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From: "Lynne Eckardt" <midfarm@bestweb.net>
Date: Sat Nov 27, 2004 4:21 pm
Subject: SE Town Board Meeting Recap (11/18/04)

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Hi All,

Below please find a much delayed recap of last Thursday's (November 18th) Town Board meeting. I'm feeling lazy, way behind and much of the meeting was mundane so I'm editing to what I think might be of interest to CRSE members and those of you who don't really want to read the recaps but just can't seem to resist. Yeah, you know who you are.

An interesting sidebar. Supervisor Dunford said (as he always does) that all agenda items had been discussed at work sessions or *by phone*. I believe that this is the first 'by phone' admission.

As always these notes are my own jaded take on life in Southeast. I'm afraid I got a little side tracked ranting about the 'Industrial Access Program' because I *really* do mind even a single penny of my tax dollars underwriting any of the Terravest transportation district for Mr. Lepler. I'm not sure why the Town Board felt the need to aid and abet Mr. Lepler on this but needless to say they did. Go figure.

Official (Draft) minutes will be available on December 2nd.

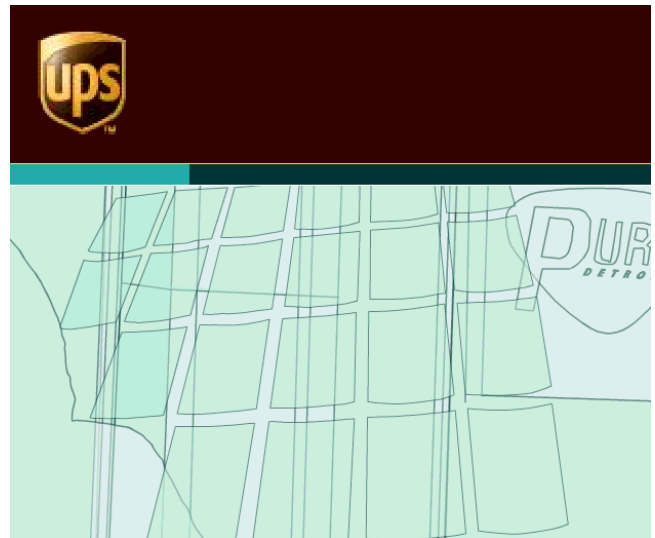
REGULAR MEETING:

- December 2 7:30 Civic Center Work Session
- December 9 7:30 Civic Center Work Session
- December 16 7:30 Civic Center Regular Meeting

7. Motion- Adoption of 2005 Town of Southeast Budget
Passed 5-0

8. Resolution- Industrial Access Program
The town has assumed sponsorship of a \$480,000 DOT grant for traffic improvements on Route 312 for

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Terravest/Ace Endico.
Passed 5-0.

9. Motion- authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign 2005 contract with the Putnam County Humane Society.
Passed 5-0.

13. Resolution- Local law no. 12/04 Amending Chapter 3 of the town code of the Town of Southeast to the Architectural Review Board.
Passed 5-0

14. Resolution- Local Law no. 13/04 amending Chapter 83 of the Code of the Town of Southeast relating to Historic Sites and Historic Districts.
Passed 5-0

15. Resolution- Local Law no. 14/04 amending Chapter 87 of the Code of the Town of Southeast relating to Junk Yards. Passed 5-0

16. Resolution- Local Law no. 15/04 amending Chapter 123 of the Code of the Town of Southeast relating to subdivision of Land. Passed 5-0

17. Resolution- Local law no. 16/04 amending Chapter 138 of the Code of the Town of Southeast relating to zoning. These are the new designations and permitted uses to the zoning code. Passed 5-0

18. Resolution- Variance from Moratorium- Gasland Petroleum. This is the gas station on the corner of Route 6 and Starr Ridge Road. A small addition had been proposed for a Dunkin' Donuts. The variance was denied 5-0.

19. Motion repealing Local Law 7/2004. This is the residential Moratorium. Passed 5-0.

COMMENTS:

7. 2005 Budget:

There were no significant changes made to the budget. There is a 2.3% increase averaging about \$1 per month per household. While the budget isn't bad I could live without the new Security Patrol costs, the Landfill costs and we'll have to watch the mortgage tax income. Although with 400 units of housing going in estimates may actually be under estimate.

8. Industrial Access Program:

This is my favorite- and I got to ask about it. This 'Program' will pay for 'Traffic Improvements' on Route 312 for the Terravest Project. Oh, I forgot to throw in the word 'Safety' because once you trot out this old chestnut one is never allowed to criticize.

Here's how it works: The Town sponsors a grant of \$480,000. The applicant (in this case Mr. Lepler) receives 60% outright and then pays 40% back at a

low interest rate to the DOT. The Board was asked who would have paid for said improvements had the Board not sponsored this grant and chose to answer it in a very vague, noncommittal way.

Bottom line. The applicant would have had to. But now the citizens of New York State have the honor and privilege of underwriting traffic controls for Mr. Lepler's unattractive, environmentally damaging, unsustainable project. On the bright side, if the Town Board approves the proposed 60 units of Senior Housing, Seniors will have the handy, and possibly unique, amenity of walking to pick up bulk cheese.

A really, really well thought-out plan. Because nothing says 'quality of life' quite like a food processing plant that probably won't have a waste water treatment plant built when it opens. To add insult to injury this clever plan has been approved by the Putnam County Board of Health. So that Ace Endico can operate without such sewer plant built 'temporarily' for up to two (2) years. Instead there will be approximately 3200 gallons of waste per day flowing into a temporary 10,000 gallon holding tank that must be pumped and hauled God knows where. Think you could do this building a private home in Putnam? Guess again.

Sorry for the rant but I already hate looking at Ace Endico from Route 84, 312 and North Brewster Road. Puts me in a bad mood. Don't forget there's a Public Hearing on the Wetlands Permit for Terravest 3 this Tuesday night at 7:30 at Lakeview Manor. I would urge everyone to attend. There's over eight acres of buffer disturbance and just by showing up you're sending a message.

As always please feel free to e-mail me with any questions that you may have.

With Best Regards,
Lynne Eckardt

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