

Town of New Scotland  
Public Hearing  
05/13/2020

The following Town Officials were in attendance:

Supervisor:	Douglas LaGrange
Councilperson:	Adam Greenberg William Hennessy Daniel Leinung
Highway Superintendent:	Kenneth Guyer
Town Engineer:	Garrett Frueh
Town Clerk:	Diane Deschenes
Town Attorney:	Michael Naughton
Absent: Councilperson:	Bridgit Burke

1. Supervisor LaGrange called the public hearing to order at 12:47 PM regarding Proposed Local Law A of 2020. An affidavit of publication was provided by the Clerk. Supervisor LaGrange asked if the Town Clerk could confirm that other neighboring towns and villages were notified. Town Clerk Deschenes replied that she did send them notification. Supervisor LaGrange said that the County Planning Board was sent the referral and we received a response that they deferred to local action. The Town Planning Board reviewed this last night. They've been reviewing it and they talked about it last night. They support proposed Local Law A of 2020. We published the notice in the newspaper and website, and the residents can submit public comments through e-mail directly to the supervisor in advance or they can participate in the hearing also with us right now. Supervisor LaGrange advised that all Board members have had a draft of proposed Local Law A for several weeks and the draft law as revised by our Town Planner has been on everyone's desk in excess of 10 days before this hearing. The local law is simply a codification of existing laws. All of the laws relating to zoning have been brought together in one place for easy reference for all of us. Consequently if there are any comments that relate to things in the zoning law that you think should be changed we welcome your thoughts and comments, but that's not the purpose of this public hearing. I believe we have one or two residents here today that might want to comment. We know there are many aspects of the zoning code that should be and will be approved but that will be the next step. We need to put all of these laws in one place with current language for our planner and others to propose revisions in cogent fashion in the future. This is part two of the process so please if there are any comments on these things we will wait until that time and once we get something from our planner and the Town Board to consider, and the Planning and Zoning Boards for that matter, and we have a finished the draft then we will hold our meetings and public hearing at that time for proposed changes. Also keep in mind that this local law does not revise the subdivision provisions of the town code. We anticipate that that will be the next step, again, in the future, and we hope to roll out a draft revision to the subdivision regulations later this spring or summer. For anyone on Zoom in this meeting I can call on you if you wish to be heard. Please state your name and address so Diane, our Town Clerk, can keep minutes. Obviously there are some logistics. I will recognize everyone who wishes to speak. There is also a chat feature on the Zoom platform if you send me, as the host, a written comment that you'd like to have read I will do so so that that's on the record, too. When we are done with the comments from people attending the meeting I will summarize the written comments I received prior to this meeting, and that will be on the record also. Supervisor LaGrange said that we can get started with public comment. At this point Supervisor LaGrange didn't see anyone and no one has come up in the waiting room to take advantage of this public hearing.

Councilperson Greenberg said procedurally we should probably have a roll call. Supervisor LaGrange said that that's a good point. A roll call was taken and those listed above were in attendance. Mr. Dempf and our Planner, Nan Stolzenburg, were also in attendance.

Supervisor LaGrange said, while we are waiting and we don't have anyone else, he will read what he has. He received three or four e-mails this morning. He talked to Adam and a couple of others about this earlier. There was some confusion between an issue that is before the ZBA and was talked about last night at the Planning Board. There is an apartment complex of sorts proposed in Feura Bush. A lot of people are getting confused on Facebook that we were addressing that here today with Proposed Local Law A. I tried to make it clear that that was not the case. This is simply the codification of the existing laws. I did receive those comments that I won't bother reading because they don't pertain to this. I did get one from Mr. Dearstyne from 155 Clipp Road. I believe you all received this. John had some suggestions. Only one really related to this now and not future changes per se. This was missing

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two junk laws and a noise law but from what I understand those are more stand-alone. Nan could you comment about that?

Highway Superintendent Guyer arrived at 1:55 PM.

Mrs. Stolzenburg said that the pieces that were brought into this codification were all of the local laws that were amendments to the zoning law so if something was passed, whenever it was passed, that was a stand-alone like a noise ordinance or a noise law that was not a zoning amendment, all of those were left as is. So the only things that were brought in were things that said, "This is an amendment to the zoning law section xxx." I would have to look up and make sure that we didn't miss those but if those were stand-alone laws not related to zoning then this would not affect them.

Attorney Naughton said that he could also address the Junk Yard Law. It's a separate stand-alone. There is also a cell tower law that some people feel are land-use related but we consider them not part of the zoning law and they are separate and we kept them separate. They remain part of the town code and they are not being repealed or replaced. They are still there in the town code. Supervisor LaGrange thanked them both for the clarification.

Supervisor LaGrange added that he should say too, and he neglected to earlier for the record, that we are meeting pursuant to the public hearing, and in a few minutes our regular Town Board meeting pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 which includes not having any in-person public meetings.

Supervisor LaGrange again asked if anyone from the public that's joined wanted to make a comment to speak up if they'd like. Supervisor LaGrange then asked if there were any other thoughts or comments from the Board or anyone.

Attorney Naughton said that he thought you mentioned that you received the response from the County. If you didn't they will defer to local action on this. Supervisor LaGrange said he did mention that but thank you.

Councilperson Greenberg asked if Nan Stolzenburg was going to stay for the meeting and be here when it comes up on the agenda? Mrs. Stolzenburg replied, "If you want me to. Whatever you need." Councilperson Greenberg said that it was up to her. He didn't think she needed to but if not then he just wanted to thank her for all the work she did. It was a fantastic job. He would go into it further if she was going to be here. Mrs. Stolzenburg said that if you don't feel you need any other explanation or input there was no sense in her staying on but she appreciates that. She hopes that it will serve the town well regardless of what other zoning changes are to come in the next phases. To have it in one place and coordinated will be really useful to everybody. Supervisor LaGrange said, "Thank you for your work" too.

Attorney Naughton noted that it's not always evident because we're saying that we're putting all of these laws together. It's a complicated process. It took many, many man-hours to actually do that and Nan did a terrific job. It's not as simple as it sounds and she did a great job. It was a lot of hard work.

Councilperson Greenberg asked Attorney Naughton if he felt Nan should stay for any reason for the agenda part of this. Attorney Naughton said that he didn't see a need. Mrs. Stolzenburg said if there is anything in your agenda meeting that ultimately needs an edit or a change that comes up just let me know. I'll make sure you have all of the original files.

Supervisor LaGrange said it's 1:00 PM and we haven't had any further comments.

**2. Adjourn**

Supervisor LaGrange made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilperson Greenberg. The hearing closed at 1:00 PM.

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Diane R. Deschenes, Town Clerk