

TOWN OF ROMULUS

P.O. Box 177
Willard, New York 14588

Phone: 607-869-9326 Fax: 607-869-5763
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday:
7:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.

*If you need an after hours appointment, please contact us and we will try to accommodate you.

Other Services Available for Everyone:
Photo Copies, Faxes, Notarizing, Tourism Brochures,
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In the last two years, Romulus Town Court has processed 46 Driving While Intoxicated charges. Last November Gov. Pataki signed new legislation, which toughens penalties and creates new offenses in the area of impaired driving.

With the new legislative changes, the Seneca County District Attorney's Office has undertaken an initiative that takes a comprehensive approach to the prevention and prosecution of impaired driving offenses. A "must arraign" policy has been implemented in Seneca County. This means that an appearance ticket will no longer be issued. Instead all people arrested for impaired driving offenses will be immediately be arraigned by a local court justice and bail (if appropriate) set.

Plea bargaining to reduce the charge will be minimal and based on a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) less than .11 percent and no priors present. There will be no reductions to a person who refuses to take a breathalyzer test. As part of the disposition if every impaired driving case in Seneca County the court will order a substance abuse evaluation and require the successful completion of any mandated treatment. The hope is that identification of problem substance abusers and successful completion of mandated treatment will lesson the recidivism rate. The courts will impose enhanced fines (up to \$1,000.00 plus surcharge) to help fund education and prevention and to make DWI and expensive proposition in Seneca County.

Attendance at a Victim's Panel will be a condition of every plea bargained disposition of an impaired driving offense. The panel will consist of past victims (or their surviving family members) of drunk driving and that those consequences can happen to ordinary people.

Romulus Town Court has available a BAC chart for men and women which indicates estimated Blood Alcohol Percentages per drinks/hour and body weight. Stop in and pick up a copy.

Don't Drink and Drive!
Kathleen M. Greule



Cold, Windy, Icy Weather...brrr...

Thank you to the Water Departments of the Town of Romulus and the Village of Ovid for hanging the decorations in our town and the village. When the weather is so cold, its nice to have some Christmas spirit.

What a surprise to see a variety in each hamlet.



WILLARD SIDEWALKS SNOW REMOVAL



Thank you Al Nivison for going up through Willard and plowing so many of the sidewalks. It was such a great feeling to drive through town and see one of our residents volunteering his time to clear a path for everyone. The snow just kept coming this year and it was getting pretty difficult to keep these areas clean.



Town of Romulus

Review of Romulus

Volume 1, Issue 11

March 9, 2007

ETHANOL FACILITY PROPOSED FOR THE TOWN OF ROMULUS

Empire Green Biofuels, Inc. proposes to construct and operate an ethanol facility on a portion of the former Seneca Army Depot . The Town of Romulus feels it is important to keep the residents apprised of everything that is happening in their town. Therefore in this newsletter we will try to describe the project and to summarize the general terms and conditions upon which Empire proposes to develop an ethanol production facility and acquire the project site from the Seneca County Economic Development Corporation and the Seneca County Industrial Development Agency . On the following pages we will also try to address some of the residents questions and concerns. If we have not covered your questions, concerns or provided you with adequate information, please feel free to attend the public information meeting that will be held at the [Romulus Volunteer Fire Department on Wednesday, March 14th at 7:30 p.m.](#)

The project involves the construction of a \$150 million ethanol production plant and biomass co-generation facility on approximately a 400 acre parcel located on the western portion of the Depot. When operational in 2008, the Facility will process 600,000 tons of corn, a portion of which will be grown in central and western New York, to produce 58 million gallons of ethanol annually. This increased corn demand is expected to raise the corn price by over 30 cents per bushel (with estimates ranging up to 60 cents higher) for local corn, resulting in net income per acre increasing by over 50% for local corn producers. The finished co-products (ethanol and distillers grain) will be sold in local markets.

The project will create over 300 short-term construction jobs, drawn largely from local and regional trades. It will result in 75 permanent jobs during the Facility's first year of operation and a total of 150 direct jobs within five years.

