

March 12, 2016

A Joint Informal Meeting of the Nunda Village Board of Trustees, Nunda Town Board of Councilmen and Keshequa Central Schools Board of Education was held on March 12, 2016 with the following present:

Village Board: Mayor Robert Cox
Deputy Mayor Fritz Amrhein
Trustee Darren Snyder

Village Clerk-Treasurer: LeRoy Wood

Town Board: Supervisor Meerilee Walker
Councilperson Doris Marsh
Councilperson William Mann
Councilperson James Forrester

Town Clerk: Cheyenne DeMarco
Town Highway Supervisor: Rick Moran

Keshequa Central School Board of Education
President, Todd Galton
Ron Duttweiler
Monica Morris
Jeff Bugman
Terry Lowell
Jill Burley

Keshequa Schools Superintendent: Thomas Kopp

Call Informal Meeting to Order

School Board President Galton called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

School Board President Galton welcomed everyone and had each person introduce themselves. The agenda for this Informal Meeting was presented to all. School Board President Galton stated the purpose of this meeting is to find ways to reach a common goal of saving taxpayers money through shared services.

Shared Services Possibilities

Councilperson Forrester stated a change in mind set to look for essential leveraged opportunities to find more resources.

School Superintendent Kopp discussed properties for potential consolidation. Potential relocation of Town Buildings. Is Once Again Nut Butter looking at purchasing the Town property for potential development? A map provided was reviewed by all with feasibility to develop School Property with Federal Wet Lands not likely at this time.

Councilperson Marsh stated she thinks with any potential relocation, we (Town) would need more than four acres that could potentially be available at this time.

School Board President Galton stated there would need to be a four – five-acre pad for Town vehicles to operate. A shared mechanic at the bus garage could be used for both Village and Town needs.

Highway Supervisor Moran in discussing the bus garage opportunities was in favor of the idea however, would want further examination of the premises to make sure the existing infrastructure could support the heavy equipment owned and used by the municipalities. What would happen to the Town properties on Water Cure Road if Once Again Nut Butter was not ready at this time to purchase for additional development?

Councilperson Forrester stated the need to move is less urgent and that an open dialogue would need to be conducted with the Town and Once Again Nut Butter to have an understanding of their intentions with the property in the near future or long term goal. Both Town buildings at the Water Cure Road site are in rough shape. The true urgency is to preclude all municipalities in working together.

Town Supervisor Walker stated concern with the Village equipment fitting into their present building and that maybe the Village would take the opportunity to use the Town buildings if the Town were to move their equipment to a new location.

Mayor Cox stated the Village is always looking into possible changes.

School Board President Galton asked Mayor Cox if the Dalton location of the bus garage was too far out of the Village to make this work.

Mayor Cox replied, no, he did not think it was too far out of the Village to make something work if need be.

School Board President Galton discussed the use of equipment at the Dalton bus garage with accountability of parts, equipment, concern with weight of trucks, fuel costs, and the use of a shared mechanic. It was also stated the tight fiscal situation the school is at this time.

Councilperson Marsh asked if the bus mechanic is certified.

School Superintendent Kopp answered, yes.

School Board President Galton expressed concern with keeping all employees School/Town/Village busy on the labor side of any issue.

Highway Supervisor Moran agreed with the Village possibly moving into the Town Buildings on Water Cure Road until Once Again Nut Butter made their decision to purchase and develop this site from the Town, if the Town in the future had the intent to sell. A concern would be with the heavy equipment the burning of additional fuel by the Village if they were to relocate to the bus garage area in Dalton.

Councilperson Marsh stated concern with plowing snow. Could the Town plow school parking lots?

Mayor Cox stated that all three entities do many things together right now that others may not see.

School Board Member Duttweiler stated that we need to get out of the mentality that this our territory individually, School/Town/Village and needed to work together in mutually knowing that this is all of our territory collectively.

Councilperson Marsh agrees.

Old Bus Garage – Busy Bees

School Board President Galton stated this building located across the Keshequa Creek from the Keshequa Schools has potential for additional use.

Councilperson Forrester stated there is a challenge with flooding. Can the property be leased?

School Board President Galton stated he thinks so.

Councilperson Forrester stated it would be nice to have a return of Nunda Mustard and that this building is plenty big. We need to keep pushing but looking for something or someone to use this building.

Mayor Cox stated we have looked at the building and would probably build where our buildings are already located if necessary.

Councilperson Marsh stated she would contact the Office of the Aging for potential use of this building.

Long Term Plans for School District

School Superintendent Kopp mentioned the eventual closing of the Dalton School Building and relocating the students to one campus in Nunda. Looking at potentially selling or leasing this property for income. Mr. Kopp stated the hard work right now is keeping the School fiscally stable and keeping the KCS imprint on the community. Are water and sewer services a feasible option at the Dalton School?

