

# *Town of Canandaigua*

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West  
Canandaigua, New York 14424

**MINUTES**  
**CITIZENS' IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018, 9:00 A.M.**

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**Committee Members Present:** Doug Finch  
Sarah Reynolds  
Gary Davis  
Oksana Fuller  
Ray Henry  
Kelly LaVoie  
Joyce Marthaller  
Tom Schwartz

**Guests Present:** Karen Parkhurst, Parks and Recreation Committee, Eric Cooper

**Members Absent:** Kevin Reynolds, Pat Venezia

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- **CALL TO ORDER**  
The meeting commenced at 9:10 am.
- **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**  
None at this time.
- **REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**  
None at this time.
- **REFERRALS**  
None at this time.
- **OLD BUSINESS**  
None at this time.
- **NEW BUSINESS**

Doug Finch opened the meeting and welcomed Karen Parkhurst, of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Doug had recently met with the Parks and Rec Committee about fostering better communication with the Town in order to provide a clearer understanding of the various activities/projects with which the Committee is involved. He thanked Karen Parkhurst for volunteering to step into the role of facilitator. Doug commended and credited the CIC team for, in addition to implementing the Comprehensive Plan, the excellent communication between the Zoning Board, Planning Board, Town Board, ECB, and the ability they all have to come to the table and share everything that's going on with each other.

The next topics for discussion were 2019 budget requests, TDR matters, and any other matters that need to be addressed. On September 4<sup>th</sup> there is going to be an update on what the Parks and Rec Committee is doing to implement the Parks and Rec Master Plan. After that is the Uptown Study from the original schedule. With regard to Uptown and the meeting they had with Bergman Associates at the DePaul Trolley Station, it appears Bergman is trying to schedule the next Steering Committee at the end of August, at which time they are going to share some of their findings to date. Doug believes they are going to begin to get recommendations. They are still being told that it will be finished before the end of the year.

August 9<sup>th</sup> is the date of the ECB's Aquatic Invasive Program, which will be held at Onanda Park.

The County Rd.16 Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations Feasibility Study Public Meeting was scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Crouch Hall at Onanda Park. The County and its consultants are going to review what they have come up with thus far. Anyone may attend this public meeting.

The County advertised it, and the Town had something on Facebook about it. There was also a story in the Daily Messenger.

Doug had sent out an email about this. A couple of residents contacted him to express concern about the impact of their property. There was a discussion about the safety issues on County Rd. 16 relating to the Study. Oksana said she does not see how they can do anything. All agreed that there is no room. Tom Schwartz said that it is one of the few public access points they have.

Joyce Marthaller said the ECB members' report stated that one of the intentions of the consultants would be to widen the shoulder to 5 feet on both sides. Right now it is almost half of that in many of places where people walk. That is still a priority/recommendation for them, but how that is all going to be accomplished is uncertain, as it will most likely be a struggle to meet some safety standards and not infringe on people's properties. Doug believes it was Bill Wright who said that the right-of-ways in some places are in the middle of residents' living rooms. There was further discussion about what the Study would recommend for improvements on County Rd. 16.

The next topic of discussion was Complete Streets. Doug said he has had at least two residents make the comment that it is going to be difficult to do anything on County Rd. 16. They would rather the Town invest the energy on doing something on Middle Cheshire Rd., and just try to have some linkages up to Middle Cheshire Rd. to walk and ride their bicycles more safely.

Gary Davis said that they are waiting for the Study and grant, and until they are approved, they cannot move forward. They are going to put through a resolution to the Town Board in regard to Middle

Cheshire Road. This has been discussed with Jim Fletcher. Walking paths and bike lanes will be completed all the way down to the bypass, as well as something by the bypass to go toward Thompson Hospital. There was some grant money that was available, so if work were to begin ahead of the grant money, they would not be eligible for the grant. For that reason, they backed off and decided to wait.

