



Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsville held in Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, New York on Monday, August 10, 1987 at 8:00 P.M.

Large vouchers were for Britting-Gelia Agency, J & I Disposal, Niagara Mohawk, Lancaster Stone and Sunshine Construction.

Unanimously carried.

Trustee Kibby reported that the Planning Board has held a meeting to revise the Village Sign Code.

Trustee Kibby stated that since Mr. Ciminelli has withdrawn his plan for connecting the 41 homes of the Centerpointe Development to Academy and Rinewalt Streets, he has withdrawn his first resolution. The second resolution, which deals with the Village Board's opposition to the connection of Essjay and Evans is being offered by Trustee Kibby but is actually the resolution of the entire Board.

ON MOTION by Trustee Kibby, seconded by Trustee Schlifke, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, Private developers plan an intersection of Essjay Road and Evans Street in the Village of Williamsville, and

WHEREAS, Erie County did, earlier this year, grant a renewal of a curb-cut on Evans Street that permits such an intersection, and

WHEREAS, The original curb-cut permit was granted approximately a decade ago to a single owner for limited access for private purposes, and

WHEREAS, Representatives and employees of certain Erie County offices have demonstrated complete indifference to the needs and concerns of Village residents as displayed by their incomprehensible failure even to notify the Village that such a curb-cut renewal was to be considered, and

WHEREAS, Local traffic on Evans Street is already straining the capacity of the street and creating traffic conditions which, if unchecked, will destroy the habitability and neighborhood character of the street and the intersecting avenues and streets in the Village, and

WHEREAS, The present curb-cut will connect an already busy county road to a development containing thousands of square feet of office space, a large commercial shopping plaza, and more than a hundred housing units, resulting in an unmanageable influx of traffic onto Evans Street and the Village, and

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WHEREAS, The conditions created by the ever-increasing traffic are well known to both Town and County Public Officials who appear willing, by both action and inaction, to consent to the detriment of hundreds of family residences in the Village of Williamsville rather than encourage or permit an alternative cut-through to Youngs Road through a privately owned club, which would result in the disruption of no residences, now

THEREFORE, Be it resolved that the Williamsville Village Board hereby records its unyielding opposition to the creation of this most critical and dangerous intersection, and

FURTHER, Be it resolved to call upon all other municipal and Village Officials to join us in resisting the continuation of this mindless and complacent acquiescence by Town and County Officials in the never-ending development proposals that are inadequately conceived; fail to take into account traffic, noise and disruption of the daily lives of residents; and which appear to be motivated only by an insatiable desire for private gain, and

FURTHER, Be it resolved that Erie County initiate proceedings to revoke this curb-cut permit.

Unanimously carried.

Trustees Schlifke, Sweeney and Bindert had no reports or resolutions.

ON MOTION by Mayor Brenton, seconded by Trustee Sweeney, it was moved to suspend rules for public participation.

Unanimously carried.

Elroy Avery, 75 Rinewalt Street, thanked the Board, on behalf of their Association, for the resolution.

Charlotte Jurek, 81 Evans Street also applauded the resolution. Additionally, she read a statement regarding Evans traffic. (Copy of statement attached.)

Mrs. Lowe, 73 Evans Street, stated her home was recently placed on the market for sale. There was an interested buyer until an article appeared in the newspaper about the proposed Ciminelli development and the increased traffic it would produce. The prospective buyer withdrew their offer and she has not been able to sell her house because of the traffic.

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Peter Galie, 22 Highland, wondered if the Board was going to take any action on the lack of action of the Little White House to live up to the provisions of their Exceptional Development Permit in regard to their landscaping. Mayor Brenton stated this had been discussed in the work session. A letter had been written to the owner of the Little White House informing him that he is in violation of the Exceptional Development Permit and he had until August 8th to comply with the requirements. On August 6th, Mr. Baker requested an extension of 60 days from the Village Board since he has just purchased the restaurant. The Board is going to give Mr. Baker an extension until October 1st, but he must stop parking on the subject parking lot immediately, he must remove the 10 feet of paving which he was not to have paved, he must submit a new parking plan with pavement markings and provide the Board with an alternate planting plan if the ones specified in the Exceptional Development Permit are not available. Mr. Baker, who was present in the audience, stated the matters will be taken care of immediately.

Mrs. Guillaume, 120 Eagle Street, spoke on having lived in her home for many years and the increased traffic on Evans Street and resisting the need for additional roads coming out into Evans Street.

