

November 7, 2007

The public hearing on the 2008 Preliminary Budget was opened by Mrs. Teichner at 6:50 p.m. Present were Council, Jeff Case, Curt Karlsen, Richard Peterson and Kathy Ruse, Attorney for the Town, John Sipos, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen, Highway Superintendent, Richard McCulloch, Planning Board members, Thomas Bjorkman and Kevin Swartley, Varick Fire Department representatives, Miles J. Persing, Jr., Mike Nielsen, Frank Litzenburger, Joe Greene, Phil Steinruck, and Tim Wolverton. Also present were Robert Hayssen, John Saeli, Dorothy Hill, Barbara Nearpass and Lisa Sadlik.

Public Hearing 2008 Preliminary Budget: Mr. Hayssen explained to the board how the clerk and bookkeeper salaries were distributed between the General, Seneca Lake Water and Varick Sewer District budgets. Mr. Hayssen also expressed his opinion that out of district users for the water and sewer districts should not be included when figuring the dollar amount to be collected by taxes.

Mr. Case noted that the dollar amount per unit to be collected by taxes by both Fayette and Varick are to be the same per the recent agreement between the two towns.

Mrs. Teichner reported that the new taxable value for the town was reduced from \$139,486 to 134,878 per Anne Morgan. She also noted that she corrected the Seneca Lake Water District number and provided the Town of Fayette with the correct figure they are to collect on their taxes.

Mrs. Russo indicated that she would like to see the Varick Fire Department budget figure reduced further. Both Mrs. Russo and Mr. Peterson expressed their dissatisfaction with the dollar per thousand increase. A discussion was held regarding the programs, equipment and general costs required to run the department as well as equalizing the tax rate. Mr. Saeli expressed his opinion that the equalization of rates and the increase in budget should not be put on the back of the Varick tax payers. It was expressed that the tax rate should be equalized countywide for all fire districts.

Mr. Peterson noted that the Fayette Fire Department increased their budget figure from their original submittal. Mrs. Teichner reported that Rick Conley explained to her that at the recommendation made by Charlie McCann, this increase reflects money budgeted for the future purchase of a new truck. Mrs. Russo approved of this budgeting procedure and Mr. Case pointed out that this is what Varick Fire Department is doing as well.

Mrs. Teichner pointed out that an adopted budget needs to be in place by November 20th.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to close the public hearing on the 2008 Preliminary Budget at 7:30 p.m.

Presenters: Mrs. Teichner introduced Barbara Nearpass and Lisa Sadlik who represent the Town of Varick on the countywide Docks and Mooring Committee. An

organizational meeting of this group was held October 2, 2007. They reviewed information pertaining to Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. Barbara Nearpass reported that Harriet Haynes, Seneca County Planner, recommended that this committee begin with Cayuga Lake and then bring in Seneca Lake. It was reported that Ms. Haynes cited one reason to proceed this way was because of funding and secondly that the towns own to the center of Cayuga Lake, but Fayette and Varick own to the shore across Seneca Lake, which presents different issues. Ms. Sadlik handed out to the board "Justifications For Instituting a Standard County-Wide Docking and Mooring Law and a Proposed Task List. These two informational sheets will be attached to the minutes. Ms. Sadlik reviewed briefly these informational sheets with the board. They then presented the board with a resolution to be approved supporting the Town of Romulus to submit an application to the Department of State for Local Waterfront Revitalization Funds to propose a docks and mooring study and development of a proposed local law. They explained that the grant is a 50% matching grant, for a total program cost of up to \$90,000, and requiring a combination of local dollars and/or in kind services of up to \$45,000 and the Town of Romulus will act as lead and fiscal agent. They asked that the town board commit to materially support the Town of Romulus' grant project, if awarded, through a share of cash and/or in kind services, with a cash contribution expected to be up to \$4,000 over two years. They don't expect to see any funding for at least a year if granted. These grant funds would be used to cover costs such as establishing regulations, hiring a consultant to perform an inventory, take pictures and to pay agencies and fees required by SEQR.

Ms. Sadlik reported that community input would be requested and any existing docks and moorings would fall under the existing regulations. Peter Brown will prepare the grant for submittal. It was noted that the resolution would be hinged on whether the Town of Romulus received the grant funds.

TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF VARICK SUPPORTS THE TOWN OF ROMULUS IN APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION FUNDS TO PREPARE A DOCKS AND MOORINGS STUDY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW

WHEREAS, there is a growing demand to regulate in-lake structures on both Cayuga and Seneca Lakes; and,

WHEREAS, the harmonization of any future dock and moorings standards or regulations across the communities of Seneca County, and on both Cayuga and Seneca lakeshores is a necessary and worthy goal; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Romulus is applying to the Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources; Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for the purpose of developing a Dock and Moorings Study and Proposed Local Law focusing on docks and moorings on Cayuga and Seneca Lakes; and,

WHEREAS, the grant is a 50% matching grant, for a total program cost of up to \$90,000, and requiring a combination of local dollars and/or in kind services of up to \$45,000; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Romulus will act as lead agency and fiscal agent; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Supervisor, Town of Varick to support the Town of Romulus' application to the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Barbara A. Nearpass and Lisa Sadlik as representative with alternate Kathy Russo as representatives to the Docks and Moorings Steering Committee, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby commits to materially support the Town of Romulus' grant project, if awarded, through a share of cash and/or in kind efforts, with cash contribution expected to be up to \$4,000 over two years.

Motion by: Jeff Case
Seconded by: Richard Peterson
So carried unanimously

Mr. Sipos suggested this group contact the Cayuga Municipal Water Shed for funding as well.

Varick Sewer District No. 2: No report.

Seneca Lake Water District: Peg from the Village of Waterloo questioned Mr. Case as to who would be responsible for getting the figures that are to be levied onto the Town and County Tax bills for past due sewer and water billing to the County. It was decided that she is to get these figures to the Town of Varick and we will report them to the County and send a letter with a bill to Fayette for their portion of these bills due to Varick the beginning of February.

Mrs. Teichner reported that the water will be turned off for district repairs November 9 instead of November 12 as originally scheduled. She will contact the paper with this information.

Mr. Case reported that Mr. and Mrs. Vestal had a water leak and their meter recorded water usage of 367,283 gallons resulting in a very large water bill. Vestals feel that this water leak would have been discovered sooner if the water billing had been done on time. Mr. Case suggested that we adjuster their bill using the lapse in billing cycle days for the adjustment. He suggested that the board forgive \$581.45 plus any late fees off their original bill due to late billing.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to accept Mr. Cases' figures and credit Vestal's bill \$581.45 and any late fees accrued.

Mr. Case will notify Peggy at the Village of this motion and have her figure a new bill and then Peggy will notify Mrs. Teichner of the correct bill amount so Mrs. Teichner can also notify Vestals.

Mrs. Case opened the bids that were submitted for repair of the hydrants.

#1	Hayssen Construction:	Proposal 1: \$289/hydrant Proposal 2: \$475/hydrant with prevailing wage
#2	Daniel Damico	Proposal 1: Total \$21,060 Proposal 2: Total \$31,060
#3	Damon Nicholson	\$875/hydrant
#4	Rizzo Construction	\$874/hydrant
#5	Morch Pipeline	Total: \$47,550

Supervisor's Report: Mrs. Teichner read her Supervisor's Report and a copy will be filed with these minutes.

Bookkeeper's Report: Mrs. Teichner reported that the bookkeeper corrected all the errors as directed by the board at October's meeting.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried to approve the Bookkeeper's Report.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve Amendment to the Town of Varick, General Fund, Resolution No. 2.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Jeff Case and so carried unanimously to approve Amendment to the Town of Varick Water Fund, Resolution No. 3.

Mr. McCulloch reminded Mrs. Teichner that the town's portion of funds that were spent on the Townline Road project were set aside last year and are to be added back into this year's budget. This has not been done as of this date, which prohibited him from doing any work on Tiperary Street which he had set up with the County's assistance as there was no budgeted money left in his accounts. Mrs. Teichner reported that we did receive the check from Fayette for their portion of the Townline Road project, but was unsure as to where the bookkeeper deposited it. It was noted that there is a proper way to log these transactions and Mrs. Teichner will look into this and post the funds back into the appropriate expense and income lines.

