

RESOLUTION NO. 28 , 2014

RESOLUTION OPPOSING EACH OF THE THREE (3) EXPANSION PROPOSALS PRESENTED BY THE ENGINEERING FIRM MCFARLAND - JOHNSON INC., FOR THE COUNTY AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE AND AGAINST THE EXPANSION OF ANY RUNWAYS AT THE COUNTY AIRPORT

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

Whereas, the Town of Milton has within its boundaries the Saratoga County Airport, which is an important and integral part of the Town's infrastructure; and

Whereas, the County Airport is owned and operated by the County of Saratoga, and the Town of Milton and the County have consistently worked together as partners in its use, maintenance, improvements and expansions; and

Whereas, the County is in the process of updating its Master Plan for the Airport, which includes projecting into the future what the County sees for airport use, maintenance, improvements, and growth; and

Whereas, the engineering firm of McFarland-Johnson, Inc., was hired by the County to prepare a report and recommendations for the Airport Master Plan Update, and as to the future of the airport and to provide such to the County Building and Grounds Committee for their review and consideration; and

Whereas, the recommendations provided by the Engineers while having many positive considerations, however in part, contain recommendations to expand the runway or runways, increase aviation easements, obtain more property rights, cut trees, and in some cases, include the purchase of property, and possible taking of some by eminent domain, if necessary; and

Whereas, the Town Board recognizes and holds out individual property rights of its citizens to be inalienable rights, so deeply rooted in our Country's history and protected by our State and Federal Constitutions, so as to be of paramount importance and afforded the utmost of protections, only to be attacked, alienated, diminished, harmed, or outright taken, under the extremist of circumstances, and only in order to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of the Town and our County; and

Whereas, upon due investigation , the Town Board has determined and believes that some of the proposals for airport expansion that impose upon property rights of private individuals or entities set forth and expressed by the Engineers are not in furtherance of protecting the health and welfare of the Town and County residents, but rather in furtherance of a stated and potential economic benefit from the sale of more fuel, and the opening up of the airport to more, and possibly larger, airplanes and jets; and

Whereas, the Town Board believes and finds the property right of it's citizens to be of greater value and importance than any economic benefits that may be achieved through the expansion of the airport runway(s).

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by Order of the Town Board, duly convened at a Special Meeting, it is

Resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Milton expresses its general disapproval of each of the three (3) proposals for expansion as presented by the Engineering Firm of McFarland-Johnson, Inc., and is against any expansion of any of the runways at the Saratoga County Airport that will or may require the taking of private property rights, the need to acquire more private property, the need to remove or prune trees on private property, the need to expand "no build" areas outside the airport boundaries, and any other formal taking or diminishing of property rights of the surrounding private property owners in the Town; and it is further

Resolved, the Town Board directs that this Resolution be presented to the County Building and Grounds Committee, as well as the County Board of Supervisors, for consideration in their deliberations, and to encourage them to reject each of the three (3) current proposals provided by the Engineer for expansion of the Saratoga County Airport runways; and be it further

Resolved, that the County be requested to better communicate with the Town in the future when it comes to any work, maintenance, improvements, changes, plans and the like, that the County is considering or performing at the Airport , so that the Town can better inform its residents in the future, before decisions are made, and long before any work is actually started or preformed; and it is further

Resolved, that the Town Board continues to share in the County's quest to improve and maintain the County Airport facility, hopeful in each parties ability and willingness to continue as partners in its success, and willing to always consider all reasonable and viable options put forth in regards to the County Airport facility.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by the Town Board of the Town of Milton:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Daniel P. Lewza, Supervisor	X	
Joseph J. Miranda, Jr., Councilperson	X	
Barbara Kerr, Councilperson	X	
Frank Blaisdell, Councilperson	X	
Bruce J. Couture, Councilperson	X	

Dated: _____, 2014

I, **WILLIAM J. MEVEC**, Town Clerk of the Town of Milton do hereby certify that the attached Resolution is a true and accurate copy of the original on file at the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Milton, 503 Geysers Road, Ballston Spa, New York 12020.

William J. Mevec, Town Clerk