

Varick Town Board  
July 7, 2009

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Robert Hayssen. Present at this meeting were council members John Saeli, Kathy Russo and Richard Peterson, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, Town Attorney, John Sipos, Bookkeeper, Carol Sipos, Water District No. 3 project attorney, Steve Ricci, and The Bonadio Group, Jerry Archibald. Absent were Councilman, Jeff Case and Highway Superintendent Richard McCulloch.

**Varick Water District No. 3:** It was reported that the town received final approval from the State Comptroller for this district. Mr. Ricci presented and reviewed the Final Order in the Establishment of a Water District in the Town of Varick to be known as Water District No. 3. It was noted that the debt was not to be collected through the levy of ad valorem taxes but through a unit charge to those within the district. The board agreed to pass the final order subject to this change of language being approved by Bond Council.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve the Final Order in the matter of the establishment of a water district in the Town of Varick Seneca County, New York, to be known as Water District No. 3 with the language changed to read that the serial bonds will be payable in the first instance from charges upon the taxable real property in said District by equivalent dwelling unit methodology with this change being subject to Bond Council's approval.

Roll Call:

Richard Peterson	Yes
Kathy Russo	Yes
John Saeli	Yes
Robert Hayssen	Yes
Jeff Case	(Absent)

So Carried Unanimously

Mrs. Karlsen will file the final order once revised and approved by Bond Council with the Seneca County Clerk and State Comptroller.

Mr. Ricci also presented a resolution authorizing the issuance of serial bonds not to exceed \$1,332,400 to pay the cost of the establishment of Water District No. 3.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$1,332,400 serial bonds of the Town of Varick, Seneca County, New York, to pay the cost of the establishment of Water District No. 3 in said Town.

Roll Call:

Richard Peterson      Yes  
Kathy Russo            Yes  
John Saeli              Yes  
Robert Hayssen        Yes  
Jeff Case                (Absent)  
So Carried Unanimously

The concern was expressed over time and the availability of the Small City Grant funds. Bond Council has expressed that by moving quickly providing with an explanation of the delay and request for extension we will still be able to receive these funds.

Mr. Hayssen reported that he and Mr. Barto wrote a letter to Michael Nozzolio asking him for his support in expediting the approvals needed by the State Comptroller's office with regards to this district. Mr. Nozzoli responded by writing a letter to Thomas DiNappoli at the comptroller's office.

**Varick Water District No. 4:** Mr. Sipos explained to the board that Mary from Municipal Solutions was able to get the unit cost to \$618.03, below \$624 threshold set by the State Comptroller. Because of this, we did not need to go the State Comptroller for approvals. He presented the Final Order establishing Varick Water District No. 4 for board approval.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the Final Order in the matter of the establishment of Water District No. 4 in the Town of Varick, Seneca County, New York.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen      Yes  
John Saeli              Yes  
Kathy Russo            Yes  
Richard Peterson      Yes  
Jeff Case                (Absent)  
So Carried Unanimously

Mr. Sipos will file this order with Seneca County Clerk and State Comptroller.

Approval of the serial bonds will be required once Mary Chappel receives approval of the application. Mr. Hayssen will contact Tim Buell regarding the survey that needs to be completed.

**2006 & 2007 Audits:** Mr. Archibald provided the board with a draft copy of the 2007 audit for the board's final review and approval. He also reviewed their recommendations with the board and drafted a reply for Mr. Hayssen to sign addressing the auditors concerns. Mr. Archibald did note that their concerns have already been addressed with the change in bookkeeper and her method of keeping the books. He also noted that he still has some paperwork that he will return to Carol by Friday, July 10.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried to accept the draft audits submitted for 2006 and 2007.

Mr. Archibald stated that he would have the final copy of these audits completed by next week and to the town for filing.

Mrs. Sipos reported that she has filed all required AUD reports to the State Comptroller by June 19<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that budget requests have been sent out to department heads.

**Varick Water District No. 1:** Mr. Hayssen referred to a letter sent to the Town of Romulus supervisor and council members requesting that a representative come to this meeting to explain the budget for this district. Mr. Saeli reported that he spoke to Mr. Kaiser who stated that under no circumstances will the Town of Romulus attend a Town of Varick board meeting to explain this budget. The Town of Romulus did request that the Varick Board attend a special meeting held by their board in their township where they would be willing to address any questions regarding the budget. It was suggested by Mrs. Sipos that the supervisors and bookkeepers from both towns meet, Mrs. Russo suggested that another letter be sent requesting their presence at August's meeting, but the final consensus of the board was that the Town of Romulus is contracted to provide a service to the Town of Varick and should be available to attend a Varick Board meeting to address questions when asked.