Doug said the Complete Streets Committee had originally forwarded or recommended the Town's resolution/request to the Town Board of funding actually in the budget for 2019, essentially the engineering of Middle Cheshire Road to make it a Complete Street. Through the Genesee Transportation Council, the Uptown, that grant, they learned that Middle Cheshire Road could qualify for its own feasibility study from end to end, all the way to the City line. It would actually extend into the City, crossing all the way over to the hospital, and they could actually apply jointly – City/Town – the Town would obviously be the lead on it, because it is the majority of the miles. The Town cannot do anything at all, or it will not qualify for the grant. Doug said he believes the window for making an application will open in October. Awards are traditionally announced in the spring, at which point work would immediately commence. If the award is granted, a 2019 project, in terms of feasibility, would probably be implemented in 2020.

Karen said she is in agreement with the residents' request that the focus of concentration should be Middle Cheshire Road, because the current condition of West Lake Road is such that there are spots there that nothing can be done about. While there have been no fatalities on West Lake Road, a boy was killed on Middle Cheshire Road. Even if speed were not a factor, it is because of the way people are used to driving that road. Doug agreed.

Doug is in the process of putting together a tentative budget which must, according to state law, be submitted to the Town Board by September 10<sup>th</sup>. It must be prepared by September 6<sup>th</sup> for the clerk to distribute to the Town Board. At that point, the Town Board can make any changes it wishes, call it a preliminary budget, and then release it to the public. There is a line item in the 2019 budget to contract with the sheriff's department for additional enforcement along Middle Cheshire Road and County Road 16. This is a complaint Doug has heard often about speeding vehicles. The Town has some date where they put the trailer out there. Cars are driving at excessive rates of speed. It would cost approximately \$27,000 to have some additional part-time enforcement for approximately 25 hours per week for Middle Cheshire Road and County Road 16 in that area where they would put up stations. It is in the budget right now. The Town Board will make the final decision.

There was a brief discussion about surveillance technology and the fact that it is not something available to the Town at this time. Oksana brought up the number of landscapers on West Lake Road and the fact that there are not always flagmen. Visible instructions for motorists can help reduce the speed of traffic going down the road.

There was a discussion about the Uptown Study and the fact that there are a lot of utility wires on both sides. This will be referenced in the final report from Bergman. Bergman is very clear that in their experience all over state of New York, the utility companies say that it can be done, but they do not cover the cost, which would be millions of dollars. He said that while it would be difficult to go back retroactively, there may be a possibility that as part of development, something could be done.

Tom asked if it ultimately saves the utility company to have all the wires underground, in terms of maintenance. Ray said it does not, because it is a different maintenance.

Doug said that on the topic of the budget, he wanted to get some feedback from everyone regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update in 2019. There has been conversation about doing it internally (more of an update on where things have gone and if some public meetings are needed). Joyce Marthaller said that she thought that before the conversation went further, the NRI inventory needed to be completed, because it is part of the larger picture of the Open Space Master Plan. She said until that is done, they really haven't gone through all the documents regarding natural resources, which is the only one that is left. It has been since (about) 2006 since it has been updated. When the NRI team was still functioning, that was the first project, and then they got sidetracked into code, but it is still there in the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. Joyce said that if they're planning a budget (with Barb from the Villa), it could be done fairly inexpensively, perhaps under \$10,000. That might be a budget item to make sure is in there.

Doug said there actually is some money in this year's (2018) budget. He thinks it is still a project they can start before the end of the year, and it can roll over into 2019. He sees no reason why that couldn't be done within the first half of the year.

Joyce said that with that document done, the review of the Comprehensive Plan is imminent, as it has been since 2003. Doug said they're just talking about an update, not the whole Comprehensive Plan. He said it would be something along the lines of what was done in 2014/15, where they would review where they're at internally. They may identify some public meetings, some new priorities, and add some changes. There will probably need to be some money associated with materials, but for the most part, Doug said he doesn't see any reason why it could not be done in-house.

Joyce asked if we have the personnel/staff to do so. Tom asked why it needs to be changed, as they still have things that they are working on and pursuing. What has occurred that would trigger a new or enhanced goal.

Doug said that he doesn't know that anything has changed or needs to be changed, but the Town is under the guidance of the state to do an update every 5 years, 10 at the most, to the Comprehensive Plan. The last time that was done officially was 2011. Tom asked what the penalty would be if that were not done. Doug said it starts to impact grants, as well as local laws, which are based on the Comprehensive Plan.