Research plans are being finalized with Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry to develop on-site biomass planting programs. Facility construction will also include a research laboratory for collaborative research among scientists and students from Empire, Cornell and SUNY.

Empire will establish a tour center at the Facility to provide ethanol plant, wildlife and nature tours to the public. It is our hope that this becomes both a destination for school related fieldtrips and tourism. The Depot will also benefit from a Nature and Wildlife Management Plan, to be developed by Cornell and/or SUNY with the goal of maintaining historical site habitat and preserving new plantings.

Empire will pay to the EDC the sum of \$250,000 in consideration for an exclusive development and construction lease relating to the approximately 400 acre Facility Site for a period of 2 years, commencing when Empire receives all of the permits necessary to begin construction of the ethanol plant and biomass boiler. Empire shall after the two years have an option to purchase approximately 4,500 additional acres of land within the Depot from EDC providing there is:

- (i) substantial completion of construction of the ethanol production component of the Facility, or
- (ii) where the Company has certified to the Agency and EDC that it has expended \$75M or more toward the ethanol production component of the Facility and made commercially reasonable efforts to undertake and complete the biomass boiler component of the Facility.

It is in discussion and being proposed that if the option of the additional 4,500 acres is to be purchased a \$50,000.00 non-refundable deposit will be made to the EDC and the purchase price will be \$4,000,000.00.

The above is a brief description of the proposed project. We are aware residents have concerns and questions with regard to this new facility and how it will effect our town. Unfortunately there has been much inaccurate information that has been distributed and it is our intention to try to provide you with the correct information. Therefore, on the pages to follow we will attempt to address as many of these questions as we can.....continued

EMPIRE BIO FUELS QUESTIONS & CONCERNS: Questions and Concerns: /Answers and Responses:

With regard to air issues: Some have expressed concern that there will be a bad odor, we asked about this:

We learned that the Project will not have significant and adverse environmental impact as the result of odor. The ethanol facility may generate certain levels of odor resulting from the grain drying processes. However, Empire will operate grain dryers at a reduced temperature (600 to 700 degrees Fahrenheit) and produce significantly fewer odors. Furthermore, based on the location of the Project and the prevailing westerly winds, the residential units located in the vicinity of the former Seneca Army Depot will not be impacted. The Company will implement an Odor Control and Response Plan, dated February, 2007, which will minimize odor emissions to the maximum extent practicable. A thermal oxidizer will be part of the plan for the removal of odors. We also learned that New York State is one of the strictest states for environmental issues and a permit would not be issued if they were putting out these odors.

Some were concerned about the amount of water being discharged back into the lake:

There will be no discharge. The facility will need 600 GPM = 875,000 GPD of water which will leave the facility in various forms; Steam from driers, Ethanol, Wet distillers grains and cooling tower evaporation.

Some were concerned too much raw water (untreated water –no chlorination) would be pumped out of the lake:

The amount of water that is fed into the lake on a gallons per day basis far exceeds the amount of water that will be taken out of the lake. The best example is a fire truck dumping water into a pool and an individual standing at the other end sucking the water out with a straw. As you can imagine by this visual, this is a minimal amount.

Some were concerned the water would pump out of the lake so fast it would cause a strong current possibly pulling people into the current and not being able to swim out of it:

The water coming through the intakes is being brought through the pipes slowly, therefore substantial amount of current can not be developed. In addition the intakes are 1200 feet out into the lake with a screen that covers the end of the pipe.

Will there be a significant negative environmental impact on soil resources?

All activities at the site will be subject to applicable NYSDEC storm water permitting requirements. Appropriate erosion measures will be implemented as part of the Storm water Pollution Prevention Plan required by NYSDEC for all construction and industrial activities at the site.

Will there be a negative impact on existing noise levels?

