

Town of Varick
Minutes of the Town Board Meeting
December 3, 2013

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert Hayssen at 7:00 p.m. Present at this meeting were Council Members Peter McDonald, John Saeli, Kathy Russo, and Robert Bauman, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, Attorney for the Town, Steve Ricci, Bookkeeper, Angela Testa, and reporter, Anita Glover. Absent, Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch.

Highway: A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Robert Bauman and so carried unanimously to approve the snowplowing agreement between Romulus Central School District and The Town of Varick.

Varick Water District No. 1: Nothing to report.

Seneca Lake Water District: Nothing to report.

Varick Water 3: Mr. Hayssen discussed the bill from the Village of Waterloo in the amount of \$1,000 to complete the water billing for this district. He attempted to negotiate the bill down a couple of hundred dollars, but received no response from the village. This bill was abstracted with this months bills and Mr. Hayssen recommended that it be approved for payment.

MRB is preparing a revised punch list for Syracuse Constructors.

It was reported that a hydrant was damaged at the corner of Route 414 and Ogden Road. The water maintainer will repair with a break-a-way kit and seek further information if available as to how this hydrant was damaged. At the direction of the board, two more hydrant repair kits will be ordered. The cost of the repair and the two hydrant repair kits will be billed proportionately to the Town of Fayette Water District No. 5.

Discussion was held regarding the pilot profit sharing program offering revenue sharing from Seneca Lake Water District to Varick Water District No. 3 and Fayette Water District No. 5. Seneca Lake Water profit margin is based on a .50 markup from the cost of water being purchased from the Village of Waterloo. Mr. Saeli, at the December 13th meeting, suggested taking .40 of the mark up in water cost and multiplying that .40 by every 1000 gallons of water actually used by Varick Water 3 water consumers. A check would be processed from Seneca Lake Water District accordingly and deposited in Water District 3 accounts to help offset that district's costs. The suggested .40 rebate is based on an agreement set with the Town of Fayette that they not increase water rates more than .10 above their cost to Water District No. 4. It was determined that if this pilot profit sharing program were to be extended to Fayette 5, the amount paid to them would be applied against the \$8,188.31 that is owed to that district from Varick Water 3 Capital project. This payment would be done as a pilot program in good faith to try to pay back funds owed to Fayette Water District No. 5. This program will be discontinued if any one of the following should occur: if this pilot program is determined to be a detriment to Seneca Lake Water District's financial stability, if Water District No. 3 becomes financially

sound and/or if the Town of Fayette does not agree with this proposal or when the balance of the money owed is paid off at the time litigation is settled.

It was suggested by Mr. Ricci that a joint meeting with the Town of Fayette be held to discuss raising the water rates and/or the pilot revenue sharing program.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to pay the Town of Fayette .40 for every 1000 gallons of billable water used by the Town of Fayette Water District 5 users. This money paid will be applied against the \$8,188.31 owed to Fayette Water District No. 5 Capital Project until the amount of \$8,188.31 is paid in full or the Town of Varick board determines this pilot revenue sharing program should be terminated.

Discussion: Mr. Saeli felt that a meeting with the Town of Fayette should be held prior to the resolution being made. Mr. Ricci indicated that if the motion were to be made now and not approved by the Town of Fayette, this motion could be rescinded. Mr. Saeli stated that he would not be in favor of a water rate increase, and suggested that if Fayette was not in favor of this payment program towards the amount owed, this pilot revenue sharing program should still be extended to Varick Water 3 at this time. The board questioned if both districts would have to maintain the same water rates to their consumers if Fayette were to raise their rates. It was decided that this would need to be part of a discussion with the Town of Fayette and how each town proposes to address the cost of running the districts.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried to pay the Town of Fayette \$0.40 for every 1000 gallons of billable water used by the Town of Fayette Water District 5 users. This money paid will be applied against the \$8,188.31 owed to Fayette Water District No. 5 Capital Project until the amount of \$8,188.31 is paid in full or the Town of Varick board determines this pilot revenue sharing program should be terminated.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen	Yes
Peter McDonald	Yes
John Saeli	No
Kathy Russo	Yes
Robert Bauman	Yes

4 Yes 1 No

So Carried

Mr. Hayssen will discuss this proposal with Supervisor Lorenzetti and schedule a meeting for after the first of the year.