Planning Board: Mr. Bjorkman asked the board to pass a resolution of intent to designate the Varick Town Board as lead agency to comply with SEQR on the adoption of revisions to the Varick Zoning Code and Varick Subdivision Code, to schedule a public hearing on the draft Varick Zoning Code and the Varick Subdivision code, and to refer to the draft Varick Zoning Code and Varick Subdivision Code to the Seneca County Planning Board. He also reported that he has completed the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Full Environmental Assessment Form. He noted that the codes must be referred to the Seneca County Planning Board. He suggested that the public hearing be held jointly with the Varick Town Board meeting on December 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Varick Town Hall. He also noted that he will be in attendance at this public hearing to address any questions.

The following Resolution was made:

Resolution of Intent to Designate the Varick Town Board as Lead Agency to comply with SEQR on the adoption of revisions to the Varick Zoning Code and the Varick Subdivision Code, to schedule a Public Hearing on the draft Varick Zoning Code and the Varick Subdivision Code, and to refer the Draft Varick Zoning Code and Varick Subdivision Code to the Seneca County Planning Board.

WHEREAS, the Varick Planning Board has submitted draft revisions to the Varick Zoning Code and the Varick Subdivision Code to the Varick Town Board; and

WHEREAS, said Codes has been prepared in accordance with NYS Town and Law and Varick Zoning Code and the Varick Subdivision Code; and

WHEREAS, the major revision to a Zoning Code is classified as a Type 1 action under Part 617 of the State Environmental Quality Regulations (SEQR); and

WHEREAS, the Varick Town Board intends to declare itself lead agency for completing the environmental review and making the required Determination of Environmental Significance on the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Code must be referred to the Seneca County Planning Board for review;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

1. The Varick Town Board hereby expresses its intent to serve as lead agency to coordinate the environmental review of the proposed action;
2. The Supervisor is hereby directed to notify the Fayette Town Board and Romulus Town Board of the intent of the Varick Town Board to serve as lead agency and to establish an appropriate time period for such agencies to respond to this determination, and the Varick Town Board does hereby schedule a public hearing on the proposed Plan to be held jointly with the Varick Town Board at 7:00 p.m. December 4, 2007 at the Varick Town Hall, 4782, Route 96, Romulus, NY 14541; and

3. The Varick Town Board directs that the draft Plan be forwarded to the Seneca County Planning Board for review and comment pursuant to NYS Municipal Law.

Motion by: Curtis Karlsen

Seconded by: Kathy Ruse

Roll Call:

Jeff Case: Yes

Curtis Karlsen Yes

Richard Peterson Yes

Kathy Ruse Yes

Joan Teichner Yes

Mrs. Teichner was directed by the board to sign all necessary papers.

Record Management: Mrs. Karlsen reported that she has completed inventory of the Town Clerk, Assessor, Tax Collector and Highway records. She still has to do the Bookkeeper and Justice records. Mrs. Teichner reported that she will contact the county for a cost on a refurbished laptop computer.

Highway: Mr. McCulloch reported that he completed sealing White Road with a new process called Micro Paving. This process cost approximately \$16,000 and he was told this process has a shelf life of hot mix asphalt. He has retained the representative's name and will contact him if any issues with this surface arise. He attended a highway meeting at the county where they discussed bridge inspections which does not apply to the Town of Varick. He also reported that Seneca County did not bill the town for any work they did on Town Line Road. All the town had to provide was the material and labor.

Personnel Report: Mrs. Russo reported that she advertised for bids and those that were received were opened and read.

Assessor's Report: Mrs. Teichner reported that the town lost a hearing which reflected in the final assessment for the town.

Clerk's Report: A motion by Curt Karlsen, seconded by Jeff Case and so carried unanimously to accept the Town Clerk's report. Total revenue to Supervisor \$223.70, Amount to County Treasurer, \$11.75, Amount to State Ag & Markets, \$6.00, Amount to State Health Dept., \$22.50, Amount to DEC, \$135.05 for total disbursements of \$400.00.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Curt Karlsen and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract Number 11, General, Vouchers A0007-111 to A0007-129 in the amount of \$3,603.86, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Vouchers SSS07-025 and SSS07-026 in the amount of \$22,549.54, Highway Vouchers, DA007-078 to DA007-083 in the amount of \$25,266.86, and Seneca Lake Water District Vouchers SWS07-045 to SWS07-051 in the amount of \$33,598.13.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Jeff Case and so carried to approve the minutes of August 7, September 4, September 17, October 2, and October 16, 2007.

