

March 1, 2016

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called order by Supervisor Robert Hayssen at 7:00 p.m. Present at this meeting were Council Members Todd Horton, Kathy Russo, Tom Fox and Richard Peterson, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, Bookkeeper, Angela Testa, Planning Board Members, Thomas Bjorkman and William Squires, Town of Fayette representatives, Cindy Lorenzetti, Jeff Trout, and Bill Trout, Town of Romulus representatives, David Kaiser and Kyle Collinsworth. Also present were Michelle Herman and Tony Brown. Absent: Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch.

Petitioners to Address the Board: David Kaiser reported that a meeting was held regarding the increase in water cost from Seneca County Water District No. 1 at the Town of Romulus on February 22, 2016. Supervisor Hayssen was not notified of this meeting. It was determined that Seneca County Water District No 1 would be raising their cost of water to out of district users from \$4.10 to \$6.30 per thousand gallons. This figure represents a \$1.10 increase to cover the debt service payment which is to be paid off in approximately five years, improvements/repairs to the district, repayment of a loan to the Seneca County Sewer District and to build a reserve fund for future anticipated expenses. The balance of this increase or another \$1.10 is to be used for operation and maintenance costs. The water sold from Seneca County Water District No. 1 will be billed from the master meter, not based on the consumption of water billed by the district's consumers. The amount of water loss will be determined by taking the master meter read and subtracting the homeowners meter reads. The water loss cost will then be divided according to the established percentages between each district. The county has incorporated the operation and maintenance fee into the water rate, and will not be charging an additional flat rate to the out of district users. Mr. Hayssen felt that in order to cover the cost of water loss by the districts, approximately 10% to 20% will need to be added to the water rate in order to cover this expense. It was noted that Seneca County Water District No. 1 will be increasing their charge to in-district users to \$6.98 per thousand gallons with a \$53 operation and maintenance charge per quarter. David Kaiser anticipates that in addition to the water rate charge increase from the county, his town will be looking at an increase in their assessed operation and maintenance charge as well.

Supervisor Hayssen reviewed with the board that the Village of Waterloo sells water to Seneca Lake Water District who then sells water to Seneca County Water District No. 1. Seneca County Water District No. 1 sells water to the Towns of Romulus, Varick and Fayette districts. Seneca Lake Water District, based on the contract they have with the Village of Waterloo, increases the cost of water 50 cents per thousand gallons. The 50 cents covers the costs of all operation and maintenance of this district with no additional quarterly operation and maintenance charge being assessed.

The towns of Fayette and Romulus feel the increase in water rate from Seneca County Water District No. 1 will result in an economic hardship to their town's residents who are serviced by Seneca County Water District No. 1. In their opinion, Seneca Lake Water District is financially sound and requested that this district reduce its water rate to either Seneca County Water District No. 1 or to the hamlets of Romulus and Fayette serviced

by the county district. Supervisor Hayssen noted that two years ago the board did pass a resolution to reduce the water rate by 40 cents per thousand to Fayette Water District No. 5, but the resolution was rescinded due to the lack of cooperation from the Town of Fayette board.

It was also reported that at the February 22 meeting discussion was held pertaining to the financial stability of the Village of Waterloo. Jeff Trout stated that due to the good relationship that the Town of Fayette has with the Village, they will be approaching them for a reduction in their water rate of 40 cents per thousand gallons as well. It was reported that Seneca County Water District No. 1 agreed not to recapture the reduction in water costs if the Village of Waterloo and Seneca Lake Water District were agreeable to a reduction in their rates.

Discussion was held pertaining to the poor management of Seneca County Water District No. 1. The financial situation this district currently finds itself in, the condition of the leaking water lines, and the relocation of the Ross valve were reviewed. It was suggested that a water authority board once again be established with representation by the town's this district services with the power to make decisions in the best interest of its consumers, and not by the Board of Supervisors, who with weighted voting power, can make decisions for constituents that are not within their own towns and villages.

The board agreed to consider the request from the towns of Fayette and Romulus regarding the reduction of water rate by Seneca Lake Water District. In the mean time, Fayette will contact the Village of Waterloo with the same request.

Highway: It was reported that the 2016 Ford 350 pick-up truck had been received. The board has directed Highway Superintendent Richard McCulloch to research the disposal of the 2011 Ford F350.

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

Varick Sewer District No. 1: No Report.

Varick Sewer District No. 2: Mr. Kolbeck provided to the town clerk a brochure and business card from Todd Peluso, a regional manager regarding Flygt grinder pumps, a xylem brand pump, which is advertised as an industrial quality pump for the domestic user. It was noted that the district just purchased 18 grinder pumps from E-One.

Varick Water District No. 1: Water rate increase from Seneca County Water District No. 1 was reviewed.

Seneca Lake Water District: The board reviewed the upcoming costs to Seneca Lake Water District pertaining to replacement of the water truck, required maintenance to the water building, and repair of the bolts and future potential repairs to an aging water main. They also considered waiving the unit cost collected on the town tax bills using some of

the district's fund balance. Supervisor Hayssen reported that the district makes approximately \$100,000 annually through water sales, but noted that there are no additional operation and maintenance fees collected. The board expressed their concern over the rate increase by Seneca County Water District No. 1 which will affect Varick Water District No. 1 and 3 water rates. The board discussed different options they could take and proposed the following resolution:

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Thomas Fox and so carried unanimously to consider reducing the water rate 80 cents /1000 gallons of water sold to Seneca County Water District 1 users in the Romulus Water, Varick Water 1, Varick Water 3 and Fayette 5 water districts contingent on the Village of Waterloo reducing their water rate by 40 cents /1000 gallons to Seneca Lake Water District.

