

November 1, 2016

The regular meeting of the Varick Town Board was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Supervisor Robert Hayssen. Present at this meeting were Council Members, Kathy Russo, Tom Fox, and Richard Peterson, Town Clerk Donna Karlsen, Bookkeeper Angela Testa, Highway Superintendent Richard McCulloch, Attorney for the Town Stephen Ricci, Town Justice David Ettman, Planning Board representative Richard Olsen, representatives from South Seneca Ambulance, Jason Henderson and Ashley Breese, Ovid Gazette reporter Anita Glover. Absent: Councilman Todd Horton.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to open the public hearing on the 2017 Town Budgets at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Hayssen reviewed his efforts with the county pertaining to the Town's workman's compensation insurance. He reported that the original increase of approximately \$6,000 was assessed to the town of Varick for a Fayette fireman sustaining an injury during a mutual aid call with Ovid Fire Department. It has been determined that the Town of Ovid should be responsible for this charge and Mr. Hayssen is in the process of getting this amount assessed accordingly. Mr. Hayssen was emphatic that this cost would not be assessed to the Town of Varick, resulting in lowering the cost of the workman's compensation premium as listed in the 2017 budget by approximately \$6,000.

Mrs. Testa reported that she received the Fayette Fire Department's budget, which the board has no control over, of \$78,935 which needs to be added to the 2017 Budget.

Jason Henderson questioned the board as to what was appropriated in the town's 2017 budget for South Seneca Ambulance. Mr. Hayssen reported that the budgeted figure remained the same as what was budgeted in 2016. He reported that the surrounding town supervisors met and reviewed the ambulance's substantial requested increase for 2017 and agreed at that time to keep the same budget as was submitted in 2016, with no increase. Mr. Henderson explained that the previous budgets submitted did not include any appropriations for replacement of aging ambulances and equipment. He also noted that they have few to no volunteers, which requires them to employ personnel to staff the rigs. Mr. Henderson reported that he has met with the other Supervisors and they have all agreed to adopt the ambulance's 2017 budget request. The town's Preliminary Budget reflects \$46,080 for the 2017 ambulance budget, and South Seneca is requesting \$53,277. Attorney Ricci cautioned the board that if they chose to adopt the full suggested budget figure submitted by the ambulance, it may put the town over its 2% cap which would require the passing of a local law prior to adopting a final budget. The board agreed they did not want to exceed the 2% cap. The bookkeeper and supervisor did some quick calculations to determine how much they could increase the budget and stay within the cap. It was thought the board could approve the ambulance's budget, but they did want to confirm these figures.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to close the public hearing on the 2017 Town of Varick Budgets at 7:50 p.m.

A motion by Tom Fox, seconded by Richard Peterson to approve South Seneca Ambulance's budget of \$53,277 or any part thereof that would keep the Town of Varick's 2017 budget below the 2% cap.

Discussion: Mr. Hayssen recommended amending the motion and stated that if the board agrees to this substantial increase this year that no increase for 2018 should be considered by this board.

A motion by Robert Hayssen, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to amend Tom Fox's motion to include that no further increase will be considered for the 2018 South Seneca Ambulance budget.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to enter in the Fayette/Varick Fire Department budget of \$78,935 in the 2017 Town of Varick Budget.

Justice: Judge Ettman reviewed the salary that is currently being paid to the court clerk. He reported that currently the court clerk, Julie Doughty is willing to accept the 3% raise, which still keeps her well below the rate that the Zoning Code secretary is earning. Judge Ettman would like to see her at least earn \$12 per hour and indicated that this cost is still within his budget.

A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve a salary of \$12 per hour for the court clerk effective January 2017.

A discussion was held regarding the J-Cap funds received for the security system. Judge Ettman reported that the only estimate he received a reply back on was from Rick Testa. His estimate is within the scope of the grant funds and the materials have been ordered and received and installation of the security system should commence shortly.

Mr. Hayssen reported, and Attorney Stephen Ricci confirmed, that the \$50,000 grant funds the town was approved for are still available and Mr. Hayssen is considering adding new office space for the Town Clerk, and Bookkeeper as well as reorganizing available space for the judge and town records. It was suggested that the judge may apply for court funding as well to assist in this project. Mr. Ettman reported that application packages for funding do not come out for another nine months and suggested the board get some plans in place prior to this for possible submittal. Mr. Hayssen sought and was granted board approval to seek the services of an engineer to develop plans once it is determined what each department head is requesting.

Mr. Ettman reported that Todd Horton has his court records to be audited and that he has applied for a credit card which is internet based for fines to be paid by. He reported that anyone choosing to pay by credit card will be charged any service fee associated with this service and should be in place by the beginning of the year.

Abstract: A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to approve Abstract 11, General, Vouchers A0016-170 to A0016-178 in the amount of \$1,972.34, Highway, Vouchers DA016-074 to DA016-083 in the amount of \$29,567.19, Varick Water 1, Vouchers VW116-017 to VW116-019 in the amount of \$5,966.49, Seneca Lake Water, Vouchers SWS16-041 to SWS16-043 in the amount of \$98,236.35, Varick Water District No. 3,

VW316-022 to VW316-023 in the amount of \$8,439.55, Varick Water District No. 4, VW416-033 to vW416-036 in the amount of \$3,436.09, Varick Sewer District No. 1, VS116-033 to VS116-037 in the amount of \$2,609.13, Varick Sewer District No. 2, SSS16-032 in the amount of \$400.

