphasis on more thought being devoted to the Tech Campus, because that's where the real money and stability of the town is. Retail coming to town brings a real foundation for economic stability in the Tech Campus, it is what's needed to make the 1200 acres more viable.

Councilman Dunn gave his appreciation for comments. He stated that the Economic Development Committee is tasked with focusing on development outside of GlobalFoundries and the Tech Campus. That the mission statement excludes those entities on purpose. He agreed that we could look into the both being included going forward. Councilman Dunn stated that "Since Malta Works was launched he has had six separate inquiries from entities interested in Malta". He followed up with when it comes to economic development some confidentiality is requisite.

Councilwoman Young stated she is not against Malta Works, she thinks it's a fine piece of work. She also said that the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee progress has been posted on the website. "The time line is on track and we are mindful of discussing in public".

Councilman Warner said that there should be constructive dialog with Malta Works and The Comprehensive Plan Update Committee.

Councilman Hartzell reported that Partnership for Prosperity has already assisted with neighboring towns including Mechanicville and Moreau. "Malta Works is a positive concept that promotes good things with economic development". "Great idea, skeptical in extending beyond economic development at this time". Following with "The Town Supervisor has central role in providing positive statements to town residents".

Supervisor Darren O'Connor thanked the TB input. He said there is an operative agreement with SEDC & SPP, County Budget is January 1<sup>st</sup> when funds will be determined. The Supervisor said he thinks the TB works extremely well together, listening and coming to a common consensus. We need to be mindful of the image we project.

#### **TONIGHTS (7/29) DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Maltaville Water District Study Update-** the Supervisor addressed to public and TB saying that Joe Lanaro is making great strides with the Map, Plan, and Report. We are waiting to hear if the Luther Forest Tech Campus will be part of the District or not. Their involvement will determine help with some funding and grants. Hoping to have a decision in the next few weeks. In the meantime the Supervisor and Councilman Warner will be in touch with the Stillwater Supervisor, Ed Kinowski and trying to work out an arrangement for operational measures as well as how much it's going to be. The Supervisor stated that a lot of time has been devoted to the project and moving forward is anticipated.

**Amendments to the Town Code-** Consensus around the board was to wait until next week for discussion in order for more time to review as well as schedule an attorney/client meeting.

**REVIEW/DISCUSS DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 8/5/2019 TOWN BOARD MEETING:**

**8/5/19 TOWN BOARD MEETING DRAFT AGENDA**

**1. PUBLIC HEARING**

6:00pm - Amend Town Clerk Salary- *for additional tasks involving the Webmaster duties*

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

- 1) Certificate of Achievement - Ballston Spa Boys' Varsity Baseball Team
- 2) Certificate of Achievement - Ballston Spa Girls' Softball Team
- 3) Certificate of Achievement – Malta-Stillwater Emergency Medical Services

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Amend Town Clerk Salary

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Amend Cellphone Policy- *Clairification of when cell phones are distributed as well as adding Animal Control Officers to the list.*
- b) Authorize Accept Cash Reimbursement Sales Tax From County
- c) Appoint Recreation Leader – *Matthew Scoons*
- d) Authorize Outside User Sewer District #2 – *5 Miller Road- Private homeowner wants to connect, involving his parcel.*
- e) Authorize Sewer District #2 Extension #2 Map, Plan Report- *the reason for the report is to include Miller Road as part of the Sewer District.*
- f) Accept Chazen Proposal Luther Forest Drainage- *A proposal has been presented to the TB to improve the existing drainage in the Luther Forest neighborhoods.*
- g) Budget Transfers- *TBD*

**COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS:** Mr. James Graff addressed the TB saying he and his wife have concerns with the crosswalk that was recently installed. The crosswalk is on a part of their lawn, the concern is that the “blind girl will trip”, “What’s the purpose of a crosswalk without a sidewalk”?

Mrs. Veronica Graff said she has concerns about the slab to lawn transition for the blind girl who will have obstacles such as a mailbox, uneven ground and garbage cans. Mrs. Graff wanted to “make sure I’m not liable”.

Councilman Warner addressed the Graff’s concerns saying they were well aware of the plans on the evening they all got together as a community and compromised on the crosswalk vs. sidewalk installation. He said it was a great example of give and take and a community coming together. He asked Mrs. Graff, “You still have all your trees, don’t you”?

Mrs. Graff responded, thank you. Then asked who was responsible for the slab/pad. She stated again that she did not want to be liable.

The Supervisor stated that we have a local law regarding homeowners being responsible for sidewalks in front of their homes but would have to clarify about slab responsibility.’

Mrs. Graff stated she did not want to be liable.

Supervisor O’Connor asked to “Give it a little time”.

Mr. Graff asked why there had to be a slab with the stop sign.

Councilman Hartzell responded that the engineers have to follow state guidelines when engineering their report for traffic flow and safety. Saying, what may not make sense to you or I, does have warrant with State traffic rules and regulations.

Supervisor O'Connor thanked the Graff's for attending the meeting.

Ted Willette a resident at 358 Brownell Road, addressed the public and TB as a member of the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. He asked to invite the Saratoga Partnership for Prosperity to be invited to a meeting that offers guidance on what "we need to plan for the next 10 years down the road".

Jaime O'Neill, Building & Planning Director, said she has had inquiries for LFTC to offer their input at a Comp. Plan meeting.

Councilman Warner asked Alyssa Benway, Director of Park & Rec, if what he heard was true about the first 9 holes of disk golf being completed.

Alyssa answered that the course has a way to go, but people are using the first 9 holes, "for sure".

Councilwoman Young said it's a nice addition to town.

Councilman Warner said it's a great example of community.

**ADJORN:** 6:55 PM

Motioned by: Councilman Dunn    Seconded: Councilman Hartzell

Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Holmes

Malta Town Clerk