Water District No. 4: Mr. Hayssen reported that he signed a new bond which was issued with DOT and Perm 50 still needs to be signed. The contractor has received the submittals from Tim Buhl and has begun ordering parts. Mr. Ricci reported that the homeowner approved the wording in the last easement required and the signed easement needs to be picked up from them.

Mr. Hayssen told Mr. Buhl that he was to order right hand turn hydrants and water supply applications still need to be developed.

Varick Sewer District No. 1: Nothing to report.

Varick Sewer District No. 2: Mr. Hayssen reported that two-½ units needs to be added to Seneca County's debt service, Bolson residence. This billing should be done on a quarterly basis and the bookkeeper will make the change in units and make sure the billing is being done correctly.

Town Clerk: A motion by Robert Bauman, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's Report: Supervisor: \$140.20, NYS Ag & Markets: \$11.00, NYS Environmental Conservation: \$46.30, State Health Dept.: \$22.50, Total Disbursements: \$220.00

Supervisors Report: Angela Testa submitted a written supervisor's report which will be attached to the official minutes on record.

Mrs. Testa suggested that she move some of the funds that are currently in CDs at Community Bank to Five Star as they are offering better interest rates. A discussion took place on the current rates being offered and Mrs. Testa will contact Mr. Hayssen for his signature if any changes are made.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve the written Supervisor's report.

Personnel: Kathy Russo reported that Mike Whirtley from Seneca County Youth Bureau has funds to be expended this year on programs regarding physical fitness and fighting childhood obesity. She has contacted Michelle, our summer recreation director, for programming suggestions to be submitted in order to obtain these funds.

Zoning Board: Mr. Hayssen will contact Todd Horton, zoning board chairman, and invite him to attend our next regular board meeting to provide an update on the joint meetings with Romulus Zoning Board on the rezoning of the depot property.

Minutes: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of November 6th and November 13th, 2013.

New Business, Old Business Correspondence:

Mr. Saeli questioned the board as to their thoughts on surrendering the town roads to Seneca County at the end of Mr. McCulloch's term and requesting the county guarantee a job for Kris Karlsen at that time. Although there is over 50 miles of road in the town, the highway department is responsible for servicing approximately 19 miles. Attorney Steve Ricci will research this as he questioned if this can be done. Mr. Ricci also suggested an intermunicipal agreement could be done if the county were interested. Mr. Hayssen reviewed the highway

budget and felt that it was very conservative and didn't feel that Seneca County could do it for less. It was noted that the town is very conservative on purchasing equipment, and recognized the necessity of eventual equipment replacement. Mr. Hayssen reminded the board that equipment replacement has been budgeted and reviewed the ample fund balance for such purchases. Concern was also raised as to how prompt the county would be in servicing our roads.

Mr. Ricci will look into the legal possibilities of the county taking over the town roads.

Court: Mr. Ricci indicated that there is no personal liability on the person taking responsibility for auditing the judge's dockets. It was suggested that Mr. Bauman audit these dockets and report back to the board. The letter received by the judge is asking when the last time the audit was completed. It was suggested that the 2013 books be audited and then respond to the letter.

A discussion was held regarding the budgeted amount for the annual audit completed by Wager's office, which is required by Rural Development. Steve Ricci felt that the budgeted amount was high and thought the Town of Fayette's cost was lower and thought Fayette also had them audit the judge's docket. John Saeli was the last board member who audited the judge's docket.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to direct Robert Bauman to audit the judge's docket book and report back to the board.

Duplicate plaques will be made recognizing the years of service for Carol and John Sipos to be presented at the year end meeting if Mrs. Sipos is able to attend. One plaque will be hung in the town hall and one given to Carol Sipos.

The year-end meeting will be held on December 26th at 10:00 a.m. at the town hall to pay end of year bills and to address any other business that comes before the board.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Robert Bauman and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Karlsen