

At 7:25 p.m. Supervisor Lester called to order a public hearing located at the Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport, New York on July 24, 2007. The purpose of the public hearing was to hear all persons for or against the adoption of a moratorium on the installation of outdoor boilers in the Town of Sweden.

Town Board Members present were Supervisor Nat O. Lester, III, Councilperson Robert Carges, Councilperson Patricia Connors and Councilperson Thomas Ferris. Also present were Finance Director Leisa Strabel, Director of Buildings and Grounds Jeremy Oakden, Building Inspector James Butler, Fire Marshal Charles Sanford and Highway Superintendent Fred Perrine.

Visitors present were John Zima, 1360 Reed Road; Jim Hamlin, 50 Park Avenue; Rebecca Donohue, 7230 Fourth Section Road; Martin Hermann, 82 White Road; Charilla S. Conner, 4226 Sweden Walker Road; and John Egan, 456 Shumway Road.

Supervisor Lester asked Finance Director Leisa Strabel to read the legal notice published in the Town newspapers. Notice was read.

Supervisor Lester read a comment submitted by telephone by Nancy Hendrick of 963 Beadle Road. Ms. Hendrick would like regulations requiring a perimeter fence and self-locking gate as a security precaution.

Inspector Butler read a description of wood boilers.

Supervisor Lester opened the floor to public comments.

Charilla Conner of 4226 Sweden Walker Road agreed with the moratorium. She is in favor of wood boilers as both her brothers use them, but believes the Town should study the issue and set parameters.

John Zima of 1360 Reed Road said he is against the moratorium. His neighbor uses a wood boiler and there aren't any problems. Mr. Zima stated that in rural areas, heating gas is often not available.

Supervisor Lester asked what the approximate savings are to the homeowner. Mr. Zima said the savings are substantial. He wouldn't recommend the use of wood boilers in subdivisions.

John Egan of 456 Shumway Road said that density of population should be a consideration when regulating the use of wood boilers. He said it also makes sense to regulate what materials can be burned in the wood boiler. Regulating materials might be dependent on complaints received. He cited some of the regulations in place in the Town of Clarkson. Mr. Egan said he is not against the moratorium.

Councilperson Connors encouraged people to read about wood boilers on the New York State attorney general's website.

Councilperson Ferris said that he grew up in a house that burned wood. He believes that wood is an important and acceptable source of energy. He would like the Environmental Conservation Board to draft an advisory opinion.

Hearing no further comments, Supervisor Lester closed the public hearing at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leisa A. Strabel
Director of Finance