Councilperson Marsh stated around the 2007 time frame an option to have water and sewer expansion to Dalton was turned down by vote. A grant would need to be attained.

Councilperson Forrester stated the need to keep options open for Dalton to have water and sewer services. There is a concern with water quality with methane, alternate water source and key infrastructure in place.

School Board President Galton stated there is a need for water and sewer at the Dalton School for any potential sale or lease options.

School Board Member Lowell asked if the sewer plant was made to handle potential Dalton customers?

Mayor Cox stated the sewer capacity would not be a concern however, water needs would need to be expanded.

Highway Supervisor Moran asked when would we see water and sewer in Dalton?

School Board Member Lowell stated the Village could use water captured in Dalton from existing wells. There are grant monies available through the school for water and sewer.

School Superintendent Kopp stated that this vision would be a five to six-year endeavor with an architecture firm needing to be contacted for any type of expansion.

Town Supervisor Walker stated there is a grant writer at the county level that could work in creating a Joint Town/Village/School grant request.

Councilperson Forrester stated shared services and the notion of common sense.

School Board Member Lowell stated now is the time to market the water and sewer services to the Dalton School.

Village Trustee Snyder stated how hard Phil Brooks worked at a water and sewer expansion project to Dalton in the past.

Councilperson Forrester stated more dialogue with both boards with new members coming onboard next month.

Trustee Snyder stated we have great people working in the Village.

School Board Member Lowell and Councilperson Forrester both stated we have much at stake more than people realize.

Councilperson Marsh asked about special education programs being sent to Dalton School?

School Superintendent Kopp stated BOCES and other programs cannot cross county lines.

School Board Member Lowell stated a petition to county to get more of a share for the lower part of the county.

Highway Supervisor Moran stated he has been asking county for assistance for Town Roads, De Groff Road in particular to no avail.

Councilperson Mann asked about the Dalton School being utilized as a campus for SUNY Alfred? Specialized campus.

Councilperson Forrester stated a single vocational school.

School Board Member Lowell stated Dalton School is a beautiful building to be left vacant.

School Board Member Duttweiler stated the impact of other municipalities and when schools close in those communities.

School Board Member Lowell stated it is to late for a water and sewer grant.

Councilperson Forrester stated no grant applications are in at this time. The two municipalities and School District need to get together and discuss the three main urgencies;

1. Water and sewer opportunity to Dalton
2. Highways
3. Discuss with Nunda Mustard about usage of KCS Busy Bees Property

Mayor Cox stated he has contacted New York State Senator Young's office for assistance.

Highway Supervisor Moran stated New York State Senator Young and Assemblyman Nojay have helped us and are prenominal.

Immediate Needs – Possible Shared Costs

Superintendent Kopp stated the importance of safety issues with our student population.

Mayor Cox has inquired about flashing lights, cost and implementation, crossing guards, signs, putting signs up for the safety our students who may walk to and from school. The New York State Highway Department has expressed that any signs the Village were to put in place for student safety, they would take down. This was to alleviate any confusion with road signage.

Town Supervisor Walker discussed sidewalk grants.

School Board President Galton mentioned placing reflective tape on the street, putting up signs, anything the school can do as student safety is always a top priority.

Mayor Cox discussed sidewalk grants that have been submitted in the past for additional sidewalks to Robert Rymer Athletic Fields, to Shop-N-Save and Kiwanis Park.

Councilperson Forrester stated to put the signs up. This draws on the critical mass between School, Village and Town.

School Board President Galton asked the Village Mayor what the cost with having flashing lights at the corner of Mill Street and South Church Street and at Rymer Athletic Fields?

Mayor Cox replied \$8-12 thousand dollars' initial investment with annual cost of \$1,250.

Trustee Snyder stated the three boards should get together to discuss issues and concerns once to twice annually.

Councilperson Forrester asked the Village Mayor if there is a Public Works Committee to regularly meet to get traction?

Mayor Cox stated there was and that they could meet. The Mayor also stated they could reach out to New York State Senator Young and Assemblyman Nojay for any assistance.

Councilperson Forrester stated to Mayor Cox and School Board President Galton the need to get together to review immediate concerns with who else is on both municipality Highway Committees and to initiate contact with New York State Senator Young to sit down and discuss those concerns.

School Board President Galton stated the dialogue this morning has been awesome and that another meeting should be scheduled. A date of April 23, 2016 at 8:00 AM was decided upon.

Other information discussed in closing was contacting Heather Grant, Livingston County Grant Writer in how to obtain copies of successful water/sewer grants that have been awarded and creating a water opportunity consortium.

School Board President expressed thanks for all in attendance and concluded this informal meeting at 9:22 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy J. Wood
Village Clerk-Treasurer