Richard Czechowicz, 29 Belmont Street, spoke regarding the people of Belmont and surrounding streets where there are many elderly and some handicapped people. Recently Trustee Bindert viewed the traffic on that street about 2:15 P.M. which is very high for a residential street. He also inquired if the Board had any correspondence from Legislator Anderson whose district the proposed project is located. Mayor Brenton stated Legislator Anderson had not been notified of our meeting; however correspondence will be sent to various County officials after this meeting.

Sara Mischler, 186 Evans Street, stated she protests the street that is proposed from Evans as an entrance to the Ciminelli property. Evans Street carries more than its share of traffic now. It is difficult to pull out of their drive-ways to go south and almost impossible to pull out and go north. The added hazard of another road exiting into Evans as well as being at the bottom of a hill makes her angry. It was her understanding that the original curb cut was issued for a small industry that would have little traffic. Does the County know the size of the development that will be using the proposed street?

Stacy Gold, 136 Evans Street, wanted to know what would happen now? Trustee Kibby stated that a letter will be drawn up and the resolution which was just adopted will be sent to various County officials.

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Dan Chase from the Williamsville Businessmen's Association stated he has gotten calls from concerned citizens and assured the Board and residents present that his organization of 150 members supports the action of the Village Board.

George Glatt, 174 Evans, agreed with everything that's been said here 1000%. It is too difficult to go into the Village to spend our money now. It will be more difficult if this road is cut into Evans Street.

Mary Lowther, 122 Chalmers Street, asked whether the resolution just adopted would be sent to the Town Planning Board. Trustee Kibby stated it would be forwarded to the Town.

Mayor Brenton stated that although we are located within the Town of Amherst, we are a unique community and although the Town grows by its very nature, we do not want that here in the Village.

Gail Lawrence, 40 Rinewalt, requested information on the lead agency status of the project. At the last Town Board meeting, they stated they had to ask the Village if they were to be the lead agency. Trustee Sweeney stated we had received from the Town Planning Department on August 4th, a letter basically acknowledging that the Town previously had not gone through the formality of notifying the Village that the study was about to be commenced and the Village and Town should be designated as mutual lead agencies with the Town or the Village acting as the primary reviewer of the Impact Statement. It is simply a case that the Village received the letter and we will be responding to it but at this point we have not made a decision as to what will be in the response. This is a procedural statement which must be done before the study can be accepted and before the Town can hold the hearing. The Village will be in a position to respond to this coordinating letter sooner than the 30 days which we are allowed.

Ms. Steinbrenner, 54 Rinewalt Street, asked who has the final say as to whether this cut goes in? Is it the Town or is it the Planning Board. Mayor Brenton stated the Village is trying to exercise as much control as they can because of the location of the property. The Town has total control over the area outside the Village.

Gartley Weller, 129 Mill Street, applauded the Board for their resolution. However, he is also concerned about the excessive traffic on Mill Street. He says it is unbearable and intolerable. If Essjay is connected to Evans, it will be even worse. Mayor Brenton stated that at the last meeting, the Traffic and Safety Committee was requested to consider making Belmont a one-way street, which would probably help. Mr. Weller asked if the Village could get more police protection and enforcement in the area.

81

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsville held in Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, New York on Monday, August 10, 1987 at 8:00 P.M.

Peggy Santillo, 37 Rinewalt Street, thanked the Mayor and Trustees and stated the residents were lucky to have a Village Board which is indeed responsive to the wishes of the residents. She stated that four weeks ago, when they began working on this project, no one realized what it would snowball into. Just by reviewing the various documents, anyone interested in our environment would become concerned. She asked Trustee Sweeney if he was aware of any revisions that would have to be made to the E.I.S. because the development will be reversed with all the traffis now heading north. Trustee Sweeney said the purpose of this process is to solicit comments in a very general way from interested individuals and groups. It is written in a very conceptual sense. He thinks a supplement to the present report will probably have to be produced before the report can be accepted as a final report. Trustee Sweeney stated the Village Board will be commenting on those areas of the report which pertain to the Village and its residents.

ON MOTION by Mayor Brenton, seconded by Trustee Schlifke, it was moved to return to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION by Mayor Brenton, seconded by Trustee Bindert, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Theresa L. Cummins  
Village Clerk/Treasurer

82