

November 5, 2014

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 Todd Horton, John Saeli, Kathy Russo, and Richard Peterson, Town Clerk Donna Karlsen, Bookkeeper Angela Testa, Attorney for the Town, Steve Ricci and Joe Midiri, Zoning Board Chairman Jeff Hogue, Code Enforcement Officer Larry Colton, reporter Anita Glover. Also present were Richard Olsen, Howard Relin, Madelin Brown and Steven Nogle.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to open the public hearing on the 2015 Preliminary Budgets at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Olsen suggested that the preliminary budget be posted on the town's web page in the future.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to close the public hearing on the 2015 Preliminary budget at 7:15 p.m.

Petitioners to Address the Board: Howard Relin who resides at 5500 East Lake Road presented a diagram of the striping of East Lake Road from Kennedy Road to Yale Station Road. The striping from Kennedy Road to Deal Road represents striping completed by the county recently and was discussed at the September 2014 board meeting with County Highway Superintendent Roy Gates in attendance. Mr. Gates reported that the striping completed from Kennedy Road to Deal Road was done according to DOT guidelines. The board agreed to have the county continue to stripe the road following the guidelines established by DOT at that time. Mr. Relin requested the board consider restriping the road from 5432 East Lake Road to Kennedy Road back to a solid double, no passing zone. He cited safety concerns with his grandchildren crossing the road and the speed in which the cars are traveling. Mr. Saeli agreed that if there were to be a double stripe, no passing zone implemented, this would be an appropriate location, however, he pointed out that it is unsafe to have continuous no passing zones as cars will then pass illegally causing a new hazard. He also pointed out that the danger isn't so much caused from a no-passing zone as it is with speed along the road which has been an ongoing issue. Attorney Steve Ricci noted that as this is a County road, it is not the town's position to dictate how that road is striped. The board can recommend through an advisory motion with no liability on the town to have the county review this striping.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to have Seneca County Highway Superintendent Roy Gates review the striping from 5342 East Lake Road to Kennedy Road based on the concerns expressed by Howard Relin.

Mr. Olsen thanked Supervisor Hayssen for reviewing his punch list items to be addressed in Water District No. 4 completion. He asked that he be provided with the contact

information for the contractor as Mr. Olsen will be providing the mesh to be laid prior to dirt being installed on his property. He also noted that there was a Boil Advisory for Water District No. 4 and suggested other means of communicating this information. He also expressed his interest in becoming a Planning Board member, and noted that the time he spends living in Rochester would not be problematic.

Highway: No report.

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

Code Enforcement Officer: Larry Colton reported that neighbors were complaining about an unregistered vehicle that had been in an accident and would like to have it removed. Mr. Colton reported that it is in violation of our code and he has spoken to this individual. The board stated that if he acknowledges a violation to the zoning code, gives due notice to the violator and nothing is done, he is to follow the code and issue a violation. If he has any questions pertaining to a code or how to proceed, he can contact the town attorney for direction.

Madeline Brown, owner of the guinea hens on Deal Road, reported her interactions with the neighbors and stated that the hens are used to control ticks and are free flying birds. Mrs. Russo noted that their wings could be clipped, which would aid in them staying on the owner's property. A fence could then be installed by the neighbors to meet code. Mr. Colton addressed the issue and stated there is no evidence of a zoning violation and suggested that an addition of a nuisance ordinance should be considered for Agricultural/Rural/Residential in the town's code.

Mr. Colton submitted his report for August 2014.

Varick Sewer District No. 1: No report.

Varick Sewer District No. 2: Mr. Hayssen questioned if the check valve had been repaired at pump station. There was no bill submitted for this repair as of this date, but the electric bill was back in alignment with the normal billing amount.

It was determined that a post card should be sent out in the future reiterating use guidelines for the sewer systems and contact phone numbers for both water and sewer departments.

Varick Water District No. 1: No report.

Seneca Lake Water District: No report.

Varick Water District No. 3: Mr. Hayssen reported that the contractor is looking for release of his bond, and no action has been taken as of this date. It was noted that easements are still required to move 3 hydrants, and the homeowners are not willing to

sign off on them. They are working with the state to resolve this issue and alternative measures are being researched.

Varick Water District No. 4: Supervisor Hayssen and Engineer Tim Buhl walked the water main and reviewed the punch list items submitted by homeowners. Supervisor Hayssen also reported that the bi-directional meter he doesn't feel is reading bi-directionally anymore and will look further into this matter.

Kathy Russo will look into additional systems to contact individuals within the town to provide them with notifications.

Town Clerk's Report: A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's Report: Supervisor: \$330, NYS Ag & Markets: \$22, Total Disbursements: \$352.

Personnel: No report.

Assessor: No report.

Zoning Board: Mr. Horton suggested that the size of a shed that requires a town permit be reduced to match the county requirement. The board will also better define the term "grandfathering" in the code. Discussion was held regarding the renewal of permits and lack of contact with the zoning code officer when projects have been completed. The board reviewed whether a renewal fee of \$25 be implemented or not and would it be beneficial to send out renewal bills which might initiate notification of completion. This will also be reviewed by the zoning board. It was noted that the public hearings for the proposed zoning for the depot property for the Towns of Varick and Romulus will be held at separate times

Mr. Hayssen reported that he did not attend the DEC meeting on open space.

Minutes: A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by John Saeli and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of October 5 and October 21, 2014.

