

Varick Town Board
May 3, 2011

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Hayssen at 7:00 p.m. Present at this meeting were Council Members Peter McDonald, John Saeli, Kathy Russo and Richard Peterson, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, Town Attorney, John Sipos, Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch, and Bookkeeper, Carol Sipos. Also present were Jim Bromka, Rob Bauman, and Mike Bentley.

Privilege of the Floor: Mike Bentley reported that the state reduced the speed limit along Route 89 proceeding past Goose Watch Winery to 50 mph, but he feels it should be reduced further to 45 mph. Mr. Peterson also reported that the culverts need to be cleaned along this area.

Highway: Mr. McCulloch asked the board to clarify their position regarding the intersection at Route 96 and Route 336. Mr. Sipos stated that for the town's protection, the town should not be involved with any changes to this intersection and to let the State bear full responsibility to any changes they want made. The board reiterated that since NYS DOT is requesting this intersection be reconfigured, they can be held responsible for doing any work required to meet DOT standards and the needs of the town.

Mr. McCulloch reported that where Town roads intersect with county or state roads, the county or state is responsible for the intersection as long as the town doesn't put any signage up.

It was determined that a written response To Chris Covert's letter was not necessary, and that Mr. McCulloch is to contact him regarding the town's position regarding this matter.

Mr. McCulloch reported that Lyons Road Trash and the metal dumpsters are set for Spring Clean Up. He will also be preparing the Ford to take it to the Palmyra auction the week of May 8th and the new truck should be ready for delivery in a couple weeks.

A discussion was held regarding the Mussel Man Triathlon and the board decided that they would be allowed to continue using Varick highways as long as they are responsible for cleaning the trash that results from this event.

Varick Sewer District No. 1: Mr. McDonald reviewed with the board the agreement made the 11th day of March 1977 between the Town of Romulus and the Town of Varick and read where this agreement stipulates in item number 3: Operation and maintenance costs will be shared jointly, and shall include operating costs, repairing all jointly used facilities and equipment, including any expense in respect of the treatment plant at the Seneca Army Depot, insurance, salaries, legal, engineering and so on. Mr. Kaiser feels that the Route 96 pump station is not included as part of the joint agreement. Mr. Sipos disagreed with Mr. Kaiser and noted where this pumps station is referred to in this joint agreement. Mr. McDonald also referred to an electrical box purchased for this pump station, which Angel paid for with funds from the water district. The board also reviewed

the bonds, which have a maturity date of 2018. After much discussion, it was recommended that the town of Romulus do the bookkeeping for this district as well as their own at a budgeted expense of \$500, but at no expense to Varick Sewer District No. 1 for ten years and to split all bills 45% Varick and 55% Romulus. All bills are to be presented to the Varick Town Board for approval of payment first and it was suggested that the mailing address for bills be changed so they come to the Town of Varick as our monthly meetings are held prior to the Town of Romulus then forwarded to the Town of Romulus for vouchering and their approval. Mr. McDonald will contact the Town of Romulus with this board's recommendation.

Since this district has a contract with the county, it was suggested that they be contacted to check the manholes and Rob Bauman was pulled off this job. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the county.

It was reported that a dialer located near the Route 96 pump station was hit by lightning and had to be replaced.

Nothing has been done on the pumps which we were quoted a price of \$4,500 to rebuild each pump which should come out of the joint sewer account. Dan Duddleston needs to be contacted regarding the generators for this district.

Mr. Hayssen will review the Seneca County sewer billing for this district as the current bill we have received does not reflect the credit amount that was agreed to.

Varick Sewer District No. 2: Mr. Saeli reported that there is ground water seeping into Kelsey's sewer pit which is causing the pump to run excessively. It was determined that this is the responsibility of the district to repair and Mr. Saeli will contact Mr. Kolbeck to do so.

Mr. Saeli also mentioned that Mr. Kolbeck suggested the district look into purchasing a couple new pumps to have on hand. It was noted that there is already six or seven rebuilt pumps ready for use if needed. It was decided that if the board should decide to purchase any new pumps, it would need to be budgeted in the 2012 budget. Mr. Kolbeck will still contact Mr. Hayssen if there is another problem with the pump located near Hahnel Road.