The maximum estimated noise levels at the closest receptor will occur as the result of the occasional start up of locomotive engines. The short-term peak noise level for this action is estimated to be 61 decibels, well below the typical noise levels of 75 to 85 decibels associated with normal patterns of road traffic. The noise impacts associated with these start-ups will be reduced by the use of a smaller switch train for the movement of rail cars within the site track system. Any additional noise inducing activities will use appropriate muffling technologies. Potential noise impacts will also be mitigated and/or avoided due to the buffering areas surrounding the Site.

Will there be a significant negative impact to traffic or transportation?

Highway traffic will be reduced by Empire's use of the railway system that currently services the project site. Various materials will be transported to and from the site using Routes 96-A, Route 5, Route 14 and Interstate 90. Truck traffic serving the grasses and forestry crops grown on-site will utilize only internal roadways. External traffic routes will avoid the largest population centers in the area and represent only a 2 to 9 percent increase above current levels. Anticipated truck traffic will be below the levels that were present when the U.S Army actively used the site.

How will this impact the vegetation and wildlife resources on the depot?

There will be a positive impact on the vegetation and wildlife resources located at the site. The Project will result in the conversion of 1,486 acres of low-value scrub and brush to agricultural use. The Company will grow and harvest forestry and grass crops for use in the production of ethanol. The return of the project site to agricultural use will also improve storm water controls. This conversion of a portion of the site to agricultural uses will not have negative impact on surrounding properties due to the buffering between the site and adjacent properties.

continued.....



Town of Romulus Dumpster Days Permit For the Year 2007

Spring Cleanup:

Friday, June 8th, 2007
Saturday, June 9th, 2007
From 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Fall Cleanup:

Friday, October 5th, 2007
Saturday, October 6th, 2007
From 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



DUMPSTER DAY PERMITS REQUIRED

Residents will need to obtain a photo identification pass for the dumpster days. This pass will be good for the spring and fall cleanup days. The permits will need to be obtained from the town hall located in Willard. If you do not have your photo dumpster pass with you to show proof of residency, you will not be able to use this service. If you are not able to obtain your permit during regular office hours, please contact us and we will schedule an appointment time that works for you.



THANK YOU TO OUR HIGHWAY & WATER DEPARTMENTS

It's been a long rough winter! These two departments have some really great employees that don't get much sleep during the winter months. They've done a great job of clearing the roads and highways to assure our safety when we have to travel on the ice and snow covered roads. A water break is certainly not much enjoyment in the bitter cold, but they are out there making sure we have water. Thank you to both departments!!



SIDEWALKS IN THE HAMLET OF ROMULUS

Soon it will be spring and you will see Mike Miller & Craig Coonradt back at the sidewalk project and trying to complete what they started late last year. This winter, Daryl Morrell and the school employees did an excellent job of removing the snow that refused to go away. It was great to drive through the hamlet and see the residents, especially the students, utilizing these rather than walking in the streets. Great efforts by all in the spring and winter.



HERNON PARK SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Award Amount: \$100.00
Awards Available: 2
Type of Award: Essay



Eligibility: Student at South Seneca Central or Romulus Central School
No age or grade requirement

Requirements: You must write a 250 – 750 word essay on the following topic:
Why do you feel parks and recreational areas are important to our society?

You must submit this to the following address no later than the close of business on May 18th, 2007:

Town of Romulus Hernon Park Committee
P.O. Box 177
Willard, New York 14588

Or email entry to: Romulus@rochester.rr.com

Please provide the following information with your submission:

- Your name
- Address
- Phone number
- Which school you attend
- Age
- Grade
- Email address (if you have one)



Recipients of Awards: Will be selected on May 21st, 2007 by the Hernon Park Committee Members

Presently, the Seneca County Water and Sewer District is at the mercy of the County Board of Supervisors vote on whether the district will be allowed to open the water intakes to provide water to its present water users. Even though, the users won't see an immediate decrease because of the amount of debt service that will need to be paid for this project. In the long term they will see a decrease or at least be able to control what the cost will be to them. The users will not have an additional debt service charge because the money that is saved from opening the intakes instead of purchasing from Waterloo will allow the district to pay the debt rather than adding an additional charge.

