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TOWN BOARD COUNTY OF ALBANY

TOWN OF COLONIE

A PUBLIC HEARING AND SUBSEQUENT VOTE IN CONNECTION TO A
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF
COLONIE, CHAPTER 181 ENTITLED VEHICLES & TRAFFIC
CODIFICATION BY AMENDING SCHEDULE VII

THE STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES of the above entitled matter
by NANCY L. STRANG, a Shorthand Reporter commencing on
October 10, 2019 at 7:10 p.m. at Memorial Town Hall,
534 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York

BOARD MEMBERS:

- PAULA MAHAN, SUPERVISOR
- LINDA MURPHY, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR
- DAVID GREEN
- MELISSA JEFFERS-VONDOLLEN
- PAUL ROSANO
- CHRISTOPHER CAREY

ALSO PRESENT:

- Michael C. Magguilli, Esq, Town Attorney
- Julie Gansle, Town Clerk
- Carlos Feltt
- Amanda Licaus

1 MS. GANSLE: This public hearing is being held
2 by order of the Town Board to hear all persons in
3 connection to a proposed Local Law amending the Code of
4 the Town of Colonie, Chapter 181 entitled Vehicles &
5 Traffic codification by amending Schedule VII -"Speed
6 Limit".

7 Notice of the public hearing has been
8 published in the official Town newspaper which is the
9 Spotlight and has been posted on the Town Clerk's
10 bulletin board. I have an affidavit for each. The Town
11 Board will now hear all persons interested in this
12 matter.

13 MR. MAGGILLI: This matter comes on at the
14 request of the residents that live along the affected
15 portions of Boght Road. What this Resolution will do is
16 amend Chapter 181 of the Town Code and reduce the speed
17 limit which is currently set at 40 miles per hour for a
18 distance of approximately 1.7 miles on Boght Road
19 between Elm Street and St. Agnes Highway and by default,
20 reduce that to 30 miles per hour.

21 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: The consensus came up that
22 30 would be appropriate. We've had several members of
23 our Police Department take a look at it and we've had a
24 lot of feedback from residents that live in the area. It
25 actually will blend in better with those that are near

1 there that are 30 miles an hour.

2 Does the Board have any questions?

3 MR. CAREY: I think that there might be some
4 people in the audience that might want to speak about
5 this. I talked to some of the residents on Saturday.

6 MR. FELTT: Hi, my name is Carlos Feltt and I
7 live at 324 Boght Road and I have been there for 32
8 years, so I've seen the changes on Boght Road. I'm the
9 one that went around and collected signatures. Out of
10 all the people that I talked to on or right off of Boght
11 Road, there was only one person who said no, that they
12 didn't want it lowered. They all had stories and that's
13 what kept me going and trying to get it to the Town
14 Board because there are so many things - either
15 accidents or near-misses. There are several people that
16 used to walk around there and they won't walk on Boght
17 Road anymore because the cars are just too fast. They
18 are not going 40 miles per hour.

19 A lot of these people here are from Boght
20 Road and I think that they all support it. I
21 appreciate the Town taking the time and bringing it up
22 for a vote. Thank you.

23 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Thank you, very much.

24 Anyone else?

25 MS. CUMELLA: My name is Rosemarie Cumella. My

1 husband, Charles Cumella, live at 204 Boght Road. I am a
2 self-proprietor of New York State small daycare at 204.
3 It's been a real issue there for the safety of the kids
4 and the parents and the bus drivers. Everybody has
5 complained a lot in light of the safety of getting off
6 the bus. The bus drivers don't want to feel like people
7 are going to ram in behind them. Parents are concerned
8 about getting in and out of the driveway and I'm
9 concerned about getting my mail because I have to cross
10 the street. So, it's really been a very difficult time.
11 I even bought a sign that says slow down. People see the
12 sign and they speed up. So, it really has been a very
13 difficult thing.

14 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Thank you. As I said, we
15 listened to the feedback that we got and it was reviewed
16 very carefully. I think that everyone was comfortable
17 with it.

18 There is also an enforcement factor.
19 Unfortunately, if it's 40, people go 48 or 50. With
20 30, there is a big difference of 10 miles an hour.
21 Enforcement opportunities, I think, will be better, if
22 needed. Hopefully - we just want people to slow down.
23 So, I'm comfortable with the information that I
24 received from our PD and our highway people. I don't
25 know if anybody has any other comments.