Joyce said that one of the things that happens with an update is the fact that it goes into demographics and updates of specific information that is pertinent for development, so if we have the skill set in staff, it would be great, as it would provide another kind of review. Doug said that they have with the consultants' information in the Sewer Master Plan and the Parks and Rec Plan from the last two years that has done all of that and can be referenced.

Eric said that most of that information was provided by the American Community Survey from the Census Bureau, which conducts surveys every year, so everything is there and available for them. Oksana pointed out that the Uptown Study contains the same information.

Joyce said that while action steps to achieve the goal may be provided, the process by which to go about it is not. No strategy is going to provide that. That is something that the team would need to develop as they go.

Doug said that with an update, they can discuss the things that have been accomplished with the CIC, and even, maybe realistically, it could be appendixes. A lot of it could be based on what we already have.

Oksana said she agrees with Joyce that one person is needed to achieve this. Doug asked if anyone thought there was anything else that they need to focus on as a project.

Joyce said to just bring up the ECB and the Open Space and the Strategic Recommendations and budget. They talked about that at the ECB meeting. Since the ECB has not developed a project plan from the Open Space Strategies, they don't know exactly what they are going to do. They are a little concerned that \$3,000 may not be sufficient to cover all the expenses associated with developing public outreach through mailings, etc. Another question is, if it is decided that \$3,000 is adequate, there is still the need for transportable display boards, because the boards that were used at the Open House cannot be picked up easily and stored in cars. If that were a recommendation for the schedule A, then they would not add that into the budget. Joyce also said that the technology in the projector used for the Open House is in need of an update, as nothing was compatible. Without Edith's help, they would not have been able to get it up and running. Doug said that he didn't necessarily agree, as he was able to get it to work without a problem. The conversation continued about the various issues associated with that.

Joyce said it would be an extra \$1,000 - \$1500 if they're not going to get new equipment, and if they are going to get it, her recommendation would be to get it through Schedule A.

Doug said that the funds are completely separate and explained how they are broken down. He said they have already received the check from the County for it.

Oksana brought up the Economic Development Team and the Events Team and said they do not know, as of now, what is going to happen with the economic development. Doug said the City Council and Town Board, during a joint meeting at the end of June, directed him, Karen Dworaczyk and the City Manager to make a recommendation or presentation to them by July 31<sup>st</sup> on a model associated with economic development that would be a joint entity between the City and Town. He said they evaluated four different models. They had a meeting with the Steering Team and presented the ideas, the outcome of which was unless there is a dedicated staff person focused on economic development, they don't believe any of the models will work. There was a specific model (#2) that includes a staff component with a separate Board of Directors and the creation of a limited development corporation. They have been researching the concept of LDCs. The County has one; there is one called the Canandaigua Area Development Corporation. They have a meeting with the Sands the week of 8/13/18 to discuss the possibility of utilizing that existing LDC, or whether they will need to create their own. There are pros and cons regarding a public authority LDC vs. a private authority LDC. The Canandaigua Area Development Corporation is a private LDC essentially controlled by some of the community pillars. With the current structure, the government would have little input into that. They are presently looking at the possibility of creating a public authority that would, for the first three years, be jointly funded by the City and Town to get it up and going. At that point, through reinvestment in and of itself, loaning

money and other grant programs, it could essentially become self-sufficient. They are still exploring all of those details, which is the reason for all of these meetings with Harris Beach and with the people who have created these LDCs - other municipalities (City of Batavia, City of Geneva, Town of Webster).

Tom asked if this is something that could be subcontracted with the Chamber of Commerce. Doug said that had previously been done, but failed. The City contracted with the Chamber, but it did not work for a variety of reasons. He said the reason they believe the LDC model is the way to go is because there would be a Board of Directors that would be independent of both the Town Board and City Council. Doug said they are considering a five-person Board of Directors, with two representatives appointed by the Town Board, two by the City Council, and one by the Chamber. With the two appointees for the Town and City, the requirement is that one appointee be a business owner in the community, and the other could be whoever the Town Board or City Council appoints. Doug said they have also been talking about other stakeholders' involvement and exactly what that makeup would be. They've identified 12 key components, i.e., the hospital, the college, Workforce Development, the IDA, and all those types of entities. The staff person appointed to the position would be hired by, and would report to, the Board of Directors. Their focus is specifically the economic development. During times at which the City and Town may not be on the same page, the thinking is that the Board of Directors, since they are a little removed, will make the decision based on what they believe is best for the community. In addition, there are tax benefits (as well as others) to LDCs vs. an inter-municipal agreement between the City, Town, and Chamber.

