

**Town of Charlton
Saratoga County
Town Board Open Meeting
To discuss Y-intersection at Stage and Charlton Roads**

October 13, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York held an Open Meeting at the Charlton Town Hall, 758 Charlton Rd, Charlton, NY, to discuss the Y-Intersection at Stage Road and Charlton Road.

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilman Gay, Councilman Grasso, Councilman Hodgkins, Supervisor Grattidge, Town Clerk Brenda Mills.

Excused: Councilman Lippiello

Supervisor Grattidge said that the reason for the meeting was to gather input regarding the intersection. He explained that the Board had received a letter from a resident previously stating that he felt that the intersection was not safe, and asked that the Board consider action to address it. In the past the Board has discussed the intersection a few times. Supervisor Grattidge has spoken with Saratoga County about the intersection (because both roads are County roads), and they have agreed to make a change to the intersection if the Town Board requests it.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board received a letter from the Water Superintendent with concern over the condition of the road and the water main that lays beneath it. The letter stated that due to the radius of the turn, there is a depression in the pavement and may cause a main break at some point.

Supervisor Grattidge said that in the 1980's, the Y-intersection at Charlton and Swaggertown Road was changed to a T-intersection.

The Board received a letter from the Historic District Commission, stating that they met to discuss this issue. They stated that although there is historic value in the Y-intersection, they felt that public safety was of utmost importance. The Commission stated that they hoped that a change in the intersection might help to slow traffic on Charlton Road. They also suggested creating a distinctive gateway at the new intersection if a change is made.

Supervisor Grattidge opened the meeting to the floor.

Residents Ken Crotty, Brad Howe, Suzanne Voigt, and Gil Bliss spoke in favor of changing the intersection to a T-intersection.

Ken Crotty said that when he makes a left hand turn, he cannot see to the right.

Brad Howe said he lives at the corner of the intersection and has noticed that the road has dropped about 8 inches in the past 7 years. Water runs off the road and erodes the side of the road and/or flows into his yard. Mr. Howe showed the Board where on the map the settling was taking place. Mr. Howe noted that the current road only allows for 2 vehicles and big rigs take more space.

Gil Bliss said he feels that making a T-intersection might improve safety and slow traffic.

Suzanne Voigt said she has no problem with the intersection, but see safety issues. She said that big rigs and farm vehicles pulling wagons have trouble making turns on the corner, and asked the Board to take that into consideration. She asked if anyone had spoken with Mr. Ducharme who lives across from the intersection, about headlights directly on his house. Councilman Grasso said that he does not think that anyone has talked to him, but he knows that at one time this was a concern of the Board. There is a row of barberry that shields the light. Councilman Hodgkins pointed out that headlights are pointed at the house as cars are approaching the intersection anyways. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board would consider his feedback if he had any.

Councilman Grasso said that he is surprised that all of the feedback is in favor of a T-intersection, including those that might look at it for historical significance.

Councilman Gay said he is still concerned with lighting and signage.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board is still taking input. He will ask the County for schematics. He said that a change in the intersection may mean that land on both sides would be given back to the adjoining homeowners.

The Board did not take any action.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk