

December 5, 2017

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 Councilmen Todd Horton, Richard Peterson and Tom Fox; Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen; Bookkeeper, Angela Testa; Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch; Town Justice, David Ettman; Attorney for the Town, Joe Midiri and Ovid Gazette reporter, Anita Glover. Also present were Jeff Hogue, Kelli Shaffner, Kathleen Horton, Ben Freier, Michele Herman and Eric Riegel.

Supervisor Hayssen requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Councilwoman Kathy Russo who suddenly passed away at home on November 22, 2017. The board will always remember her for her service and dedication to the town and her work done at the Family Children's Center in Seneca County. A moment of silence was held also in remembrance of former councilman Sheldon Sharpe who also passed away in November.

**Privilege of the Floor:** Michele Herman asked the board if they had any information they could share pertaining to the meeting held by the Romulus Planning board at a presentation made by Circular enerG, a Rochester based company, about the waste-to-energy power plant it proposes to build within the former Seneca Army Depot, in the Town of Romulus. Supervisor Hayssen and Councilman Tom Fox reported that they had attended that meeting. They reported that although no public comment could be made, letters and handouts from local groups were passed around to include the Finger Lakes Wine Business Coalition strongly opposing the proposal arguing that the facility, and the waste trucks and trains associated with this business would have a significant negative impact on the Finger Lakes tourism and the agriculture community. Supervisor Hayssen also reported that Seneca County Board of Supervisors Environmental Affairs Committee voted unanimously on a motion, introduced by the board chair Steve Churchill, that would ban any solid waste management facility from being built in Seneca County. This motion will go before the County board for a vote December 12<sup>th</sup>. They also reported that Chairman of the Romulus Planning Board, Tom Bouchard, reported that they have requested to be lead agency for the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) and requested the Town of Romulus hire an environmental engineering firm and an environmental attorney to assist the planning board with the SEQR. Although the town board recognized that Romulus has home rule on the decision pertaining to this proposal, they wanted to go on record that the Town of Varick strongly opposes the waste-to-energy power plant being built in the Town of Romulus and made the following motion:

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Todd Horton and so carried unanimously to oppose the proposed solid waste management facility to be built at a site at the former Seneca Army Depot in Romulus citing its negative impact on the environment.

A copy of this resolution will be sent to the town of Romulus for their reference.

**Justice Report:** Judge David Ettman submitted a letter of resignation effective December 15, 2017 as he will be out of the continental United States from December 17<sup>th</sup> until after the first of the new year and won't be in the area to complete his term of office. He recommended that Justice-Elect Jeffrey Hogue be appointed by the board as Town Justice to complete his term.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Robert Hayssen and so carried unanimously to accept David Ettman's resignation as Town Justice effective December 16, 2017 and appoint Justice-Elect Jeffrey Hogue to complete his term ending December 31, 2017.

Jeff Hogue reported he will be attending the Justice training in December and may be requesting a competitive salary for his clerk.

Judge Ettman also referred to an email that Robert Hayssen received from John McKenna, president of Tompkins Bank of Castile who is also in the customer service business, who shared how courteous, helpful and professional Judy Brignall was in assisting him regarding a payment due on an outstanding ticket he had received. Judge Ettman reported that Judy Brignall is willing to stay on as court clerk through March. He also noted that pursuant to Uniform Justice Court Act he has to present his records and docket at least once a year for an audit and will be closing his books December 15<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Hayssen will check with Judge Dollinger to see if another audit needs to be completed in addition to the one the court system is doing currently.

**Abstract:** A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Todd Horton and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 12, General, Vouchers A0017-181 to A0017-186 in the amount of \$746.63, Highway, Vouchers DA017-077 to DA017-090 in the amount of \$73,077.28, Varick Water District No. 1, Vouchers, VW117-020 in the amount of \$25, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers SWS17-060 to SWS17-061 in the amount of \$12,025, Varick Water District No. 3, Voucher VW317-023 in the amount of \$25, Varick Water District No. 4, Voucher VW417-043 in the amount of \$25, Varick Sewer District No. 1, Voucher VS117-042 in the amount of \$180.00, Varick Sewer District No. 2, SSS17-036 to SSS17-037 in the amount of \$2,634.39.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** Jeff Hogue reported that it is likely that Anne Bachman will be named as chairperson for this board. They will also be advertising for interested parties to fill the vacant position.

**Highway:** Richard McCulloch reported that they purchased the approved trailer and are prepared for the winter season.

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Nothing to report.

**Supervisor's Report:** A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the bookkeeper's report.

Mrs. Testa reported that she met with the auditors and the 2014 audit has been completed and a report filed in her office.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to accept the 2014 Audit Report.

**Varick Water District No. 1:** Nothing to report.

**Seneca Lake Water District:** Supervisor Hayssen and Attorney Wendy Marsh met with the County Manager and Brandi Deeds regarding the over due water bill for Seneca County Water District No. 1. Wendy Marsh will be following up on this meeting the beginning of December.

**Varick Water District No. 3:** Mrs. Karlsen received in the mail from Marleen Hubbs, town clerk for Fayette, a proposal for consideration from Aqua Logics Systems, Inc. which was originally sent to the village of Waterloo, Jim Bromka for equipment and field services that the Town of Fayette Board has agreed to pay half of the cost (\$2,600) with the town of Varick the other half. The board acknowledged they were unaware of this equipment or it's use and is not willing to approve the equipment or the cost without further information. Attorney Joe Midiri will draft a letter to be sent to the town of Fayette requesting a presentation be made by Jim Bromka as to the necessity of this equipment. No action will be taken at this time and will be tabled until further information is provided.

**Varick Water District No. 4:** Supervisor Hayssen has water maintainer, Ben Karlsen checking the valves in this district to make sure they are open and working properly. He will also have Mr. Bella check the air relief valves.

**Varick Sewer District No. 1:** Nothing to report.

**Varick Sewer District No. 2:** Nothing to report.

**Town Clerk's Report:** A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to approve the Clerk's Report: Supervisor: \$530, NYS Ag & markets: \$16, total disbursements: \$546.

**Assessor:** Nothing to report.

**Planning Board:** Nothing to report.

**Minutes:** A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of November 8, 2017.

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

Supervisor Hayssen received a proposal from Hunt Engineers/Architects/Surveyors, P.C. to investigate sewer service in the Town of Varick. Mr. Hayssen reported that he is unsure what the towns of Fayette and Romulus have decided to do with regards to Hunt's original proposal.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to enter into an agreement with Hunt Engineers/Architects/Surveyors, P.C. to investigate sewer service in the Town of Varick along the NYS Route 89 corridor focusing on areas with existing water districts and area necessary to collect sewage and transfer through gravity or pressure sewers to an existing wastewater treatment facility and agree to pay Hunt to perform the work as outlined in the Scope of Services for an hourly not to exceed a fee of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

Mr. Fox discussed a pond located in the town of Fayette at the end of Townline Road. He has expressed his concerns to Fayette Highway Superintendent Bill Trout.

The board will hold an end of year meeting on Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to review year end bills and any other business that may come before the board.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Todd Horton and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Karlsen  
Varick Town Clerk