Joyce asked that, since it will not be an autonomous group, what input the Town will have. Doug said that the input will come from the two representatives appointed by the Town Board and City Council. Tom asked if these will be paid positions; Doug said they will be volunteer positions. The paid position will be the staff person.

Oksana said she has an issue with the stakeholders, namely that they are not the ones who will be doing the work. Doug agreed and said that is the reason for the paid staff position. Stakeholders provide input. The paid staff person is paid by the LDC, works for the LDC, and is not a Town or City employee. The funding for the first three years by an inter-municipal agreement, per the proposal, is that it would be split between the City and Town to get it up and going, but then in the fourth year, they are on their own (through grants, loans, interest, etc.). Doug said they believe that will give them ample time to do so.

Oksana said there are six topic areas. She asked how the staff person will approach this. Tom said that there will be instructions from the areas of concentration. Doug said that the six areas are the basis for all of it. There are approximately 150 action items associated with those six areas. The Board of Directors will have to prioritize and hold the staff person accountable. The conversation turned to leaning toward public authority vs. private. Doug said the concern is if they don't go to the public authority, and stick with the private entity, then they will have absolutely no input or say. The CADC said they have been waiting for the City and Town to get on board with doing something. They are very interested in being part of this. The CADC may be a stakeholder, rather than on the Board of Directors. The CADC is very interested in the cluster that talks about connecting downtown to the lakefront. Perhaps they could help take the lead on that and work in conjunction with the LDC. Joyce asked what will happen to the current Economic Development Team. Doug said that issue has not yet been addressed. There is still going to be input and a need for project teams.

With regard to the Comprehensive Plan, there have been many times at the Steering Committee level where they've talked about the CIC, the projects, and getting the work done. They've been going to different businesses and have had people tell them what the various challenges are, but beyond that, not much else has been done. Joyce pointed out that the gathering of information is needed and useful toward achieving the goal.

Joyce asked how much of a budget there will be for three years. Doug said they are anticipating a range of \$30,000 - \$60,000.

Karen asked where the money is going to come from that they would use as grants and loans. Doug said the LDC will have the authority (by LDC laws) to apply for the grant. Also, with all, for instance, the CDGB grants, there is a 20% administration fee that that entity can collect and keep to help pay staff and reinvest itself.

Karen said that when making up the Board for this entity, it would be important to have the Board members vested in one or two of the six areas. Everyone agreed.

Doug said that Open Space is mostly completed and will be going before the Town Board on August 20<sup>th</sup> for adoption. Joyce said there will be a resolution in the advisory opinion for the ECB that they accept it as the Open Space Index, and not as the Master Plan, as that is how it is in the code.

Tom said he didn't see any new budget items for the Planning Board.

Doug said that, with regard to Complete Streets, he and Gary had had a brief discussion about it and the possibility of there being something in there for some projects. Sarah said that that is the biggest thing for next year, in terms of big projects. Gary said they're going to dovetail with Jim Fletcher on it.

Doug asked Sarah and Ray to give an update on the Cultural and Historic Project Team. They have already sent their request \$5,000,000. Ray didn't have any information about the grant. Sarah announced that the grant that the History Team had applied for was approved. They will be speaking with the Bero Architecture within the next week or two, when they come out for a preliminary meeting to get started with their background information. Sarah said she thinks the first phase, which is doing background information and some of the windshield surveying, will be wrapped up by next fall. By then they will hopefully know whether they have received the second grant, and if so, they can apply for the second phase to finish up the whole survey and get the big report on all the historic properties. The History Team has also been talking about the signs at the parks, especially Onanda, and another sign at Miller Park. Ray said the plan is to write the description of the park and how it began, and keep it in the agricultural market. He said at the top of the hill, the four directions, including the view of the City, are visible.

