

Town of Bristol  
Focus Panel  
May 11, 2012

Attending: Chairman Nate Harvey, Councilman Tom Stevens, Jude Ellis, Judi Taylor Salzburg, Scott Battle, Lon Chase, Secretary Sandy Riker

Nate opened the meeting by saying our trip to Honeoye Storage has been postponed as they were busy this morning and would be glad to host us another time. He mentioned that Cherrie Messor of IOGANY had contacted him and said Chesapeake Oil and Gas did not have enough work going in the area for us to view a well site with them at this time.

The minutes from May 2<sup>nd</sup> were reviewed and it was agreed that rents in the area of Mansfield and Lawrenceville were raised as much as double and triple since the gas industry came into the area. Jude cited the checker at the well site in Covington said she knew of one being raised from \$450 to \$3250 a month. The secretary agreed to amend the minutes of May 2<sup>nd</sup> with this correction.

Sandy mentioned she had attended the Southern Tier West Conference at Houghton College earlier in the week. One of the speakers was David Orr from Cornell Local Roads Program and his presentation was "preserving Municipal Road what are your options?" He said the individual municipalities could regulate local road use and property taxes with regard to High Volume Hydro Fracking. They could set up local laws that would exclude certain trucks based on weight, regulate the routes taken by the large trucks, seasonal usage of roads, exclusion based on weight, height, length or width in excess of eight feet, the hours of operation, and fees as long as the ordinances were reasonable and nondiscriminatory. The Town Board would be the authorizing body for the traffic laws. The laws would have to be enforced by state, local, and county police.

Scott Battle had spoken with Steve Swartout of Canandaigua National Bank mortgage department. Mr. Swartout is a lawyer for CNB. He said there are issues with both lenders and lendees if there are oil and gas leases on a property. He agreed to answer Scott's questions if put in an email and sent to him. Scott would inquire if there was a cost involved with the answers. The questions proposed are:

1. Is there a violation involved with articles 18 & 21 of a mortgage if a gas lease is signed?
2. With regard to "Compulsory Integration" and the 60/40 rule does this create a problem with the neighbors and their mortgages?
3. Gas companies can borrow against leases-how does this effect a mortgage?
4. Is it more difficult to get a mortgage if there is a gas lease?

Scott said with the research he has done so far it appears that there is no clear answer and varies from bank to bank and other lending institutions.

Jude presented two articles and the secretary will make copies for the panel members before the next meeting. They are with regard to the homeless population of Pennsylvania. One article was "Fracking's Collateral Damage" written by Walt Brasch, author and retired university professor from Bloomsburg, Pa, and writes "Wanderings" for a Sunday edition of the Bloomsburg paper. The second article was "Marcellus Natural Gas Development's Effect on Housing in Pennsylvania" a project funded by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency to the Center of Study of Community and the Economy at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pa. She said from this article it appeared that a dramatic problem with regard to housing has been created for the senior citizens, disabled, non-working and low income earners. She cited the rent increases of double and triple and the need of these people to ask for housing assistance. In the summary the term "couch surfing"

was used to describe the displaced people that end up living with friends, family and neighbors making it difficult to put an accurate number of the people affected by the influx of workers for the gas industry. All of which put an increase on social services needed to aid these people. Judi said this shows that there is a trickle down process increasing stress on the area.

Moratorium of March 27<sup>th</sup>- Nate advised that the Supervisor spoke with Jim Smoot, vice president of operations at Honeoye Gas Storage with regard to the moratorium and Mr. Smoot had concerns about the way the moratorium was written and how it would affect Honeoye Gas Storage business. They talked about the possibility of the term “grandfathering” and its definition to be included in the moratorium. Nate said he would contact the Supervisor and Mr. Smoot before the next meeting to get a feel for the exact concerns and how we can address them.

Judy asked how the Panel would present their findings and recommendations to the Town Board. It was suggested that they do a Position Paper and present it to all Town Board members and be present at a meeting with them to answer any questions the Board may have. Jude said it would be good for the panel to put together a rough outline at this point with their areas of concern and the panel members could work on various segments of it. With regard to the letter to the residents the draft would be submitted to the Town Board for review at their next meeting. It was agreed that the dates included in the letter have a caveat that the town does not support either side but is providing the opportunity for the people to get more knowledge regarding HVHF and its impact on the community.

The secretary was asked to contact the fire department to see if either the 19<sup>th</sup> or the 26<sup>th</sup> of September would be available for the Panel to put on its presentation at the fire hall. She also inquired to Helen Fox, Historian when the Historical Society presentation of the “ history of Geology of Bristol” by Bruce Gilman would be. Since this meeting Helen advised the presentation will be on July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Historical Society building on Rte. 64.

The next meeting for the Focus Panel will be on May 30<sup>th</sup> at the town hall. The panel will be looking at the Comprehensive Plan and a draft outline with titles and topics as well as possible changes to the moratorium that will be presented at a public hearing on June 11<sup>th</sup> by the Town Board.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sandra Riker*  
Secretary Focus Panel  
Town of Bristol