

Hamlin Public Hearing  
November 13, 2017

The Hamlin Town Board held a Public Hearing in the Hamlin Town Hall located at 1658 Lake Road, Hamlin, New York. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Peters. The locations of the fire exits and defibrillator were explained for those present.

Present: Councilperson Jason Baxter, Councilperson Jennifer Voelkl, Councilperson Martin Maier, Councilperson Dave Rose and Supervisor Eric Peters.

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Michelle Johnson, Highway Superintendent Steve Baase, Assessor Dan Stanford, Bookkeeper to Supervisor Norm St. John, Rick Wright Hamlin Ambulance Director and Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Cheryl Pacelli.

Residents: Sherry Dobson

Public hearing was opened for The Town of Hamlin FY 2018 Budget

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Sherry Dobson submitted a letter as follows:

Dear Board Members:

I would like to thank two board members who came to my neighborhood in early November. It gave me a good opportunity to show the board members what the main park located in the Huntington Park Subdivision was like. The park system located within the subdivision is a total of 146 acres, mostly green space.

I explained how for years starting in the 70's there was numerous playground equipment. Swings, slide, rocking horses and a go-around object, also there was a flying saucer available in another area to climb on. There is a baseball field with a back stop still there. The swings were relocated several years ago and the rest of the equipment was removed. Highway Superintendent Tom Ingraham has asked my thoughts about the moving of the playground equipment to the middle of the green area. I agreed it was a great thing he was doing as the equipment would be seen by the many walker/children. Not all the equipment was moved. Why I don't know.

For many years I had suggested they put in a basketball court as there was a tennis court between Downs Meadow and Huntington to perhaps use. I had a son and his friends were interested in playing. Our driveway is one of the highest on our street so a basket hoop in our driveway was not possible. Some of the houses that have them are portable ones that get rolled to the street. I have been coming to the board for several years since retiring. Being home during the day I could see the residents come to use the parks and playground and are disappointed at what they see. I came to the board, you suggested a committee. I got a volunteer from every street, but I was told then they didn't want to meet with that many people. I got suggestions which was a variety of suggestions. One was a basketball court instead of a tennis court as it never has nets. I knew there was a surplus of money from the line item we have been paying for years to maintain the parks. Which is mainly cutting the grass. I believed it was going to happen as \$10,000 was taken from that fund. Dog containers were put up and I believe basketball hoops. The balance of the money was for blacktop. Last year \$7,000 was moved over to this year as it

was too late to do the topping. Last year the board mentioned getting a plan. Wow who would thought. Some people have complained that the basketballs make too much noise. Let's put on our big boy pants and say it is good to have the children play in a safe area instead of the streets, how good the children are to be out doors, not playing video games and that the town has provided an opportunity to play with their friends on equipment they might not be able to have at their home. You can't be faulted for that.

So I am here tonight this may be my fourth year in a row. I thought of bringing a petition. I hope there is a plan. I hope equipment is being worked on. I hope a father who brings his children to park will have more than one swing for the little ones so both can swing at the same item. Maybe even something to climb on. I can always hope.

A park is the lowest form of entertainment. There you will see walkers, bikers and families enjoying themselves. Maybe have a picnic. Do you know every time I meet a new resident to our track I educate them to the line item they never knew they are paying.

Tonight, I will be waiting to hear is there a plan. If there is not one I see a large amount of people need to come, petitions filed before you will do anything. I hope to hear form a report from your designated person there is a plan. The board members have discussed this at budget meeting's but no one can say there is a plan when I ask. Then those who are elected should delegate someone to come up with one. 26 pay periods at about \$167.00 each plus benefits for a seasonal job not bad.

I don't want to be difficult but come on. These are our children who don't vote but when they grow up won't stay in our town either but deserve good memories.

Thank you,  
Sherry Dobson

She indicated that she has been working on the plan for playground equipment for the Huntington Park for several years now. She has a letter from Lawyer Licht to Past Supervisor Warner regarding his suggestion to have them put together a petition for the items they want and present to the Board.

She would like to know what the plans are, does she need to get a petition together, do they need to do fundraising, what are they getting for the line item they pay taxes on.

Baase indicated that some of the money on that line item has been used for fixing ditching due to things the residents had done that caused some issues with the drainage. It has been a rough year with all the lake front issues, so he has not had the time to focus more on what they plan to do, but the Supervisor and the Superintendent are planning towards what they want to do. They will be sending out a survey to the Residents asking what they would like to see and what age group to focus on. It was indicated that up to 12 years old would probably be best.

Sherry was concerned there was not enough money to get equipment. Norm indicated that there is money and it would just need a budget amendment.

It was suggested that she does form a friends of the Park group as it would be easier for them to get grant money as they make it more available to groups like that.

With no one else wishing to address the board the Public Hearing was closed.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

Resolution #202 Motion was made by Councilperson Maier, seconded by Councilperson Voelkl requesting Town Board resolution to close the Public Hearing regarding the Town of Hamlin Budget FY 2018.

Polled Votes: Councilperson Baxter aye, Councilperson Voelkl aye, Councilperson Maier aye, Councilperson Rose aye and Supervisor Peters aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi A. Rickman, MMC  
Hamlin Town Clerk