Because the Seneca County Water and Sewer District is essentially a department of Seneca County any expansions must be voted on at the county level. Please refer back to the weighed vote system to see how easily the district could be turned down for this expansion and essentially turned down in saving the south county residents thousands of dollars over the long term.

We urge you to speak with the County Board of Supervisors and write letters of support for the Seneca County Water/ Sewer District to be allowed to open the intakes. Although, it would appear a County District should be supported by the County, that may not be the case. It is our understanding some of our County representatives are looking to turn down the district because they are concerned the Village of Waterloo would lose too much revenue.

The Village of Waterloo has indicated they can reduce their charges to the district and has informed the district that they have a reserve fund. If this is the case, why not use this savings and reserves to maintain their own residents rates, rather than threatening the other entities and their own residents with a rate increase if the district no longer gets the water from them. How many of these towns receiving water from the Village of Waterloo have heard their town's rate will go up if their vote on the County Board of Supervisor's level is to allow the intakes to be open? Can all of the County Supervisor's vote for their own County District, with their town or village being threatened to see an increase in rates? Conflict of interest?

The Village of Waterloo prior to our town contract use to perform the meter reading services for the Town of Varick. The Town of Varick approached the Town of Romulus in 2002 and asked if we would be interested in a contract to provide water and eventually sewer services to include meter readings, billings and collections. The Town of Romulus charged \$10,000.00 which included water and sewer billings for the Varick Seneca Lake District, which also included postage, envelopes, meter readings, annual reports, final readings and billings for closings, performing shut off for seasonal residents, provide bi-weekly reports to the bookkeeper, monthly water testing and assisting with their budget. The Town Board felt they offered a very fair price for these services, which at the time was still less than they were paying.

A Village of Waterloo representative recently has attended the Town of Varick's board meetings and has offered to provide the Town of Varick with the same services as the Town of Romulus for half the cost. We hope Varick will indeed receive the same services for half the cost if they chose to accept the Village of Waterloo's offer. Based on the costs our town has seen for these services, we have to conclude the village is offering this service at half the cost by subsidizing the true costs.

If we the "south" county don't come together and let our county representatives know how we feel than surely we will lose this opportunity and the opportunity for future growth. Future water to Kendaia, Town of Fayette, Route 89 area, the depot, etc... all will be lost.

We've shown you how the weighed vote system works. If this project is turned down; what will be the next south county project to be rejected? We will never have the votes to assure our say about what happens in our south county towns and villages. Do we make what happens in the north towns and villages our business or concern? No we don't! It is their towns and villages, they have residents and representatives to make their decisions. So why is it up to the top heavy weighed vote system to decide for the south? Will there ever be a day that decisions are made in the best interest of the county as a whole? Will it always be north vs. south? It needs to stop, we are a county that should be working together for the betterment of everyone.

Questions and Concerns:/Answers and Responses:

Will the ethanol project create a hazard to public health?

The project will be subject to numerous safety plans and equipment as required by state and federal law, including, but not limited to, emergency action plans, spill prevention, control and counter measure plans, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration grain handling guidelines.

How will this facility impact the White Deer?

The project will not negatively impact the white deer population at the site. In fact, a Wildlife Management Plan will be prepared to manage and enhance all existing wildlife resources. The plan will be developed in cooperation with Cornell University in order to verify that the project and all other future uses of the former Seneca Army Depot, avoids substantially impacting wildlife existing at the site. All activities will be completed in conformance with the requirements and guidelines set forth in the Plan and carried out by Empire Green Biofuels, as necessary. For those residents that have been here since before the Army facility closed, we know the white deer have survived some of the elements that you wouldn't find outside the depot fences.

With regard to the Town assuring the residents of traffic safety on Route 96A:

Route 96A is a New York State highway and it has been our experience in the past with the state highway that they take safety very seriously and will address this issue as they have with other areas that were concerns of safety. We have the utmost confidence in our New York State Dept. of Transportation.

How much road wear will there be on the East Lake Road Extension if we open the intakes to supply raw water?