Mrs. Teichner suggested that Trumansburg Telephone be referred to by its new name of Finger Lakes Technologies and the spelling of Sherman be corrected.

Roll Call:

Jeff Case	Yes
Curt Karlsen	Yes
Richard Peterson	Yes
Kathy Russo	No
Joan Teichner	No

Mrs. Russo felt that she was receiving her minutes later in the month and would like them mailed to her sooner. Mrs. Karlsen did not agree with this statement and explained to her that the minutes were available to be reviewed and picked up two weeks following a board meeting during her office hours as required by town law. Mrs. Karlsen noted that the Supervisor, Highway Superintendent, Bookkeeper, and Planning Board Chairman receive their minutes in their town hall mailbox. Mr. Case, Mr. Karlsen and Mr. Peterson quite often pick up their minutes within the first week they are available or they are mailed. Mr. Bjorkman stated that Mrs. Karlsen gets the approved minutes to him promptly to be posted on the town's web site. Mrs. Teichner suggested that Mrs. Karlsen continue mailing Mrs. Russo's minutes to her as it is difficult for her to get to the town hall to pick them up.

Old Business, New Business, and Correspondence:

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Curt Karlsen and so carried unanimously to enter into an agreement with Romulus Central School to do plowing.

Mrs. Teichner received and turned over to the Town Clerk for filing the Varick Sewer District No.2 and Seneca Lake Water District Agreement with the Village of Waterloo for billing services.

Mrs. Teichner received a quote from Ray Wager to complete the town's single audit for 2007. She retained this quote with her records.

Mrs. Karlsen turned over to Mrs. Teichner the Capital books for Varick Sewer District No. 2 that were submitted by Municipal Solutions and Allardice & Associates. Mrs. Teichner received their recommendation to close out the Capital Account, open a Sewer Operating Fund and direction as to how to distribute the remaining funds within this account.

Mr. Karlsen presented the board with a voucher for Cayuga Water Shed Municipal Dues. The board did not agree to pay this at this time.

The following amended resolution to the September 17, 2007 Resolution authorizing application for funds from Restore NY Program was submitted by Peter Brown for board approval.

WHEREAS, the scope of the 2007 Town of Varick Application to Restore NY Communities Initiative subsequently changed to include renovation of buildings 800,(Guard House) and 802 (former Special Weapons Admin. Office); and,

WHEREAS, the total cash amount requested was reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$712,656 with the 10% match being reduced to \$71,265.60;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of Varick reaffirms its intention to apply for Restore NY funding in the 2007 Rounds II period, and to include these two additional buildings within the application.

Motion by: Jeff Case
Seconded by : Kathy Ruse
So Carried Unanimously

Mrs. Teichner reported that there will be a public hearing December 13 at 10 to 10:30 a.m. at the Varick Town Hall with Harris Beach regarding the Sessler proposal.

Mrs. Teichner reported that the bookkeeper turned over to Sinicropi the balance of the work they requested. A Trail Balance needs to be completed now and they figure it will take them about 12 hours at \$120 per hour to complete it. If the board didn't want them to do the work, they suggested purchasing Quick Books and entering the figures and preparing the trial balance that way. Mrs. Teichner noted that our current bookkeeping program is operating properly.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Kathy Ruse and so carried to hire Sinicropi to prepare the trial balance and to notify the town if they anticipate the time to complete this will exceed the 12 hours.

Mrs. Teichner noted that the 2006 AUD is not completed correctly as of this date.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Joan Teichner and so carried unanimously to move the 2008 Preliminary Budget to the 2008 Adopted Budget.

Roll Call:
Jeff Case Yes
Curt Karlsen Yes
Richard Peterson Yes
Kathy Ruse Yes
Joan Teichner Yes

Mr. Peterson indicated that he was still not in favor of the large increase in the Varick Fire Department budget and expects to see little to no increase proposed next year.

A committee comprised of Jeff Case and Kathy Russo will review the bids for the hydrant repairs and make their recommendation. Mr. Case suggested that it might be more cost effective to put the money towards purchasing a backhoe and have the work done by the town.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Curt Karlsen and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Karlsen
Varick Town Clerk