

## Varick Town Board Public hearing

January 22, 2009

The public hearing on “The Establishment of Water District No. 4 in the Town of Varick, Setting Out Boundaries and a Maximum Estimated Cost” was called to order by Supervisor Robert Hayssen at 7:00 p.m. Present at this meeting were Councilmen Richard Peterson and Jeff Case, Town Clerk Donna Karlsen, Town Attorney John Sipos, Engineer Tim Buhl and Municipal Solutions, Mary Chappell. Also present were Mary Nolander, John Nolander, Lisa Sadlik, Barbara Nearpass, Paul Nearpass, Harry Caraco, Robert Taylor and Bill Kaminski.

Mr. Buhl provided an informational handout to those in attendance and reviewed the objectives, required facilities, and costs related to district improvement, projected users, capital and operation and maintenance. He also reviewed financing. He concluded his presentation with project recommendations.

Mr. Hayssen reported that the Town of Fayette has agreed to sell water to this district at their cost which is approximately \$3.00 per thousand gallons. He will get this agreement in writing from the Town of Fayette.

Mr. and Mrs. Nearpass expressed their concern over the cost to the homeowners and indicated that they had good water and didn't want to incur any further expenses. Mrs. Nearpass questioned if Seneca Falls put fluoride in the water and if they use chlorine to purify the water. She expressed concern over the of health issues with the use of chlorine. Mr. Nearpass questioned the board as to where this meeting was publicized.

Mr. Buhl and the board explained the break down of the estimated debt service and operation and maintenance costs. They also explained that connecting to the waterline will be at their discretion and the debt service cost will be assessed on the Town and County Tax bills.

The board anticipates getting the cost to the homeowners for debt service and operation and maintenance to \$600 or less a year and would not support the project if these projected costs were over \$900 as stated in the map, plan and report, and explained that that this figure represented the worse case scenario.

It was also noted that fire hydrants will be installed along the line which will be a cost savings on the residents' homeowner's insurance. They reviewed other cost saving options and estimated the cost of the debt service, once these cost saving are realized, to be approximately \$100 or so to each homeowner for debt service. The board was unsure if the Town of Seneca Falls puts fluoride in their water and what chemicals they use to treat the water, but will look into this further.

Mr. Hayssen reported that this public hearing was publicized in the Finger Lakes Times, Reveille Between the Lakes and posted on the signboard at the town hall. It was also noted that this was just the beginning of the process of establishing this water district and

there will be informational meetings held as well as several other public hearings to get resident input. Mr. Hayssen reviewed the water survey that was sent questioning if people interested in obtaining municipal water and what they would be willing to spend and noted that over 50% of the surveys were returned and the larger percentage wanted water. He also referred to the town's Comprehensive Plan which was just completed and noted that water along 89 was requested.

Tim Buhl and Mary Chappell explained that the board wants to continue moving forward with this project due to the possible funding through the proposed stimulus package to "shovel" ready projects. They will also pursue other funding, but have to have a district formed in order to do this.

Bob Taylor, Harry Caraco, and Bill Kaminski indicated that they were in support of the formation of this district. Mr. Kaminski was very impressed with the work the board has done to date and appreciated the handout that he received. He indicated that he would be willing to complete a breakdown of cost figures of using municipal water to the cost of home systems and provide this information to those who might be interested.

Mary Chappell reviewed the steps that will need to be taken to proceed with the project. John Sipos presented the board with a resolution making certain determinations in relation to and approving the establishment of this water district which is just one of the next steps to be completed. This resolution will need to be printed in the town's designated newspaper and will be adopted subject to a permissive referendum if the board chooses to move forward.

Mr. Sipos informed those who are not in favor of the proposed resolution are required to submit a petition which can be picked up at the clerk's office.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried to close the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

The special meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Hayssen at 7:35 p.m.

The following resolution was presented:

A resolution making certain determinations in relation to and approving the establishment of Water District No. 4 of the Town of Varick, Seneca County, New York, Pursuant To Article 12-A of the Town Law.