There should be very little to no additional traffic increase by the employees for operation of the system. During the construction of the raw water lines installation there will be some increase in traffic, but only until this is completed. There should be no additional road wear.

To what extent will the pump station operation be changed?

With reference to concerns about electrical surges causing brownouts we have had an electrician and an engineer inspect the plant and they have found the plant to not be the cause of the brownouts. We were also told that we have a system in place that assures this doesn't happen. The increased use of the pumps will not effect this current situation some of the Lakeshore Landing residents are experiencing. The electric company has assured us they will look into this and determine what is causing these brownouts. The noise level should not be any different than what is heard there now. There should be no unpleasant odors from this station.

Will you be tearing up my lawn and placing huge pipes on my property? Will you be taking more of our land to put these pipes in? What will this cost us?

The district already has the right of ways and will not be taking any additional property. The pipes would be a maximum width of 16 inches wide. No additional property will be needed for easements and the districts will clean up and landscape after a project is completed. There is no cost to the residents. The raw water project would be paid for by the ethanol facility.

What assurances will the town make to the Lakeshore Landing residents?

The Town of Romulus is made up of people that you elect to represent you the people. We have an excellent board and staff that work diligently to try to make this town a better place for EVERYONE to live. Not just a few particular areas of the town, but rather to keep in mind all the residents of this town. We would like to remind people that all meetings are open to the public and the best way to stay informed is to attend the meetings. However, we have a website that contains all the current information such as meetings, events, newsletters, etc... so if you can't attend the meetings the information is still available to you. We try to keep you informed as we are informed. We can't stress enough that all the boards that have been formed through the Town of Romulus are there for the same reason and that is to work together to make this a better place to live. It is also our job to try to work towards finding ways to enhance this town by implementing jobs, safety a healthy environment, etc...so that are children will want to remain here and we can share in our grandchildren's lives. There are no assurances in anything in life, but we will do our best to work toward the many issues and concerns that all residents may have.

**** A final note on this topic—In most cases the "Nay Sayer" will turn out to public meetings to be heard. However, if the residents that are for a particular topic don't come to these meetings and let their voices be heard, than the Town of Romulus board can't properly represent what the residents overall really want. Therefore, we would like to encourage ALL the public to turn out for the meeting on March 14th at the Romulus Fire House at 7:30 p.m. to be heard. * The public hearing will be held on March 15th at the Town Hall @10:00 a.m.**

TOWN CLERK TAKES ON TAX COLLECTOR TASKS

Elizabeth Wyckoff retired this past year and the Romulus Town Board determined it was in the best interest financially to abolish the Tax Collector position and make it an additional responsibility of the Town Clerk. By consolidating this position it saved the town \$2,500.00 annually.

This is the first year taxes were collected electronically. We also were able to accept debit and credit credits to allow residents the ease of paying their taxes and assuring payment is received on time.

A website has been made available for the Romulus tax payers. This website will show you any tax bill in the Town of Romulus and will allow you to print it from the website. It will not show you whether a tax bill has been paid or not, but it will allow you to get a copy of your bill should you need to.

This website is: <http://egov.basny.com/romulus/>

Terry Smith took on this responsibility with ease and did a great job of collecting the taxes this year.

EMERGENCY CONTACT MAGNETS

The magnets were made and distributed through the tax bills and some water/sewer billings. The Dog Control Officer should have been included on this and he was not. For your reference the Dog Control Officer for the Township of Romulus is Aaron Covert and he can be reached at his home number: 607-869-5364 or call his pager.

Using the pager dial 1-800-836-2337 and then put in code #40710 and then the number you want him to call you back at.



If you did not receive an emergency contact magnet and would like one, please stop by our office or call and we will mail one to you.

SUPERVISOR’S STATE OF THE TOWN ADDRESS FOR 2007

The year 2006 has come to an end and we are now looking ahead to the year 2007. In this new year the Town of Romulus will be continuing with projects started in the previous year as well as embarking on new endeavors.