Varick Water District No. 3: Supervisor Cindy Lorenzetti reported that she is having their town attorney, Steve Ricci, look into the agreement pertaining to the percentage of 57% Fayette and 42% Varick responsibility for expenses to these two districts. She is questioning this percentage as she felt Varick has more services connected at this time and higher volume of water usage. Supervisor Hayssen reported that the percentage was established based on the quantity of pipe to be maintained in each district and possible connections. The town of Fayette received more funding for this project based on this and is responsible for operation and maintenance of the lines within Fayette Water District No. 5 at the higher percentage rate.

Mrs. Karlsen reported that Fayette Water District No. 5 had a large water leak due to a fractured 2" water meter located in a pit on Route 336.

Mrs. Russo reported that there is 27 pieces of 12" diameter by 20' long blue water pipe and approximately 102 corner horns that can be auctioned off. She checked into an online auction site that would be willing to auction these items off. She reported there is no service fee to the town as the bidder would be responsible for that cost. It was suggested that the corner horn price be set at \$100 with a minimum of \$75 and the pipe be set at \$10/foot. She also reported the Highway Superintendent from the Town of Covert may be interested in purchasing the pipe as culvert pipe to go under driveways, but hasn't heard anything further from him. She will continue to get further information pertaining to auctioning off this inventory.

Assess: Mrs. Karlsen reported that the assessor has been contacting residents reminding them that their exemption forms are due by March 1, 2016.

Varick Water District No. 4: Supervisor Cindy Lorenzetti stated that her board is reviewing the agreement with Water District No. 4 which currently states that Fayette Water District No. 3 can charge an increase of no more than 10 cents/1000 gallons of water over the cost they are being charged from Seneca Falls to Varick Water District No. 4.

Town Clerk: A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's report: Supervisor; \$75, NYS Ag & Markets: \$18, Total Disbursements: \$93.

Minutes: A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of February 2 and February 16, 2016.

Planning Board: Mr. Squires reported that the Planning Board members were not notified of a public hearing on Local Law No. 2 of 2016 pertaining to the revisions to the Zoning Code scheduled for this meeting. Mr. Bjorkman, also a member of the planning board, did say he was made aware of the proposed public hearing as Mrs. Karlsen had directed Joe from the Reveille to contact him for information regarding the proposed revisions to the code. Mrs. Russo reported that the scheduling of this hearing was done at a special meeting held in February which was cutting it close to meet publication requirements in order to hold said public hearing. Mrs. Karlsen went on to further explain that there was no need to notify the planning board as there is no public hearing on this meeting's agenda for Local Law No. 2 of 2016 as the notice was not published as scheduled by the Reveille.

It was noted that neither the Planning Board nor the Town Board has received any feed back from the Seneca County Clerk's office regarding a letter sent to them by the Planning Board with a follow up letter from the Town Board supporting the Planning Board's request that no filing of plats regarding the subdivision of land in the Town of Varick be allowed unless said plats have been sealed by a duly designated officer of the Varick Planning Board. This request is consistent with the Town of Varick Subdivision Regulations.

It was noted that Richard Olsen's appointment to the Planning Board had expired and Supervisor Hayssen asked Mr. Squires and Mr. Bjorkman if they would recommend reappointment. They noted that the planning board had a good balance of town representation on their board and recommended that Mr. Olsen be reappointed.

A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to appoint Richard Olsen to the Planning Board with a term to expire December 31, 2020.

Local Law No. 2 of 2016: A motion by Todd Horton, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to hold a public hearing on Local Law No. 2 of 2016 to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the Town of Varick. Seneca County, New York.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 2, General, Vouchers A0016-040 to A0016-050 in the amount of \$2,881.28, Highway, Vouchers DA016-016 to DA016-022 in the amount of \$2,349.81, Varick Water District No. 1, Vouchers VW116-005 in the amount of \$25, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers SWS16-008 to SWS16-009 in the amount of \$599.06, Varick Water District No. 3, Voucher VW316-005 in the amount of \$25, Varick Water District No. 4, Vouchers VW416-007 to VW416008 in the amount of \$556.10, Varick Sewer

District No. 1, VS116-008 to VS116-010 in the amount of \$433.35, Varick Sewer
District No.2, Voucher SSS16-006 in the amount of \$800.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to
approve the following invoice; Water District No. 4 Capital Project funds:

Blair Supply Corporation: \$4,603.12

Old Business, New Business and Correspondence: Supervisor Hayssen reminded the
board about the \$50,000 funds from Senator Nozzolio that may still be available to the
town.

Mr. Horton reported that he has received no response back from the judge regarding the
audit that he needs to do of his books. He will try contacting him again.

Mr. Hayssen reported that the bid was submitted to the IDA for the purchase of the
former depot property located in the Town of Varick.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried to adjourn the
meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Donna Karlsen
Varick Town Clerk