

Supervisor David P. Kelly opened a Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 8:30 AM June 28, 2011 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen Johnson, Upham, Montemarano, Mayer and 4 interested citizens.

Supervisor Kelly read the following resolution regarding the closing of the Old Pawling Road Bridge.

**DISCUSSION ON
CLOSURE OF OLD
PAWLING ROAD
BRIDGE**

**Resolution 2011086
Old Pawling Road Bridge**

Whereas, New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) inspected the bridge on Old Pawling Road on 5/26/2011 and issued a Red Flag 8C110017 (New Issue), and

Whereas, the Old Pawling Road bridge is noted having multiple deficiencies within the report such as, “The interior primary members excessive sag, 2” – 3”, with the most severe being girder 7. This girder was also noted to be twisted” and

Whereas, a copy of said report is hereby made a part of this resolution, and

Whereas, the Superintendent of Highways Mr. John Daley contacted NYSDOT and was advised to post the bridge with a weight limit signs indicating a 3 ton weight limit, and

Whereas, Town Engineer along with Mr. Daley, conducted a visual inspection of the bridge on or about June 1, 2011, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that due to the health, safety and welfare of the residence of the Town of Pawling and the exposure to the Town, the Town Board hereby recommends to the Superintendent of Highways to proceed with the closure of the Old Pawling Road Bridge per Highway Law, and, be it, further

Resolved, that the Superintendent of Highways develop a plan and advise the Town Board of the potential rehabilitation of said bridge, and, be it, further

Resolved, that a copy of the Resolution be sent to the Emergence Response Coordinator; Dutchess County Emergency Response Department, Major; NYS Trooper Troop “K” Headquarters, Sheriff Anderson; Dutchess County Sheriff Department, Chief Denzel; Pawling Fire Department, TransCare Ambulance Service, Pawling residents on Old Pawling Road, Town Board; Town of Dover, Metro North Railroad.

John Daley, Highway Superintendent gave an overview of the findings of NYS Department of Transportation, which was that the bridge on Old Pawling Road was unsafe and they recommended closure of the bridge. He stated that he has had discussions with NYS DOT and they notified him in late May that they had placed a red flag on this bridge and he has been working with the Town Engineer on this since that time. The conclusion of the Town Engineer is in agreement with NYS DOT, that the bridge is not safe and the Town Engineer agrees with NYS DOT’s findings. The

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BRIDGE
CONTINUED

only immediate option is to close the bridge while he researches how to fix the bridge. He is currently getting ideas and researching what is the most economical way to do that. He does not have a cost estimate yet.

Supervisor Kelly said he is researching asking Metro North to contribute to the cost of the repair due to the vibrations caused by increased train traffic.

Dutchess County Legislator Alan Surman felt the Town Board should keep the repair as cheap as possible. The closing of this bridge is a problem for many residents and he is already receiving many complaints. It will be difficult for residents to get to Pawling with this bridge being closed.

Councilman Montemarano said it was his understanding that municipalities have a lower threshold of disturbance of water net requirements than a commercial operation.

Supervisor Kelly agreed with Councilman Montemarano. The two biggest impacts of this project will be NYS DEC and Metro North.

Mr. Daley said the less the water has to be disturbed, the better.

Mr. Anthony Muccioli asked how long the bridge would be closed for and asked if it could be temporarily fixed while waiting for the new bridge to go in.

Supervisor Kelly said it is his understanding that due to the deficiencies, it is recommended it be closed. Exposure to the Town is great and the time frame of construction will depend on permitting requirements and construction time. He said Town representatives have been researching this since the end of May, which is when NYS DOT notified the Town. The Town had six weeks from that point to act on this. He understood that Mr. Muccioli and the Bonavenia's are the people who use that bridge the most and is taking that into consideration.

Mr. Muccioli said if there is a fire at his house or the Bonavenia's house, it would take the fire company a lot longer to get there and that is a liability.

Supervisor Kelly said it may take a few extra minutes but in talking with emergency response, they have done a notification this morning that the bridge would be closed so they have re-routed emergency equipment into different locations this morning. The Dover Fire Department may be closer and the response time may be better from there.

Lori Bonavenia asked that the "Road Closed" signs be placed before her driveway so that people do not turn around in her driveway.

Supervisor Kelly said Mr. Daley has a plan on where he will put the signs and explained that to Ms. Bonavenia.

Councilman Upham asked that "local media" be added to the resolution as an entity to be notified.

Supervisor Kelly agreed.

Councilman Montemarano asked about the possibility of a temporary bridge so that this bridge can be kept open.

Mr. Daley said NYS DOT was adamant that this bridge be closed. Also, he did not know how you could work on the bridge if it was open.

Supervisor Kelly felt this was something that could be explored if it seems this bridge would be closed for an extended period of time. The cost effectiveness of it would have to be researched. There will also be an economic impact on Pawling because people do come down here to do shopping and now they will go north.

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MOTION: Supervisor Kelly

SECOND: Councilman Johnson

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman Montemarano – “AYE”

Councilman Upham – “AYE”

Councilman Mayer – “AYE”

Supervisor Kelly – “AYE”

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The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Supervisor Kelly at 9:00 AM, seconded by Councilman Upham, motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ON
CLOSURE OF
OLD PAWLING
ROAD BRIDGE
CONTINUED**

Town Clerk