

Minutes of the Public Hearing held by the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette on February 10, 2003, in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present: Gregory Scammell, Supervisor
Norman Paul, Councilman
Sandra Smith, Councilwoman
David Knapp, Councilman
Thomas Bailey, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Others Present: Kevin Gilligan, Town Attorney
Robert Tennant, 2991 Sentinel Hgts. Rd.
Dorothy Tennant, 2991 Sentinel Hgts. Rd.
Bruce Freund, Sentinel Hgts. Rd.
Jeffrey Murry, LaFayette
Andy Peebles, North Rd.
Kyle LaTray
Steven Chase
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk
Cindy Heckerman, Sentinel Hgts. Rd.
Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper

1. Supervisor Scammell opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.
2. The Town Clerk took the Roll. All present.
3. Pledge to the U. S. Flag led by Town Councilwoman Sandy Smith.
4. **Councilmen Knapp moved and Paul seconded the motion to accept the four Public Hearing Minutes and regular Town Board Meeting Minutes of January 27th as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.**
5. Public Hearings.
 - 1980 Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Alternate Members.
Mr. Gilligan said this is a parallel process to the local law adopted in January but this one deals with an Alternate Zoning Board Member. This creates a process for an Alternate Zoning Board of Appeals Member in case a regular member can't attend a particular meeting due to illness, vacation, etc. The chairman would designate the alternate to sit in for that particular meeting and act as a member.
Councilman Knapp said the chairman would appoint that person for that particular meeting.

Mr. Gilligan said correct. The Town Board would appoint the process and on a given basis if there was a need for a particular meeting, the chairman could appoint that person to sit in.

Supervisor Scammell asked for any other input on this amendment.

There was none.

Councilmen Paul moved and Knapp seconded the motion to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The public hearing closed at 6:33 p.m.

- Appeal of 1953 Motorboat Ordinance public hearing opened at 6:34 p.m.

Supervisor Scammell said this public hearing is to repeal the June 15, 1953 Ordinance entitled “Inboard Outboard Motor Boat Ordinance. The Ordinance we currently have was created 50 years ago regarding watercraft in excess of 5 mph. This is an unenforceable ordinance the way we have it. This is to repeal the 1953 Ordinance. He asked for any questions or concerns.

Councilman Paul asked if he had heard from anyone about this.

Supervisor Scammell said he had a couple of calls and he explained what was being repealed to them.

Mr. LaTray asked if anything was going in to replace this.

Supervisor Scammell said anything we could come up with would require a Sheriff to come out to enforce it and by the time a boat could be put in the water, the person violating the Ordinance would be gone.

Councilor Knapp asked if there wasn't some conversation in the past that the state would govern this.

Mr. Gilligan said there are some areas the town can govern but being that we don't have a local police force, it would be difficult to catch the person violating it.

Councilman Bailey said there are certain statutory state laws that Jamesville Beach would fall under.

Councilman Paul asked Mr. LaTray if he lived on the reservoir.

Mr. LaTray said yes.

Councilor Paul asked about the boats.

Mr. LaTray said they would like to protect the water for people using it and residents in the area. There are issues but to regulate them would be difficult.

Councilman Paul asked about the sound of running snowmobiles in comparison to people running boats.

Mr. LaTray said snowmobiles don't make much noise at all. The jet skis are the problem.

Councilman Paul asked if he knew the horsepower of the jet skis.

Councilman Knapp said he was told the other day that they make ones now over 100 horsepower.

Mr. LaTray said they pollute like crazy as well as the noise.

Councilman Paul asked if it could be regulated by type.

Mr. Gilligan said no. However, Jamesville has a large county beach there and the county is allowed to restrict speed and they also have a Sheriff's Dept. that might have a boat. It might be an avenue to request the county to address the problem of the jet skis.

Mr. LaTray asked if this could be done by a noise ordinance.

Mr. Gilligan said the problem with that is they will find the jet skis don't make the same amount of noise as the snow blower or snowmobile next door. He would think the best path is to regulate speed on the body of water and he thinks the county would be the best bet as they have an enforcement arm.

Mr. Chase asked if it turned out to be a town jurisdiction, would the Town Board be willing to meet with the residents.

Supervisor Scammell said sure.

Mr. Gilligan asked if by putting a speed limit on the reservoir, is this something they would be concerned about?

Mr. Chase said it would be a double-edged sword as you have people who like to water ski and they are not abusive.

Mr. Gilligan can see a distinct drafting problem coming.

Mr. Chase said they have been told that there are lakes that have outlawed jet skis.

Mr. Gilligan believes it's a certain speed a certain distance from shore.

Mr. Chase said they would rather see a law whether it can be enforced or not.

There are people who are honest and might calm down if they knew it was a law.

Councilman Paul asked if the Sheriff's Dept. patrols it.

Mr. Chase said once in awhile.

Councilman Knapp said he knows there were some lakes up north that were trying to do a local ordinance but he doesn't know how successful they were.

Mr. Taylor asked if there is merit in the resident's forming an association down there to outlaw this.

Mr. Gilligan said you would have to have all the resident's sign the paperwork and enforce it against each other.

Mr. Chase said it would be easier if we all work together to come up with something.

Supervisor Scammell said he believes Skaneateles was looking into this too and he can check with them.

Mr. Chase said they were going to hire a policeman to be out on the lake but Skaneateles Lake is 18 miles long.

Supervisor Scammell asked for any further comments.

There were none.

Councilmen Knapp moved and Bailey seconded the motion to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The public hearing closed at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly
Town Clerk