

RECESSED MEETING, TOWN BOARD, OCTOBER 16, 2012 GAS DRILLING

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A recessed meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on October 16, 2012 at 6:30PM at the Lake Huntington Fire Dept. with the following members present:

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 6:38 PM.

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas
Councilperson Larry Richardson
Councilperson Edwin Grund
Councilperson Richard Schulman
Councilperson Anna Story

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk Eileen Hennessy –Tax Collector
Sharron Cardone –Planning Board Chair George Walter --SPO

Supervisor Maas read the RULES FOR CONDUCT FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS, which were printed on the back of the agenda. He also stated that e-mail and letters sent would not be read, but the Town Board members have copies of each

All 43 people wanting to speak were heard, and the majority wants to either ban or have a moratorium for gas drilling. The list of persons speaking is on file at the Town Clerk's office.

The people that wanted a ban or moratorium had concerns regarding fracking and what it would do to the environment, water, air quality and other health and safety issues. Many of the persons that spoke were the same ones that signed the petition for Keep Cochecton Green

There were several persons that were in favor of gas drilling. These persons felt that fracking could be done safely. They also may have signed a petition that Peter Grosser presented to the Town Board this evening

Several people want to wait to see what regs. DEC come up with and not to be swayed by scare tactics. Need more information about fracking

There were people from surrounding communities that were also heard

Councilperson Schulman stated he had a poultry farm for over 50 years, raised 350,000 broilers a year, knows the importance of water. Sold to the duck farm and they were happy to know that the well produced 40 gallons a minute. In the beginning he was for drilling, but having learned more about the chemicals he would be in favor of a moratorium. He is against gas drilling.

Councilperson Richardson thanked everyone for coming out information has evolved and he has been to several meetings, hearings and comments sessions re: gas drilling. Within the next few weeks or month he will be prepared to make a decision.

Supervisor thanked everyone; they are passionate about their positions. There is a Moratorium in NYS, most likely will be doing a health impact study and if the regs are not out by November 29, 2012 there will have to be Public Hearings again, which will afford the Town the ability to review the regs and be better prepared to make decisions. Will remain neutral, he welcomes input and new facts – should be patient as he feels the regs are not coming soon.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to recess this recessed meeting until October 24, 2012 at 6:30. Interviews will be held re: the Sewer Plant Operator position. There will also be a budget workshop. Time 8:45 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk