

News Release

New Glarus Village/Town Negotiation Committee

Jan. 26, 2011

The Village of New Glarus and The Town of New Glarus have established a negotiations team that was organized to discuss and resolve issues of concern of our two communities. This communiqué is to inform the public of the progress and challenges as we proceed toward an agreement and resolution of the issues.

Early in the process the committee defined the issues and developed a mission statement which is: “It shall be the purpose of the Joint Negotiating Committee to carry out honest, energetic discussion of the issues and problems facing the Village of New Glarus and the Town of New Glarus and further to make concerted effort to bring these issues and problems to a timely conclusion acceptable to both parties.”

The areas of concern were defined as:

Village interests:

1. Develop discussion/agreement on equitable sharing of Library costs.
2. Develop shared cost agreements on Village (& Town) parks and pool.

Town Interests:

1. Negotiate a Cooperative Boundary Agreement (CBA) that defines:
 - a. Future areas of annexation possibilities.
 - b. Future non-annexation areas.
 - c. Joint storm water areas and construction projects.
 - d. Areas logical for development of Sanitary Districts or extension of water & sewer facilities.
2. Define areas and budgets for joint commercial and industrial development promotion programs. Establish committees to carry out these promotions.

As of this date the committee has tentatively agreed:

1. That the term of the contract shall be 20 years.
2. Upon prioritization of the items for discussion. The high priority items are CBA and Equitable sharing for Library costs.
3. There should be an agreement for revenue sharing to achieve equitable sharing of library costs.

4. That commercial & Industrial development would be a good thing for the community and we should jointly work to promote it.
5. Upon those areas, as defined by map, where there shall be no annexation for residential development.
6. Agreed all residential development immediately adjacent to Village boundary shall be required to build to the then current Village standards regarding installation of streets, curb & gutter, street lights, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, electric, gas and cable utilities, sidewalks and driveways in all development of five or more residential dwelling units.
7. Listed areas of potential acquisition for joint public works garage location.
8. Agreed that both Village and Town ordinances will require changes to accommodate this Cooperative Boundary Agreement.
9. Agreed the Village will not object to certain zoning changes that will be required to accommodate development within the Town and within the ETZ.
10. Agreed that an ongoing joint committee should continue indefinitely after contract execution in order to address continuing joint issues.

The following items remain to be resolved:

- Resolution of storm water issues.
- Complete the details of Revenue Sharing.
- Establish parameters for Expansion Committee (C & I).
- Clarification of extension of sewer and water into Town residential development areas.

Upon agreement of the balance of the issues, the committee will be recommending development of a Resolution authorizing a Cooperative Boundary Agreement to be considered by the respective Boards, followed by a public hearing to receive public input. After that, the respective Municipal Boards will prepare a contract for approval.

If you have questions please contact one of the committee members: Jim Salter, salter@tds.net, Kevin Budsberg, kjbudsberg@gmail.com, Dan Gartzke, dan@egblaw.com, Keith Seward, tgdl@tds.net, Bob Elkins, robertwelkins@yahoo.com, or Gof Thomson, thomson@tds.net.