

Varick Town Board  
April 5, 2011

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, Kathy Russo, Richard Peterson, John Saeli, and Peter McDonald, Town Attorney, John Sipos, and Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen. Also present was Planning Board Chairman, William Squires.

**Privilege of Floor:** None

**Planning Board:** Bill Squires presented to the board a new application form to replace the current building permit application that the Planning Board has renamed Zoning Compliance Permit Application and a proposed new fee schedule for this permit. Mr. Squires also reported that the Planning Board discussed requiring an application be submitted for installation of new driveways or the paving of driveways as it pertains to drainage issues. The board recognized that the Code Enforcement officer is not an engineer and the town does not want to take responsibility nor liability for property drainage issues and felt the homeowners should be held responsible and that common sense should be used.

A discussion was also held regarding the proposed fee schedule, which the Planning Board had broken down according to size of construction and what was being built. Mr. Squires reported that by implementing a new fee schedule it may offset some of the expenses. After review of the proposed schedule and the number of permits issued in a year, this would not be the case and it was determined that the current fee of \$25 for each application would remain in effect. It was also determined that a permit would be required for demolition projects for assessment purposes, but no fee would be charged.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to leave the cost of the building permit (Zoning Compliance Permit Application) at \$25.

Discussion: The board decided that a permit must be obtained for demolition for assessment purposes.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the amendment to the original motion to include obtaining a permit for demolition at no charge.

A motion by Richard Peterson seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to leave the cost of the building permit (Zoning Compliance Permit Application) at \$25 and to require permits be obtained for demolition at no charge.

It was determined that the proposed Zoning Compliance Permit Application did not require approval from the Town Board and that the Code Enforcement Officer would use this form and bring any suggestions for improvement of this form to the Planning Board.

**Highway:** Spring clean up will be held Wednesday, May 18 to Saturday, May 21, Fall Clean Up will be held Wednesday October 12 to Saturday, October 15. The hours of operation will be weekdays, 8:00 to 4:30 and Saturday, 8:00 to 12:00. Mr. Hayssen will order the post cards to be mailed and Rick McCulloch will arrange for the dumpsters.

Mr. Hayssen received a letter from the State of New York Department of Transportation regarding the intersection at Route 96 and Route 336. The letter stated that the accident rate at this intersection is seven times the statewide average for intersections of this type. The intersection also has an unusual configuration as a spur of Dilts Road ties into the southeast quadrant making a five leg intersection. In order for this safety improvement to be implemented properly, this segment of Dilts Road must be disconnected from the intersection and in order for the Town to continue maintenance of the road, safe ingress/egress is needed which will require the construction of a turn around. New York Department of Transportation agreed to assist in the construction of this turn around and can meet to determine a configuration and location for the turn around that best meets the town's highway needs and requested the town contact the Resident Engineer at the Waterloo Office for any questions and concerns.

The board determined that since NYS DOT is requesting this intersection be reconfigured, they can be held responsible for doing any work required to meet DOT standards and the needs of the town. Mr. McCulloch will follow up with Christopher Covert on behalf of the town.

**Sewer District No. 1:** Mr. McDonald reported that a meeting was held with Romulus Supervisor Dave Kaiser, Dan Duddleston, John Saeli and himself regarding the balance of funds in the joint sewer account which is reported to be \$10,663.81. Mr. McDonald received a new price of \$9,500 for a Flight pump up from the December 16th quote of \$8,987. Mr. Saeli did receive an estimate from K & S Pumps, which was much higher. One of the pumps currently being used has been pulled and sent away for an estimate of repair/rebuild. Depending on that repair/rebuilt price, will determine whether a new pump is purchased or both pumps be rebuilt.

A discussion was held regarding the splitting of bills for this joint district. After much discussion it was proposed that all bills received from the Town of Romulus be forwarded to the Town of Varick for approval at their first Tuesday of the month board meeting and split 45% for Varick and 55% for the Town of Romulus. The bills would then be presented to the Town of Romulus board for their approval at their monthly meeting held the following week on Thursday. The checks for Varick's portion would be issued once final approval was received from the Town of Romulus. If the town of Romulus wasn't in favor of splitting the bills for the Route 96 pump station than it was suggested they pay us \$5,000 for use of that line or install a new line for their usage. Mr.

McDonald and Mr. Saeli received unanimous board approval to present these topics of discussion to Mr. Kaiser and the Town of Romulus board.

Manholes still need repair work completed on them and to determine how much water is leaking into the system. It was suggested that Dan Duddleston check Yaw's contract to see if this is part of their maintenance contract.

**Varick Sewer District No.2:** Seneca County Sewer District No. 1 Advisory Committee will be meeting and Mr. Hayssen will ask for the unit charge be reduced to \$30.