Joyce said one of the items they talked about at the ECB is the fact they have a couple of different committees working on signage and perhaps they should start looking at standardizing the Town's signs. Sarah mentioned the new sign (with its new look of blue and white) on the lawn in the front of the Town Hall.

Karen asked if the Town has a specific design in mind, because it would really help Parks and Rec to know what it is. Doug said the Parks and Rec Master Plan talks about the signage and kiosks, but the

main sign is the same at all the parks, with the blue and white with raised lettering. The importance of consistency was discussed.

Doug said from a budgetary request perspective, the 2018 budget included the Phase I of the cultural and historic survey. They will have to encumber some of that over into 2019 and budget additional money for Phase II for them to make the grant application in 2019.

Sarah said when they applied for the grant, they used Bero Architecture's proposal in their application, so the Landmark Society preserved NY grantors know it is their intention.

Doug asked Sarah to talk about the Ag Committee and what they've been doing lately. Sarah said they have two PDR applications that they're going to submit to the Ag and markets hopefully by next week. They are due by the end of the month. Altogether, there are three farms going into Ag and markets as PDR hopefuls.

Tom asked if the competition has increased for PDRs. Sarah said she believes so. There was a discussion about various signs some committee members said they have seen – three that read 'Right to Farm', and one in Watkins Glen, with a picture of a tractor, that read, 'Be courteous. This is how you eat three times a day.'

Tom asked about having actual signs on the PDRs. He said a land trust puts it on private easements. All agreed that would be a good idea. Sarah said she thought she had read that that cannot be used as part of the grant money.

Oksana asked what they are going to do about the Ag Committee. Doug said at the next meeting, they are going to have a conversation with them about restructuring. There is opportunity for improvement there. Sarah said they met the week before and had a suggestion for the Economic Development Committee, which is that as the EDC tours businesses, why not a farm. They've been invited to a dairy farm, at some point. Sarah said Bob DeCarlo, who is a partner at FABA farms, said that they need to stop thinking of agriculture as separate from business, as this is a business in the Town and should be treated as such.

Doug said that he, Sarah, and Ray have been talking about cemeteries. Their Capital Improvement Plan identifies improvements to cemeteries. For 2019, it identifies the fence at Hunn Cemetery on Woolhouse Road. Ray said it is going to be a wooden fence.

Doug asked Kelly LaVoie if there was any information to share about the Zoning Board. She said there was not.

Oksana brought up Events. Doug said Karen is going to be coordinating with the Parks Committee about the possibility of there being events in the parks that they would like to be involved in, but not necessarily about events outside the parks.

Joyce said she had a comment regarding Parks and Rec. They need conversation at the ECB, because their focus is when Edith Davey will be giving a presentation for a bird habitat. Edith is the one who developed all the vegetation that is now supposed to be growing. They had started putting newsletter articles in now to prepare the public for the presentation at Miller Park in September, as that was the goal. Edith feels now that after having been out there, they are far away from a September presentation,

and she has indicated that the rocks, trees, and plants that were supposed to have been planted have not been, in part, because of the weather. Karen said that it is partly because of comments made by people who have been visiting the park, stating that they liked it just the way it was. All the planting has been put off until September. Doug said that some of the trees that had been planted have died, so the contractor has to come back and replace them, but they're not willing to do that until the fall, when the weather cools down a bit. The whole center section of grassland will all be plowed up and the wildflower seeds planted in September/October. The parking lot was just paved last Friday, or at least was supposed to be. The rain garden has not been put in yet. They are not ready for a presentation, at this point.

Joyce stated the need for the EDT to be informed about what is happening at least one month ahead of time so we can time our newsletter articles. She said that if Edith could keep them apprised, they would appreciate it.

Doug said he believes the plan is to still have the ribbon-cutting ceremony this fall in September or October. They still have some maintenance-related items that have to be finished off. The sign has been, or is in the process of being, installed out there. There are things happening, but we are also having to rely on some contractors.