Foremost on our agenda will be to continue economic development, as exemplified in such projects as Empire Biofuels. The town worked very hard in the last year to make the progress that it did with regards to this project. Much more needs to be done for this plant and other projects to become a reality.

I can not stress enough the importance of what this ethanol facility means to our local economy. We need the jobs that will be generated. By bringing more living wage jobs to our area, we can insure that our residents can stay here in the Finger lakes, raise their families here and create opportunities to keep our children and grandchildren nearby. The job drain is certainly not endemic to just our region, but when we have the opportunity to do something about it, then we must.

In addition to bringing jobs to the area, we have to continue to do what we can to lower the property tax burden. I am pleased to say that the Romulus Town Board works hard to do what it can to lower property taxes. For the last few years we have lowered the town tax rates and increased services to our residents.

Only so much can be done without some restructuring of our tax base. As governmental costs increase it is inevitable that our current residential property owners will be the ones to shoulder these increasing costs. How much more can our residents, especially those on the lakes, continue to shoulder this burden? By expanding the tax base, to broaden it out beyond a residential character, we can take some of the tax burden off of residential properties. The Empire Biofuels project will help to do this. Whether it is the ethanol plant or something else, our mind set should be to expand the tax base away from private homeowners.

At the same time, our Town has an opportunity to attract new visitors to the region, through careful cultivation of our unique natural resources. The conservation of the former Seneca Army Depots’ wildlife in the revitalization efforts of the former base is very important to the Town of Romulus. Town of Romulus zoning requires that measures be taken to protect its’ wildlife such as requiring that developed sites cannot exclude the deer herd. Where any fencing is necessary it must be erected no more than ten feet from any given structure within the developed site.

CONTINUED.....

By the time, the Seneca County Water/Sewer District was formed, they were faced with fixing and maintaining 29.91 miles of water lines (which is 157,900 feet of water lines). Therefore, in addition to paying the Town of Varick for the Waterloo water, paying for the pumping to all over the base and the other entities, the district also had been given the challenge of replacing old dilapidated lines and putting in new lines for any new business that came into the base. In addition this district now had the responsibility of maintaining the fire safety codes; such as assuring buildings have water for their sprinkler systems . The district was not given equipment or start up money, but rather borrowed money to get the district started (which has been paid in full). As you can see from the footage of lines, the district has a vast area to maintain.

The district hired a financial firm “Bernie Donagan, Inc.” to review the engineer studies to determine the rates that would need to be established to cover all the costs involved with operating the district, maintaining and replacing lines and pumps, electrical costs and all other charges that would be incurred by the district. The district has developed ten-year plans for equipment, buildings and maintenance without increasing the rates to the users.

For the past seven years, the district has been working with engineers to determine if it is feasible and economically better for the residents to have the district produce its own water . The first preliminary study indicated that the districts would have to put in a filtration system . Therefore according to State regulations, this was essential before this would be considered. The studies indicated that if we re-opened the intakes and put in a new filtration system, the district would be able to produce the water for approximately half the cost of the purchase price from the Village of Waterloo. A more detailed study was later prepared by O’Brien & Gere engineers, which confirmed it would be more cost effective to open the intakes and provide water to the users. In addition, it would be wise to open the intakes so that we could later provide water for future growth on the depot. It was also decided that home land security was another reason we should consider opening the intakes.

Since the tragedies of September 11, 2001, it is imperative we find ways to secure our water supply. It is dangerous to home land security to have Waterloo be the only supplier, if something were to happen to their system we would be without water. By opening the intakes, the engineers discussed a design that would allow the intakes to feed in the direction of Waterloo, but also to feed in the direction of the Willard Drug Treatment Campus, should anything happen to either water supply, we would be able to temporarily assist them by providing water. The district hopes to supply potable water to the Kendaia area, as this is an area that has a great need for public water. It is the hope of the district to eventually expand to other areas with the same needs for water.

The District was formed solely for the purpose of providing water and sewer and the budget reflects only these services. The money that comes in and goes out of the district is for the purpose of improvements to the district and the costs involved with the district. If there is a large surplus then the money would come back to the users by lowering rates, not filtered through a village to be used in other areas for other uses.