**Seneca Lake Water:** Mr. Hayssen will contact Jamie King of the Village of Waterloo to remind him of the of the hydrant repair in this district. The new master meter is installed, but the correct reading won't be reflected in our billing until May as the result of how Peggy does the billing. It was suggested that the Village of Waterloo begin billing the Town of Varick on a quarterly billing to coincide with the residential quarterly billing. This would ease some of the work and expense required of the Village and enables the town to accurately determine what water is being used and to figure a water loss factor. It was also reported that the Village of Waterloo is willing to look at the estimate of water usage being billed for the last six months and Bob will suggested using the usage from the homeowners' bills for the past six months.

**Water District No.1:** It was reported that the Town of Romulus may have allocated funds to purchase new meters for this district. Mr. McDonald was not sure what was left to do pertaining to the meter installation and repairs and indicated that the weather was prohibiting completion of repair work.

**Water District No. 3:** The towns have received their DEC environmental permits and now the line needs to be re-chlorinated and flushed. The cost of the water permits will be \$75 to include an angle valve and tailpiece for installation. Larry Colton submitted to Peter McDonald a job application for Water Maintainer for this district; however it was noted that the board already hired John Yells and Rob Bauman as his assistant, so there currently isn't an opening. There is to be an informational meeting held at the Fayette Fire Department on April 19 at 7:00 p.m. held by both Varick and Fayette boards. Fayette will be notifying the residents of the two districts of this meeting. It was noted that transponders, pipes and meter pits are stored in Romulus and should be moved to the county.

Mrs. Karlsen presented a draft of a letter, along with water connection regulations, and application form for the boards review. It was suggested that each town collect their own application forms. Future discussion needs to be held regarding 2012 budgeting for this district between the two towns.

**Clerk's Report:** A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's Report, Total Revenue to Supervisor: \$76.60, Department of Ag and Markets, \$16.00 and NYS Environmental Conservation: \$27.40.

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of March 2, 2011.

**Supervisor's Report:** A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve Amendment to the Varick Sewer District No. 1, Budget Resolution No. 2.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve Amendment to the Varick Sewer District No. 1 Budget, Resolution No. 3.

WHEREAS, the Town of Varick is in the process of forming a water district, namely Varick water District No. 3 and

WHEREAS, there are bills that have been incurred in the process of the preparation work that need to be paid, and

WHEREAS, the General Fund has funds that can be loaned to the Varick Water District No. 4 and

WHEREAS, once the district has been formed and we receive funding, this money will be paid back to the General Fund with interest at the rate of .15% annually, and  
WHEREAS, if the water district is not created, the money borrowed will be paid out of the General Fund excess money.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the General Fund loan to Varick Water District No. 4 the amount of \$5,000.

Dated: April 5, 2011  
Motion made by: Kathy Russo  
Seconded by Richard Peterson  
So Carried Unanimously

It was determined that the position of deputy bookkeeper should be created in case of the absence of the bookkeeper. Mr. Hayssen and Mrs. Sipos will review the budget and create an expense line for this position for the board's approval.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to create the position of Deputy Bookkeeper.

**Personnel:** Mr. Russo reported that Michelle Andrews is still willing to act as director to the Summer Program with Rebecca as her assistant again this year. Mrs. Russo will be providing applications and flyers to the local school districts.

**Assessor:** The assessor has mailed new assessments to the town residents. Mr. Hayssen obtained the tentative assessments from Ann Morgan and the board reviewed some of them at this meeting.

The board received a letter from Pauline Cefaly who indicated that her husband, who takes care of all their finances, has been gravely ill and when she tried to submit her income taxes to the assessor March 5 in order for her to obtain the Enhanced STAR, Mrs. Morgan would not accept them as they were past the submittal date and asked the board for their support in this matter.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to request Mrs. Morgan, Town assessor to grant consideration to Pauline Cefaly's hardship request.

**Abstract:** Mr. Saeli questioned what benefits the town received from the Seneca County Chamber membership. It was reported that the town's health insurance benefits were purchased through them, but are no longer provided to our employees.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by John Saeli and so carried to withdraw from membership to the Seneca County Chamber and to notify them in writing. Abstained: Kathy Russo

A motion by John Saeli, seconded by Peter McDonald and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract No. 4, General, Vouchers A0011037 to A0011045 in the amount of \$3,705.47, Highway, Vouchers DA11-021 to DAO11-026 in the amount of \$2,102.44, Varick Sewer District No. 2, Voucher SSS11-006 in the amount of \$500, Seneca Lake Water District, Vouchers SWS11-020 to SWS11-026 in the amount of \$31,990.61, Varick Water District No. 1, Vouchers VW111-006 and VW111-007 in the amount of \$511.01 and Varick Sewer District No. 1, Voucher VS111-003 in the amount of \$45.36.

A motion by Peter McDonald, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna Karlsen  
Town Clerk