Karen asked if there could be a presentation in anticipation of a park opening. Joyce said that part of it is the plants that have been planted that are bird food, so it's not just the habitat. Joyce asked if they should shelve it for this season and put it in their project plan for next year. Doug said he is not sure if the interpretive signs will be done by next spring. He said they may have to revisit the matter, perhaps with the Parks and Rec Committee. Doug said that when he met with the Parks and Rec Committee, they requested, from a budget request perspective, additional support for planning programming. Dennis Brewer, as part-time Director of Parks and Rec, is very focused on day programs. There was a request for the person to focus on senior programs and other types of activities and events that could take place in the parks.

Joyce asked if that means the Town will be doing programming that may involve the bird habitat and things of that nature. Karen suggested they work together, as they are in the beginning stages of trying to do some programs for seniors, both active and non-active. They started out by doing two trips last year. There are three trips this year. With each trip, they've had increasingly more people, so it's catching on. There is now a list of activities that they could use, for example, Outhouse Park for card games and board games, and different types of other activities. One of the suggestions on the list is having periodic lecture-type activities. Karen's feeling is that a senior program, as well as other adult programs, could use the help of, perhaps, a retired Parks and Recreation Director.

Joyce said that in the ECB's Projects Plan that they are going to give to the Board in January for approval of all the projects they plan to do this year, they will be glad to talk with Karen.

Doug said that Ag Safety Day is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am – 3 pm at the New York Steam Engine Pageant Ground.

The next topic for discussion was TDR, and Doug distributed copies of the Town's recommendation letter to the Town Board dated June 19<sup>th</sup>. The letter provided some background, as well as five key recommendations:

- 1) The adoption of the Open Space Conservation Scenic Views Master Plan
- 2) The policy regarding the Open Space Reserve Fund
- 3) TDR and Incentive Zoning Funding
- 4) Funding for Open Space
- 5) Conservation Lead

The Town Board did pass a resolution that accepted the five recommendations. The resolution goes on with further clarifications relative to some dates that Doug has to prepare some dates back to them. One of the deadlines is September 17<sup>th</sup>. The Open Space Reserve Fund has existed since 2000. In the resolution, when it was originally created, Doug quoted the date the resolution was originally created under the History section. He said it is intentionally vague, which is the intent of all the Town's policies. The policy statement (purpose) provides some clarifications. Under funding, it references a budget line item. Doug said he is trying to work that into the 2019 budget, although he is not sure if it will survive the expected budget cuts. Fund balance transfer is most likely going to be difficult this year. They have spent a lot of money on the Highway Building. Doug said he is estimating the tax rate, at present, to be \$1.01. The true impact of the Highway Building is \$.22. The Town's tax rate was \$.91. If they were going to levy that whole thing for the principal and interest payment for the 15 years, it would be an increase of \$.22, which would mean they would have to go to \$1.13. However, through creative measures, he is trying to reduce that as much as possible. It is not certain that it will be \$1.10, but that is what they are aiming for.

Joyce asked what was meant by 'Prevention of Suburban or Urban Sprawl' under the 'Expenditures' heading. Doug said he looked at what several other municipalities had in their Open Space Reserve Fund policies, and that is in quite a few of them. The question/issue is whether or not a parcel is used for agricultural purposes, the Town could say they want to put a conservation easement on that parcel to prevent the creep, or even as a buffer going North from Uptown.

Karen asked what the balance is of the Open Space Reserve Fund. Doug said that he believes it is in the \$400,000 - \$500,000 range. They have been using it for the PDR applications. They have a sign (in the sign fund balance) right now (approximately \$50,000) for potential PDR grant applications if they get awarded. They have about another \$30,000, plus or minus, that is assigned for the Brock Acres PDR application, which has already been approved, but that has not yet gone to closing. They don't actually withdraw the money from those funds until the closing of the conservation easement.

Karen asked if there is currently funding going into that fund. Doug said there has not been for the last six years. Karen asked what the line item fees are that are associated with the development and if they would be additional fees that would be added on to development. Doug said that has been talked about and is in the Master Plan. Tom said people are charged \$1,000 for the Parks and Rec fee and pointed out that the additional fee would be for outsiders who would have no say in it. Doug said that he believes it will generate some debate.

