

Bedford Hills, New York
March 2, 2010

The Town Board of the Town of Bedford held a public hearing on March 2, 2010 at the Town Offices, 321 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills, New York to consider Local Law #1-2010 – installation of stop signs at Cherry Street and Quicks Lane. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Supervisor Roberts.

Present: Lee V. A. Roberts : Supervisor
Peter Chryssos : Councilman
Francis T. Corcoran : Councilman
Chris Burdick : Councilman
David Gabrielson : Councilman

Lisbeth Fumagalli : Town Clerk
Nancy Tagliafierro : Town Attorney
Ed Collins : Chief of Police
Kevin Winn : Commissioner of Public Works
Jeffrey Osterman : Director of Planning
Marcy Marchiano : Asst. to Supervisor

and approximately forty (40) residents/observers.

Proof of Publication was presented and ordered filed. The public notice was published in the Bedford Pound Ridge Record Review on February 26, 2010.

Mrs. Roberts read a list of all people that had sent emails or letters on this matter to date. She then introduced Kevin Winn; Commissioner of Public Works who discussed his memorandum to the Town Board dated January 4, 2010.

Ed Collins, Chief of Police presented the accident history in this location. He advised that in the last ten (10) years that there had been three (3) accidents, two (2) of which occurred in 2008, which were weather related and not at the exact intersection.

Mrs. Roberts opened the floor to public comment.

Two (2) residents that live on the corners of Quick's Lane at Cherry Street expressed their support for this proposal citing safety concerns and that the stop signs would assist in slowing down the traffic in that location. Two (2) other residents stated that they would support any measure to slow the speed of traffic on Cherry Street.

The remaining sixteen (16) residents that spoke agreed that speed on Cherry Street was a serious concern and supported methods of slowing/calming the traffic. Several noted their opposition to stop signs and presented reports they had obtained from the internet that stated that stop signs did not deter drivers from speeding. One resident asked the Town Board if a traffic study had been done on Cherry Street and Mrs. Roberts responded that one had not, however Kevin Winn, Commissioner of Public Works, Ed Collins, Chief of Police and Jeffrey Osterman, Town Planner had all visited this location and had made the same recommendation, which was not to install stop signs in this location.

Mrs. Roberts noted that when the weather was better there would be striping installed on the north end of Cherry Street and that the Town of Bedford did not feel that a stop sign in this location was advisable. Mr. Winn commented that the sight distance in this location was not optimal and that there were no compelling reasons for stop signs to be installed. He felt that other traffic calming methods should be tried.

Mr. Gabrielson commented that it was frustrating for the Board that there were not other ways to resolve this matter. He noted that it was simply that people drive too fast.

Mr. Burdick agreed with Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Gabrielson, advising that initially he was in favor of the installation of the stop signs in this location but after talking with Mr. Winn and Chief Collins, he does not support this proposal.

March 2, 2010 – Public Hearing - continued

Mr. Chryssos pointed out that he had always supported stop signs but did not feel that was the solution in this case. He felt that Cherry Street needed to be taken back from the speeders that are from outside of the Town of Bedford, as Cherry Street is a popular cut through for many commuters.

Mr. Corcoran commented that he is not a proponent of stop signs and feels that a stop sign would not solve the problem in this location.

On a motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Corcoran, the following resolution was ADOPTED

Ayes: Roberts, Chryssos, Corcoran, Gabrielson, Burdick
Nays: None
Absent: None

RESOLVED that the public hearing to consider Local Law #1-2010 – installation of stop signs at Cherry Street and Quicks Lane be closed.

On a motion by Mr. Corcoran, seconded by Mr. Chryssos, the following resolution was ADOPTED

Ayes: Roberts, Chryssos, Corcoran, Gabrielson, Burdick
Nays: None
Absent: None

RESOLVED that based upon the recommendations of the Chief of Police, Town Planner and the Commissioner of Public Works, the Town Board shall not enact Local Law #1-2010 – installation of stop signs at Cherry Street and Quicks Lane as it does not fulfill the need for traffic calming in this area and other methods to accomplish this shall be reviewed by the Town Board with the Chief of Police, Town Planner and the Commissioner of Public Works.

The public hearing was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Lisbeth Fumagalli, Town Clerk