Motion: Jeff Case

Seconded: Richard Peterson

Roll Call:

Robert Hayssen        Yes

Richard Peterson      Yes

Jeff Case                Yes

Absent: John Saeil & Kathy Russo  
So Carried

A copy of this resolution in its entirety will be filed with these minutes.

The following resolution was also presented:

**A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE ENVIRONMENTAL NON-SIGNIFICANCE UNDER THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW LAW OF THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF VARICK WATER DISTRICT NO. 4**

The Town Board of the Town of Varick, duly convened in special session, does hereby resolve as follows:

Pursuant to, and in accordance with, the provisions of section 617.6 (Initial Review of Actions and Establishing Lead Agency) of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Regulations (6 NYCRR part 617) the Town Board of the Town of Varick hereby makes the following determinations and classifications with respect to the proposed establishment of Water District No. 4 in said Town (hereinafter referred to as the "Action").

1. The Town Board of the Town of Varick (hereinafter referred to as "Town Board") hereby determines that the Action is subject to SEQR.
2. The Town Board hereby determines that the Action does involve a Federal agency, and does involve other agencies, for the purpose of grants and aid.
3. The Town Board having considered the extension of a water line into a developed residential area of the town within the purview of a Type II action has on the advice of its Financial Advisors, because of the Federal involvement in funding, hereby makes a preliminary classification of the Action as a Type I Action.
4. The Town Board hereby finds and has determined that it is, and will be, the lead agency with respect to the adoption of, and approval of, the above-described Action.
5. The Town Board hereby finds and determines that: (a) it has considered the Action, reviewed the full environmental assessment form, reviewed the criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR section 617.7(c), thoroughly analyzed the relevant areas of potential environmental concern, and has duly considered all of the potential project environmental impacts and their magnitude in connection with the proposed Action; (b) the project (to wit, the establishment by the Town Board of Water District No. 4) will not result in any large and important environmental impacts, and, therefore, is one which will not have a significant impact on the environment; and (c) the reasons supporting this determination are set forth on the Full Environmental Assessment Form, with attached Notice of Determination of Non-Significance, previously filed with the Varick Town Clerk with respect to this project .
6. The Town Board, as Lead Agency with reference to the above-described project, hereby:
  - (a) adopts a negative declaration pursuant to 6 NYCRR section 617.7 with respect to the project,
  - (b) authorizes the Supervisor of the Town of Varick to sign a negative declaration determination of non-significance with respect to the project, and (c) authorizes the Town

Clerk of the Town of Varick to forward a copy of said negative declaration determination of non-significance to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Town of Varick Planning Board, Town of Varick Zoning Board of Appeals, Building and Code Inspector of the Town of Varick, Seneca County Department of Planning and Economic Development, New York State Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets, and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

7. This Resolution shall take effect upon completion of the Coordinated Revue.

Motion by: Jeff Case

Seconded by: Richard Peterson

Roll Call:

Jeff Case Yes

Richard Peterson Yes

Robert Hayssen Yes

Absent: John Saeli & Kathy Russo

So Carried

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of January 6, 2009.

**Seneca Lake Water:** Mr. Hayssen reported there is a water leak down by Kennedy Road and John Yells and the Village of Waterloo will be repairing it.

The furnace in the water department building on East Lake Road is broken and the pipes froze. Don Hagen was approved to be hired to complete the repairs and a claim was submitted to the insurance company.

A motion by Jeff Case, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried to sell water to the Varick residents in the Hamlet of Romulus and water to the Town of Varick Water District No. 3 at Varick's cost for a period of five years at which time the agreement can be reviewed and renegotiated if necessary.

**Varick Water District No. 4:** Mr. Sipos is to draw up a contract to be submitted to the Town of Fayette indicating they will sell Varick Water District No. 4 water at their cost.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Jeff Case and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna Karlsen  
Varick Town Clerk