Oksana asked what the objection would be from the Town Board. Doug said the comments he's heard already are that the Town charges everybody enough, and it's not fair to target new residents coming in or somebody developing, versus everybody sharing. Karen asked if there are grants available to add to the Open Space Fund. Doug said they would be project-specific, not just to add to Open Space. The

Open Space Plan references some different opportunities. Typically, it has been funded by fund balance transfers.

Joyce asked Doug a question regarding the Wetlands Renewal Project on Sucker Brook, which had been deemed eligible for funding. She asked if this policy would have paid for that project. Doug said that theoretically, all of those things could come out of this fund, if this policy is adopted as it is written. The Wetlands Renewable Project on Sucker Brook was paid by the Town, the City, and State grant money through the DEC. Two of the eight projects have been completed, and the remaining six will be paid for in the same manner. Joyce expressed concern that if they begin to utilize this funding source for similar projects, and they are not making a yearly contribution to this fund, the fund could be depleted very quickly. She said she believes it is very important for the Town Board members to understand that the money needs to be replenished, because they have a lot of priorities, especially when it comes to conservation easements and things of those nature. Doug said he agreed completely. He said the legislation that actually created the Open Space Reserve Fund, as like most reserve funds, is subject to permissive referendums, so if the Town Board were to decide to take \$200,000 out of it to do a Wetland, the residents could always petition to say they do not feel it is an appropriate use of the money. Karen reiterated the importance of consistently reimbursing that fund. She said that would indicate the need for a line item transfer and development fees. She stressed the importance of both. Everyone was in agreement.

Doug asked Joyce and Tom if this touched upon the general things that they had been thinking and talking about. They said it absolutely did. He said the Town Board needs to get on board. Joyce said that she thinks the interesting thing will be when they get the Open Space Plan adopted, to see what the feeling is among the Board about implementing, because this is an implementation strategy. It is going to be how much they are investing in the policy itself, and then the Open Space Master Plan. Doug said he does not believe that the current configuration of staff is going to be able to take on these additional projects, even with what they had discussed with the Comprehensive Plan. If he puts a Conservation Lead in the budget and the Town Board takes it out, that would indicate where they're at. Joyce asked if there is anything the CIC can do, in this budget process, to influence the Board in any way, i.e., give an advisory opinion about the implementation of this policy and how important it is to look at both revenue streams. Doug said he would like to go over the general fund with them, and if they are going to advance some of these things, he will need their support at the Town Board level. Everyone agreed.

Oksana said the Open Space Master Plan is coming before the Board on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Doug said there will be a Public Hearing and then the resolution to adopt the Plan. The Joint Meeting will be at 5:00 pm. The topic for the Joint Meeting will be about economic development. Doug suggested advocating for budget appropriation for the Open Space Plan, the implementation of it, including the funding of the Open Space Reserve Fund, Conservation Lead, etc. He said he may not have the specific numbers by then. The budget this year is very different. The Highway Building is a big impact, and the things the Town is doing with the City, in terms of fire protection. Doug has had many conversations with the City and City Manager and has every reason to believe that, in the next 30 days, they will have the 10<sup>th</sup> firefighter. The contract with the City will require them to have at least a minimum of 12 full-time career firefighters in place by February 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be financial and other punitive damage penalties if those types of things are not in place, and a funding level of \$500,000 with the City to make that happen essentially takes that tax rate from \$.71 to \$.73 for fire protection. It works out to \$18.86 a year. It is still

not to the level at which firefighters need to be. The report calls out specific numbers per shift, which equates to 18 career firefighters. That is, eventually, where it needs to go. They need to collaborate and work together to achieve that.

Doug said there will need to be a conversation about TDRs at the next meeting. They have the recommendation that they provided. The Ag Plan/TDR is August 21<sup>st</sup>, and September 4<sup>th</sup> is Parks Master Plan Implementation Update.

➤ **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

None at this time.

**UPCOMING MEETING TOPICS**

Ag Plan Update/TDR

➤ **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:20AM.

Next meeting scheduled for August 21, 2018.