

SPECIAL MEETING

January 25, 1952

Town Clerk's Office

8:30 P.M.

Present: Mr. Schmersahl

Mr. Fibble

Mr. Welchman

Mr. Burleigh

Mr. Dillon

Mr. Dillon called the meeting to order and explained that it was being held for the purpose of reviewing the Building Code which had recently been promulgated by the State. Mr. Dillon said that the Counsel for the Code Commission, Judge Hamilton Hicks, was present at the meeting and he would explain the Code to the Board.

Mr. Dillon introduced Judge Hicks to the members of the Board and asked if he would give the Board an idea of what the Code consisted of and how it worked.

Judge Hicks explained to the Board that the Building Code had been promulgated for the purpose of replacing the Building Codes of many municipalities. He said that these Codes had been in affect for a number of years and many of them were antiquated and were in need of revision. The State Building Code could be adopted by any municipality at any time by resolution and without the necessity of a public hearing. The Code must remain in effect for a period of one year after which it could be rejected, and the rejection would be effective six months after the resolution is adopted. The State Building Code, when adopted by a municipality, would take the place of any local Code which might be in effect, and only the State Code would be applicable. Judge Hicks said that the State Code was a Performance Code and not a Specification Code, and specified types and methods of construction rather than the types of materials which had to be used. He said that it would bring out better and cheaper methods of construction. The enforcement of the Code would rest entirely with the Building Inspector or Building Department of the municipality. Judge Hicks said that a Manual would be available shortly giving acceptable methods of construction and would also specify types of materials which would be acceptable by the Commission. Judge Hicks said that a Board of Review had been established to consider new methods of construction and to consider the use of various types of materials. The Board would cover the entire State and would move about quickly since speed would be essential in hearing appeals which would come through the refusal of a Building Permit.

Mr. Dillon asked if the Code would have to be adopted in full or could a part be adopted for use in the Town.

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Judge Hicks said that the Code would have to be adopted in its entirety, but that the municipality could recommend special rules for the Town and ask the Commission to make exceptions. He also stressed that the Code would be very helpful in regard to fire safety requirements.

Mr. Welchman asked if the Code specified the minimum area requirements of different types of houses.

Judge Hicks stated that the Code did not specify the minimum size of Buildings.

The Board discussed the Code at great length and decided to defer action until a later date so that it could be studied more carefully.

Mr. Melvin Knapp of New City came before the Board and stated that the Building Inspector desired to move his office from the building on Maple Ave. to the new office building on Main Street. He said that he was agreeable to breaking the old lease and entering into a new one if the Board would go along with the idea.

Mr. Welchman moved the following resolution:-

RESOLVED, that the office of the Building Inspector and the Assessors be moved from the Knapp building on Maple Ave. to the new office building on Main Street, and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the old lease be cancelled by mutual agreement of the Town Board and Melvin Knapp and the Supervisor be authorized to execute a new lease between Melvin Knapp and the Town of Clarkstown for the Rental of the new office on Main St.

Seconded by Mr. Burleigh.

On roll call, the vote of the Board was as follows:-

AYES: Messrs. Schmersahl, Fibble, Welchman, Burleigh, Dillon.

NOES: None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Fibble moved adjournment.

Seconded by Mr. Schmersahl.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

August W. Hansen
Town Clerk of Clarkstown