

**Work Session Meeting  
of the Windsor Town Board  
January 16, 2012**

**Present were:** Supervisor Randy J. Williams, Councilman Timothy J. Bates, Councilman Jeff Olin, Assessor Becky Ottens, Code Enforcement Officer David Brown and Town Clerk Barbara Rajner Miller.

**Absent were:** Councilmen George B. West and LeWayne H. Colwell

Supervisor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Discussed the proposed Flood Relief Act. Met with Assessor Becky Ottens to discuss properties in the Town of Windsor which were affected by Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee. Becky explained that at the time of the flood, she took pictures of the floodwater/damage. She further noted that she had limited access due to roads being closed.

The Town has the choice to opt into this. If Windsor “opts in,” homeowners, with 50% or more damage as a result of flooding from Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee, would have their parcels reassessed, and in turn have their 2012 taxes lowered. There was concern over the loss of overall Town assessment if this goes through. After the flood of 2006, NYS picked up the cost, not the Town. However, with this Act, NYS would not be extending that same gesture. The shortfall and tax revenue would have to be made up by the Town. The Town Board needs to determine by January 23, 2012, whether it wants to “opt in” to this statute.

Assessor Ottens distributed a list of parcels affected. We truly do not know the percentage of damage incurred to each of these parcels, as there have only been a few people that have contacted her after the flood. Code Enforcement Officer Dave Brown mentioned that most of those on the list are in the flood plain. Dave mentioned that it seems as though most of the parcels on the list were also hit by the flood in 2006.

It was mentioned that the school voted “no” for opting into the proposed Flood Relief Act.

Supervisor Williams and Assessor Ottens informed the Board that in 2006, NYS paid the tax bills (based on percentage affected) as the Relief. With this Act, that is not the case; the Town/School/Village would have to.

It was noted that:

- this is not covered by FEMA;
- A parcel is not (re)assessed until it is completely done;
- The Code Enforcement Officer was not contacted/consulted with at the time of this latest flood.

**Motion By: Councilman Jeff Olin**

**Sec. By: Councilman Timothy J. Bates**

To not opt into the Flood Relief Act.

Vote of the Board:

Supervisor Williams - AYE

Councilman Colwell - ABSENT

Councilman West - ABSENT

Councilman Bates – AYE

Councilman Olin - AYE

**Motion Approved**

**Motion By: Councilman Timothy J. Bates**

**Sec. By: Councilman Jeff Olin**

To adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm.

Vote of the Board:

Supervisor Williams - AYE

Councilman Colwell - ABSENT

Councilman West - ABSENT

Councilman Bates – AYE

Councilman Olin - AYE

**Motion Approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Rajner Miller, Windsor Town Clerk