Highway: Mr. McCulloch reported that Fall Clean-up went well and only approximately 5 dumpsters were filled. He attributed some of this to the poor, rainy weather. He reported that Lyons Road Trash provides a great service to the town by providing dumpsters on demand and he recommended that the same weeks for spring and fall clean-up remain the same for 2017. He informed the board that the Town of Romulus recently had their clean up and were able to take electronics and tires and whoever they contract with provides dumpsters and removes them, and suggested that the town look into this service. Mr. Hayssen reported that Seneca Meadows will also take electronics at no charge to the town, but the highway department would need to deliver them.

Mr. McCulloch also reported that resurfacing of roads have been completed for this year.

Supervisor's Report: A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to approve the Supervisor's Report.

2017 Budget: A motion by Tom Fox, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to move the 2017 Preliminary Budget and adopt it as the final 2017 General Fund Budget, Highway Fund Budget, Special District Fund Budgets, and adopt the following fire protection units: Varick/Romulus, Varick, and Varick/Fayette.

Code Enforcement: The board received a written report showing one permit was issued for the month of October.

Varick Sewer District No. 1: Nothing to report

Varick Sewer District No. 2: Mrs. Karlsen reported that Bill Kolbeck would like board approval to attend an E-One factory training class that will be held December 6th to the 8th. The class will be given at no charge at E-One's factory located in Niskayuna New York. Mr. Kolbeck is seeking reimbursement for hotel, food and mileage. It was suggested that the board include Tim Dorn in this training as well.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to permit Bill Kolbeck and Tim Dorn to attend E-One factory training and provide reimbursement for mileage, hotel and meal expenses.

Water: Mr. Hayssen suggested the districts purchase a quality water line detector that could also be used by the sewer department. He estimated an approximate cost of \$3,000 to \$3,500 and recommended that the water maintainer, Ben Karlsen, be given permission to purchase one.

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to authorize Ben Karlsen to purchase a quality water line detection devise.

Varick Water District No. 1: Nothing to Report

Seneca Lake Water District: Mr. Hayssen reported that after reviewing the water billing to the consumers and the water billing from the Village of Waterloo for third quarter, there was approximately a \$30,000 deficit between what we billed to our consumers and what the Village of Waterloo billed us for purchased water. It was determined after speaking with Jim Bromka and reviewing previous years gallons of water purchased during the first, second and third quarters by Seneca County Water District that the master meter monitoring the county's water usage is not working correctly. Mr. Hayssen has been working with Tom Garlick and Roy Gates and was informed that the meter was struck by lightening the beginning of the year and supposedly repaired and again quit working the end of the second quarter and took a month to repair and it is still questionable if it is working properly. They are looking now at the water reads taken from the "Jack Holley" meter. It is estimated that the county owes this district approximately \$75,000 over the past three quarters. Mr. Hayssen will continue to pursue this with the county and will report at the next board meeting.

Mr. Hayssen also spoke to Mr. Bromka about the condition of the bonnet bolts and questioned why we haven't had any breaks in the past year or so. Mr. Bromka reported that he discovered some time ago that the Ross relief valve at the county was not working properly and was causing a hammer-lock which would result in the line breaking at its weakest point, which was the bonnet bolts. Mr. Bromka had that repaired and has this issue well documented.

Mr. Fox questioned how the board could address the issues regarding the water districts and thought it might be beneficial to have a full-time water maintainer/operator, and recommended that Ben Karlsen be considered for the position. Further discussion was held and it was decided that the water maintainer should be consulted for his recommendations.

Mr. Ricci reported that he is working on obtaining the easement from Mr. Mulvey for the water and sewer line along his property and once received will file with the County Clerk's office.

Varick Water District No. 3: Nothing to report.

Varick Water District No. 4: Mr. Hayssen reported that the easements for this district need to be completed and recommended hiring someone to complete them. Mr. Ricci requested that Mr. Hayssen provide him with the ones that he has obtained, he will review them and see if he can resolve this matter.

Varick Town Clerk: A motion by Kathy Russo, seconded by Richard Peterson and so carried unanimously to approve the Town Clerk's Report: Supervisor: \$104.50, NYS Ag & Markets: \$18, State Health Department: \$22.50, Total Disbursements: \$145.00.

Personnel: Mrs. Russo spoke to Michelle Andrews and due to some personal issues she was unable to attend this meeting, but hopes to attend in December.

Assessor: No report.

Zoning: No report

Planning Board: Mr. Olsen reported the planning board has received two sub-division applications, one from Jim Somerville and one from Joan Albany. A public hearing will be held on November 17, at 7:00 p.m. Also the letters are scheduled to go out this month and Mr. Ricci said the letter was well done.

Minutes: A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Tom Fox and so carried unanimously to approve the minutes of October 4, 2016.

Old Business, New Business, and Correspondence: Mrs. Russo questioned Mr. Hayssen if he has received the key to the master meter on Route 89, which he responded that he has not. Mr. Fox said the Town of Fayette is still trying to find a board member to sit on the committee to address water issues.

Mrs. Karlsen reported that a resolution has to be passed adopting a Standard Work Day for elected and appointed officials.

STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Varick hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Standard Work Day (Hrs/Day)	Term Begins/End	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System	Days/Month
Supervisor	Robert Hayssen	6	1/1/16-12/31/19	N	20
Town Clerk	Donna Karlsen	6	1/1/16-12/31/19	N	20
Superintendent	Richard McCulloch	6	1/1/16-12/31/19	N	20
Attorney	David Ettman	6	1/1/16-12/31/17	N	10
Bookkeeper	Angela Testa	6	1/1/16-12/31/19	N	20

On this 1st day of November 2016

Motion: Kathy Russo

Seconded: Tom Fox

So carried unanimously

A motion by Richard Peterson, seconded by Kathy Russo and so carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Donna Karlsen Varick Town Clerk