It was noted that at the June meeting the board motioned to send a letter of termination of the current agreement to the Town of Romulus and ask them to submit a new proposal for services if they wish for this board's consideration. The board agreed that this letter should be sent and should be followed up with another letter requesting again that they attend the next Varick Town Board meeting to be held August 4<sup>th</sup> to explore the possibility to negotiate a new agreement.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to send a formal letter to the Town of Romulus inviting them to attend the next regular meeting of the Varick Town Board to be held August 4, 2009 and ask them to answer questions regarding the water and sewer and to explore the possibility to negotiate a new agreement regarding Water District No. 1.

Mr. Hayssen reported that a new checking account was set up for future deposit of funds collected by the Town of Romulus for this district.

**Varick Sewer District No. 2:** Mr. Kayser who is the Town of Varick's representative on the County Board expressed his concern that the board has not approved the bill for payment of sewage treatment. He was not aware at the time of the discrepancies in the billing and the outstanding amount owed it is felt due to Varick Sewer District No. 2 in over billing to this district. Mrs. Karlsen reported that she received another bill from Seneca County Water & Sewer in the amount of \$19,595.25 which reflects an \$897.75 penalty.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to direct Mr. Hayssen not to pay the Seneca County Water & Sewer bill until the questions posed to this district are answered.

As Mr. Case was not in attendance the position of who would be hired to complete dig safely requests was tabled.

It was also recommended that those who are thought not to be connected to the sewer district as of this date be reviewed and reported to the health department for follow up.

**Romulus/Varick Joint Sewer District:** Mr. Hayssen presented a copy of the Joint Sewer District Maintenance Agreement with Yaws.

**Seneca Lake Water:** The board confirmed that they want the water bill for Seneca County Water District No. 1 sent to the county treasurer for payment.

Mr. Saeli reported that he used fix a flat to repair a flat tire on the water truck and that the truck currently has 15,303 miles on it. It was decided to keep the truck until a decision is made with regards to maintenance on the water and sewer districts.

Mr. Hayssen also presented a letter sent by Robert J. Aronson executive Director Seneca County IDA stating they have no record of the IDA ever having an ownership interest in the water distribution pipe that runs from Kennedy Road to pump house 2411. A copy of this letter was given to Mr. Sipos for his records.

**Assessor:** A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the Assessor's written report.

**Town Clerk:** A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's Report, Revenue to Supervisor: \$286.48, County Treasurer: \$135.12, State Ag & Markets: \$675.00 Department of Conservation: \$593.40, Total Disbursements: \$1,690.00.

**Supervisor's Report:** A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve the written Supervisor's report.

**Personnel:** Mrs. Russo reported that the Summer Recreation Program received 35 applications to date and the children receive free breakfast and lunch through the school. The cost for use of the Romulus Central School facility will be \$500, which can be split between the Towns of Romulus and Varick. Mike Whirtley from the Youth Bureau spoke to the Town of Romulus who approved this expenditure and it was noted that an additional \$250 will need to be added to their voucher. Mr. Sipos questioned the board as to how much the Town of Varick bills Romulus Central School for plowing the bus turn-arounds in the winter. The town currently doesn't charge anything for this service.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Robert Hayssen and so carried to bill the Town of Romulus an additional \$250 for building use and pay \$250 for the Town of Varick's share.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen	Yes
John Saeli	Yes
Kathy Russo	Yes
Richard Peterson	No
Jeff Case	(absent)
So Carried	

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of June 2, 2009.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 6, Generals, Vouchers 09-99 to 09-113 in the amount of \$6,407.60, Highway, Vouchers 09-60 to 09-66 in the amount of \$4,252.35, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Vouchers 09-13 to 09-15 in the amount of \$1,000.00, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers 09-31 to 09-36 in the amount of \$23,486.00

**Code Enforcement:** Mrs. Russo would like to receive written reports from Paul Conroy indicating the permits that have been issued.

**Docks & Moorings:** It was noted that the letters were sent notifying residents of the survey they would be conducting.

**Old Business, New Business & Correspondence:**

Mr. Hayssen received information indicating that the (315) area code will be good until 2013.

Mr. Sipos reviewed a copy of a letter written by Angel Lawrence he received from the Supervisor which referenced a conversation he had with an employee of the Town of Romulus. He read his response to this letter to the board and will file it accordingly.

Sheen Housing wrote a letter to John Saeli informing him of the services and programs available to those in the community who are lower income. Mr. Saeli will contact Paulette at the Finger Lakes Times to see if he can get this information published.

The board was also made aware that the Fire Fighters Association held their annual convention at the Turning Stone this year and feel that it should be held in a location supported by tax payers.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to send a letter to the Fire Fighters Association expressing their dissatisfaction as to where this year's convention was held and why.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna Karlsen  
Varick Town Clerk