1 MR. MAGGUILLI: The only thing that I would
2 like to add is that if this gets adopted tonight, by
3 law, we have to file this amendment to our Local Law
4 with the New York State Secretary of State. It doesn't
5 technically become effective until we get the filing
6 receipt from the New York State Secretary of State. So,
7 it may be a couple of weeks before you actually see the
8 signs change, if it's adopted. It's not the Town
9 dragging its feet, it's just what we have to do to
10 comply with the new York State Law. I assure you that
11 once we get the receipt back from the secretary of
12 state, we will get our highway people out there to
13 change the signs.

14 MS. LICAUS: Thank you all, so much. A few
15 weeks seems like a drop in the bucket compared to how
16 long we have been waiting for this to happen. We have
17 lived at 261 Boght Road for 11 years now. I am a part of
18 four generations that have lived on Boght Road and it's
19 posted 40 but people think 50 and more. I brought my two
20 reasons why I think that road should be lowered to 30
21 and we do walk on that road. It is like a drag-strip.
22 For most people there is a lot of cars flying by. There
23 are deer on the road. There are young kids on the road
24 and people trying to walk. It's a residential area.

25 When we moved in 110 years ago and I talked

1 to the Town, one of the Police Officers asked how fast
2 is too fast? In my opinion, 41 miles an hour is too
3 fast. It just keeps getting more populated and they
4 are going faster and faster. So, we also asked if
5 there could be those signs that say children at play
6 and the officer also told me that no, people who drive
7 through that area should know that it's a residential
8 area and they don't need a children at play sign.
9 People don't know and they drive recklessly.

10 We were in an accident in January of 2014,
11 passed on the double-yellow line and the driver was
12 ticketed on the scene with drugs and alcohol while
13 driving - the person who hit us. Thank goodness that
14 our child at the time was not in the car with us. It's
15 just really important that we have it lowered and with
16 more developing and more traffic it would just be
17 important to the people and the families that live on
18 that road. So, thank you for hearing us.

19 Thank you so much to Carlos and Bev who
20 worked really hard going door to door and rallying all
21 of us because it's really important to our community.
22 Thank you for all of their hard work and thank you for
23 hearing us out at the meeting.

24 MR. ROSANO: I have just one quick question for
25 the neighbors. I've been on the Town Board for almost

1 eight years and this is really in my area. This is the
2 first time that I have heard about this on the Town
3 Board. Now, you may have approached the police, but I
4 have no record of you coming to the Town Board for this.

5 MS. LICAUS: It was through the police.

6 MR. ROSANO: So, we didn't drop the ball up
7 here because we didn't know about it.

8 MS. LICAUS: No.

9 MR. ROSANO: Okay, I just want to be clear on
10 that. We act on these things instantly all the time.
11 Okay, thank you.

12 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I think that it's logical
13 too because many farms were there in the past. It was
14 more of a country road. It's a thing of the past. Most
15 of the farmers are all retired and sold their land for
16 homes. It goes along with adapting to the changes.

17 Anyone else?

18 MS. JEFFERS-VONDOLLEN: I will say that I lived
19 on that road. My mother still lives there. She's in the
20 back. She's coincidentally here for the Board meeting. I
21 used to run on Boght Road from Howansky up on Boght Road
22 and try to go into Windrose and back through. I would
23 run with my little Jack Russell Terrier and I stopped
24 running with him because just the way that the cars were
25 going too fast and I know I said that at our agenda

1 session two weeks ago that I felt the same way. It was
2 getting a little out of control with the way that people
3 were driving all over 50 miles an hour or so. I can
4 definitely sympathize with what's going on and I'm glad
5 that everyone is on board with changing that.

6 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Okay, we have to close the
7 public hearing before we can vote. So, we will do that
8 now.

9 MS. GANSLE: We have a Resolution adopting a
10 proposed Local Law amending Chapter 181 of the Code of
11 the Town of Colonie -"Vehicles & Traffic" by amending
12 the following schedule thereof: Schedule VII -"Speed
13 Limit".

14 MR. ROSANO: So moved.

15 MS. JEFFERS-VONDOLLEN: Second.

16 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Supervisor votes aye. Clerk,
17 call the roll.

18 (The roll was called.)

19 MS. GANSLE: The ayes have it, Madam
20 Supervisor.

21 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: The Resolution is adopted.
22 Thank you all for coming out, too.

23 (Whereas the above entitled proceeding was
24 concluded at 7:20 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATION

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I, NANCY L. STRANG, Shorthand Reporter and
Notary Public in and for the State of New York, hereby
CERTIFY that the record taken by me at the time and
place noted in the heading hereof is a true and
accurate transcript of same, to the best of my ability
and belief.

Dated: _____

NANCY L. STRANG
LEGAL TRANSCRIPTION
2420 TROY SCHENECTADY RD.
NISKAYUNA, NY 12309