Water District No. 1: Butch needs to complete a repair on Russell Street. There is still a 20% water loss factor. Mr. McDonald reported that there are still four meters to be installed. Mrs. Sipos reported that she is waiting for required paperwork from Mr. Bauman to be submitted to the Personnel Office at the county.

Seneca Lake Water District: The bill for the new meter installed at the Village of Waterloo pump station was discussed and it was agreed to pay it. Mr. Hayssen will meet with Gary Westfall regarding the estimated billing.

Varick Water District No. 3: Flushing and chlorinating of the line was begun Friday, April 29th. Jim Bromka reported that 34 BAC tests had to be run prior to certification of

the waterline and he hopes to have this completed by May 7th. He reviewed with the board the process of chlorinating the line.

Mr. Hayssen reported that there will be a walk through with a punch list to be developed at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, May 5 and a meeting held at Jason McCormick's office that afternoon at 5:00 p.m.

The board approved to have Mrs. Karlsen send out a letter notifying the residents when connections can be done. It was also decided to send a Water Application, the Rules and Regulations and General Instruction with this letter for the convenience of the homeowners.

Mr. Bromka reported that ISO will only test 10% of the hydrants for flow and these should be tested along with Seneca Lake hydrants to make sure they are in working order. He reported that a hydrant by Dukes had no water because a valve was turned off.

Town Clerk's Report: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's report: Revenue to Supervisor: \$234.00 Total to Ag & Markets: \$10.00, Total Disbursements: \$244.00.

Supervisors Report: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the written Supervisor's Report.

Mr. Hayssen reported that the bonds for Water District No. 3 were completed.

Personnel: Mrs. Russo has handed out the summer recreation information to the schools and has received permission from Romulus Central School to use their facility.

Assessor: Mrs. Morgan submitted a written Assessor's report to be filed with these minutes.

The board reviewed and discussed some property assessments as reported in the 2011 Tentative Assessment Roll. Mrs. Russo asked the board some questions regarding how the assessments are arrived at and the performance of the assessor. They also reviewed some of the concerns expressed at a public meeting held in Ovid regarding the five town assessments. It was noted that the next reevaluation is scheduled to be done in five years.

Zoning Board of Appeals: A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the ZBA member satisfy their training requirement by attending training provided by: a municipal attorney; a regional planning council; a county planning office or county planning federation; a state agency; a state association (such as the Association of Towns, Association of Counties, or New York Planning Federation); a college or similar entity; or by conducting a self-study workshop. Self-study workshops require appropriate public notice, and their content, duration, and attendance will be reported to the town clerk by the ZBA chair, in writing within 90 days.

Abstract: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 5, General Vouchers A0011-51 to to A0011-61 in the amount of \$2,962.99, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Vouchers SSS11-006 to SSS11-010 in the amount of \$10,024.23, Highway, Vouchers DA011-027 to DA011-028 in the amount of \$1,156.02, Varick Sewer District No. 1, Vouchers VS111-004 to VS111-005 in the amount of \$1,959.76, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers SWS11-028 to SWS11-032 in the amount of \$\$12,289.21, Varick Water District No. 1, Vouchers VW111-009 to VW111-010 in the amount of \$4,668.30.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve payment of Varick Water District No. 4, Capital Project, to Village of Waterloo in the amount of \$75.00

New Business, Old Business, Correspondence:

Mr. Conroy, Code Enforcement Officer, submitted his letter of resignation.

Mrs. Karlsen reported that Larry Colton expressed interest in this position and Bill Squires, Planning Board Chairman, suggested Nick Chaney, who does not reside in the Town of Varick but was interested in the position. A discussion was held regarding the appointment of his replacement and the rate of pay to be offered.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to appoint Larry Colton as Code Enforcement Officer to a term to expire December 31, 2011.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson to amend Mr. McDonalds motion to amend the budget for this position to \$2,500.

Mrs. Sipos discussed the ramifications of amending the budget as motioned and it was decided to rescind the motion made by Mr. Saeli and seconded by Richard Peterson.

Mr. McDonald rescinded his original motion.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to appoint Larry Colton as Code Enforcement Officer to a term to expire December 31, 2011 at \$2,900 annually.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Donna Karlsen
Varick Town Clerk