

Varick Town Board Minutes

May 7, 2013

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order May 7, 2013 by Supervisor Robert Hayssen. Present at this meeting were Council members Peter McDonald, John Saeli, and Kathy Russo, Bookkeeper, Angela Testa, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, South Seneca Ambulance representative, Jason Henderson and , reporter, Aneta Glover, resident of the town, Rich Olsen. Absent: Councilman, Robert Bauman, Town Attorney, John Sipos, Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch

Petitioners to Address the Board: Rich Olsen expressed his interest in being a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He stated that he was impressed with this board's professionalism, and that the rules and procedures this board follows are clear and he is willing to complete the annual training required. He indicated that he was a full time resident of the Town of Varick, but did leave during the winter months.

The board reviewed the members currently serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals, and recognized that with the appointment of John Keel in January at the reorganization meeting, there are currently no open positions for this board. The Town Board did, however, thank Mr. Olsen for his interest and agreed that he would be a great asset to this board, and if a vacancy does become open, they will contact him. Mrs. Karlsen will provide the secretary of the zoning board with John Keel's contact information.

South Seneca Ambulance: Mr. Henderson and Mr. McDonald again reviewed the proposed agreement and concluded that the Town of Varick does support South Seneca Ambulance and the service it provides. The board feels that with a better understanding of the agreement it should be accepted pending final changes and review by John Sipos at the June meeting.

Sewer District No. 1: A review of the billing from Seneca County Sewer and Water was completed.

Sewer District No. 2: Nothing

Seneca Lake Water District: It was reported that there were over 120 meters that were unable to be read this past quarter. The units are approximately 15 or so years old and have out lived their life expectancy. Although the meters may still be working, the batteries on the transponders are not and due to the age of both units, it was suggested that the complete unit be replaced. Mr. Hayssen also noted that there is lead in those units and the use of them will not be permitted with the new and upcoming changes in regulations.

The board reviewed the number of connections in this district and noted that approximately 50 units were changed last year and decided to replace all the units, requiring the purchase of approximately 200 more meters and transponders.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to purchase up to 200 meters and transponders to replace all the old meters and transponders in this district.

We will look at scrapping the used meters.

A letter will be sent out notifying the water users that new meters are scheduled to be installed and access to the old meters will need to be made available. If they do not comply to this request, their water could be shut off within 30 days.

Water District No. 1: A discussion was held regarding the water loss again in this district. Mr. Hayssen reported that some of the loss showing may be due to not reading the master meter the same day as the resident's meters. He also reported that the Town of Romulus had a large water break during this quarter and it took them awhile to locate it.

The board discussed making each district responsible for their water loss during a break, but it was decided that it would be difficult to determine the billable water loss in some cases. It was noted that no further action has been taken on Russell Road.

Varick Water District No. 3: Mr. Saeli submitted a quote from Dig For You, Pete Keefer, to clean out and haul away debris & rocks in ditch left from waterline repair on Route 336 in front of Lerch's Trailer Park and to put new topsoil down, seed, fertilizer and straw in the amount of \$1,175. It was felt this quote was excessive. Different suggestions were made on how to best address this issue and it was agreed to have the water maintainer, Ben Karlsen, contact Chris Covert for suggestions on repair as it is a state road.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to have Ben Karlsen contact Chris Covert to get suggestions on how to repair area disturbed by the water main break on Route 336 and to hire the work to be done to be paid on an hourly basis.

A discussion was also held concerning OSHA rules for contractors working on a state highway. Mr. Saeli suggested that the Village of Waterloo be the town's contact for Water and Sewer main breaks.

Varick Water District No. 4 (Capital Project): Mr. Hayssen read from a text from Tim Buhl reviewing the companies that have requested bid specs for this project.

The funding was received in the district's account Monday, so bills can now be sent to Municipal Solution and then onto Rural Development for reimbursement.

Bid opening will take place at the town hall May 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Zoning Board: Mr. McDonald reported that an issue regarding the installation of a dock was resolved and a building permit issued. He also reviewed the jurisdiction of the Army Core of Engineers, DEC and the Town of Varick

Mr. Hayssen reported that the Army is scheduled to turn over the depot property to the IDA in 2015. The Town of Varick and Town of Romulus zoning boards are continuing their efforts on writing zoning for this area.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to accept the Town Clerk's Report: Supervisor: \$275.00, Ag & Markets: \$27.00, Total Disbursements: \$302.00.

Supervisor's Report: A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to accept the written Supervisor's report.

Personnel: Kathy Russo contacted the Board of Education regarding the Summer Recreation Program and received word that they would like to continue with the program at the school and are allowing the program to use the McDougall School house and outdoor area this year while the school is undergoing renovations. With the enrollment of the children from the recreation program and summer school, the school will be able to offer the lunch program as well. Mrs. Russo has distributed job applications and sign up sheets to the schools.

Assessor: Nothing

Minutes: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to accept the minutes of April 2, 2013.

Abstract: A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 5, Highway, Vouchers DA013-25 to DAO13-\$4,068.36, Varick Sewer District No. 1, Vouchers VS113-011 to VS113-13 in the amount of \$2,235.83, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Vouchers SSS13-007 to SSS13-10 in the amount of \$6,959.62, General, Vouchers A0013-58 to A0013-68 in the amount of \$1,743.06, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers SWS13-024 to SWS13-26 in the amount of \$241.68, Varick Water No. 3, Vouchers VW313-010 to VW313-11 in the amount of \$2,560.33, Varick Water 1, Vouchers VW113-007 to VW113-008 in the amount of \$7,454.86.

Tim Buhl submitted a bill for recent services rendered for Water District 4 Capital Project in the amount of \$7,406.69. The board was holding payment of two prior bills in the totaling an amount of \$6,432.46 until funding was received. The board wants to review his contractual agreement for this project and funds disbursed to this date before paying his most recent bill. Tim Buhl has requested payment to cover expenses he has incurred recently in completing and copying the bid documents for distribution. The board agreed to process a check for \$6,432.46 as the funds for this project have been wired into Varick Water District 4 account.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to pay Tim Buhl \$6,432.46 for work completed for Varick Water District No. 4 Capital Project.

New Business, Old Business and Correspondence: Mr. Hayssen stated that the town received a request for donations for Romulus Grad Night, and because we are a municipality we can't make a donation, but personal donations by board members could be made.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously approve of and direct the Supervisor to sign the engagement letter for accounting services with Raymond F. Wager to complete the 2012 audit.

Mrs. Karlsen presented the 2013 renewal agreement with Beverly Animal Shelter to provide shelter and other services to the Town of Varick as required by provisions of Article VII, Section 115 of the Agriculture and Market Law for the supervisor's signature.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Karlsen
Varick Town Clerk