Abstract: A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract 11, General, Vouchers A0014-178 to A0014-188 in the amount of \$6,893.97, Highway, Vouchers DA014-73 to DA014-80 in the amount of \$17,309.89, Seneca Lake Water, Vouchers SWS14-050 to SWS14-051 in the amount of \$121.21, Varick Water District No. 3, Vouchers VW314-029 to VW314-030 in the amount of \$72.92, Varick Water District No. 4, Voucher VW414-014 in the amount of \$629.05, Varick Sewer District No. 1, Voucher VS114-039 in the amount of \$148.50, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Vouchers SSS14-031 to SSS14-033 in the amount of \$2,878.99

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve payment of Water District No. 4 Capital Project bills:

Town of Fayette \$427.96

Preliminary Budget:

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Todd Horton and so carried unanimously to adopt the 2015 Preliminary Budget of the Town of Varick and Preliminary Budget of the Special District Fund Budgets and Fire Protection Units.

The bookkeeper and supervisor reminded the board that a loan from the General fund to Water District No. 3 is still outstanding as reflected in the Supervisor's report and a portion of this amount is to be included in the debt service collected through taxes. It was unclear if this figure was included in the figure entered in the Preliminary budget and required further research.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve changes, if required, to Water District No. 3 appropriations and revenue and General fund revenue pertaining to the outstanding loan from the General Fund to this district.

Mrs. Russo reported that she spoke to the Town of Romulus and they agreed to budget an additional \$1,000 for their share of the Romulus/Varick Summer Recreation Program.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to increase the Romulus/Varick Summer Recreation Program salary line \$500 and expense line \$500 and revenue \$1,000.

Mrs. Russo reviewed the Dog Control Officer's salary and based on his quarterly reports felt his salary should be reduced to \$3,750. She then felt that the Code Enforcement Officer's salary should be in alignment with the Dog Control Officer's salary and wanted that line to be increased to \$3,750.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to align the Dog Control Officer and Code Enforcement Officer's salaries to an amount of \$3,750 annually.

Mr. Hayssen, Todd Horton and Richard Peterson were not in favor at this time to reduce the Dog Control Officer's salary. Todd Horton suggested that the board amend the motion to address the code enforcement's salary only.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Robert Hayssen and so carried unanimously to amend the motion to increase the Code Enforcement Officer's annual salary to \$3,750 and not alter the Dog Control Officer's salary.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Robert Hayssen and so carried unanimously to increase the Code Enforcement Officer's annual salary to \$3,750 and not alter the Dog Control Officer's salary.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to realign the dog control salary to \$3,750.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen:	No
Richard Peterson:	No
Todd Horton:	No
John Saeli:	Yes
Kathy Russo	Yes

Motion Failed

It was suggested to review the Code Enforcement Officer's salary again next year.

Mr. Saeli expressed his opposition to the salary lines in Water District No. 3 for the supervisor, town clerk and bookkeeper in the annual amount of \$546 each.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to remove the salary lines in the amount of \$546 each for supervisor, town clerk, and bookkeeper in Water District No. 3.

Discussion: Mr. Saeli reviewed the financial state that Water District No. 3 is in and was not in favor of implementing salary lines for the supervisor, town clerk or bookkeeper. He indicated that he was aware of the poverty in our town and didn't want to add to their hardship by assessing more expense. Mr. Hayssen stated that all three positions have been completing necessary work pertaining to this district for three years without compensation and felt it was due. It was also noted that the district could sustain these increases without raising the cost to the consumers. Mrs. Russo reviewed the annual pay for all three positions and felt that the Supervisor was under paid. Mr. Saeli noted that all three positions get compensated through Seneca Lake Water District and as Varick Water 3 is indirectly serviced by Seneca Lake Water District, the compensation through that district is sufficient at this time. Mr. Peterson recognized the additional work generated and looked to compensate those positions through another fund. The bookkeeper explained that according to municipal accounting procedures, expenditures must be expensed to the appropriate funds and are reported as such on the Town's annual AUD to New York State. Todd Horton reminded the board that this discussion was held regarding this and pay raises at the October meeting and a motion voted on resulted in no changes to the salary lines in all funds.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to cut off the debate.

Mr. Hayssen called a roll call vote on the motion on the floor:

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to remove the salary lines in the amount of \$546 each for supervisor, town clerk, and bookkeeper in Water District No. 3.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen: No
Todd Horton: No
Richard Peterson: No
Kathy Russo: Yes
John Saeli: Yes

Motion Failed

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to remove the 3% raises for all elected and town employees in the 2015 budget.

Discussion: Mr. Peterson was in favor of removing the raises for the board members only.

A motion by John Saeli to amend the motion to remove raises for elected officials. This motion died for a lack of a second.

Supervisor Hayssen called for a roll call vote on the motion on the floor:

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Kathy Russo to remove the 3% raises for all elected officials and town employees in the 2015 budget.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen: No
Todd Horton: No
Richard Peterson: No
Kathy Russo: Yes
John Saeli: Yes

Motion Failed

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried to move the 2015 Preliminary Budget with changes of the Town of Varick and Preliminary Budget of the Special District Fund Budgets and Fire Protection Units to the adopted final 2015 Budgets.

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen: Yes
Todd Horton: Yes
Richard Peterson: Yes
Kathy Russo: No
John Saeli: No

So Carried

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

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Karlsen
Varick Town Clerk