Having a south county district, allows each town and village from the south to be a regular user of the water and /or sewers and to have a representative on the board to speak on their behalf. The district consults with financial advisors and engineers to assure the best possible rate is being offered. If at any-time a resident has an issue with the water/sewer district they have their own town or village representative that can act and vote on their behalf. However, if we continue to purchase water from the Village of Waterloo the residents in the south end of the county will never have a voice or an opinion with regard to rates or anything else that pertains to the Village of Waterloo water. There is nobody on their board to represent the south county residents. The Village of Waterloo can charge any amount they choose and there isn’t anyone on their board from the south county that is looking out for your best interest.

North vs. South Is This What Our County Is Coming To?

Weighted Vote of the Board of Supervisors

<u>Towns:</u>	<u>Number of Votes given to that Town</u>
Covert	51
Fayette	82
Junius	31
Lodi	31
Ovid	51
Romulus	51
Seneca Falls 1	71
Seneca Falls 2	71
Seneca Falls 3	71
Tyre	20
Varick	40
Waterloo 1	60
Waterloo 2	60
Waterloo 3	60
Total weighted votes	750

To the left of this article is a list of the weighted votes that is issued to each of the towns based on census results. When the County Board of Supervisors has a vote it is not based on one vote per Supervisor, but rather each town is given a number of votes.

Example if **Waterloo and Seneca Falls Supervisors vote Nay (NO)** that is a total of **393** votes. If every other Supervisor (Covert, Fayette, Junius, Lodi, Ovid, Tyre and Varick) votes **Yes (Yes)** that is a total of **357** votes.

The result would be a no vote because there are more no votes than yes votes. Even though only 2 towns voted no and the other 8 towns vote yes, it is still a no vote based on the total votes given to each town.

At anytime that any of the Towns listed in red would like something in their towns and they have to rely on the County Board of Supervisors for a vote; than they must have either Seneca Falls or Waterloo to vote with them otherwise they can be denied on whatever the issue is.

We are presently in a situation that we must have a County Board of Supervisors vote in favor of the south end of the county and there is a good possibility we will be told NO.

The Seneca County Board of Supervisors formed a Seneca County Water/Sewer Districts Board to represent the south end of the county towns and villages with reference to public water and sewer: specifically the Towns of Fayette, Ovid, Romulus and Varick and the Villages of Lodi and Ovid. This is a total of six representatives. This board does not use the weighted vote system, but rather each town and village has one equal vote. More particularly as worded in the local law this district was formed for the purpose of providing water and sewer services to the formerly known as Seneca Army Depot and its surrounding areas.

The Seneca Army Depot use to produce its own water through the water intakes, which are located in the Lakeshore Landing area. They used these intakes to provide water to all the army facilities and the army housing. Along with these areas they also provided water to the Hamlet of Romulus, Town of Varick (Rt. 96 area), Sampson and the Coast Guard. Before the Army left the base, the Town of Varick determined they needed water along the East Lake Road for these residents and therefore they obtained funding and had lines installed. At that time, their water was coming from the Village of Waterloo and still does.

At that time, the Army closed down the intakes and temporarily hooked into the Town of Varick's East Lake Road line and also received water from the Village of Waterloo. The Army then billed the entities they provided water to at a much higher rate because they had to offset the costs the Army was paying to the Town of Varick who then paid the Village of Waterloo. Before the Army hooked into the Varick line they charged \$1.13 per thousand wholesale to our hamlet. Once connected to the Varick line, our rate went to \$3.48 per thousand wholesale.

Once the Army stopped producing their own water and downsized they no longer had the staff to properly maintain all the water and sewer lines, pump stations, fire hydrants, etc... on the base.

Any projects that are allowed to occur at the former depot require the issuance of a special permit that depends on a successful SEQRA review. It has to be noted that any development that occurs at the former depot site will still be far less intrusive to the wildlife than was the activity that occurred there as an active military installation. I believe that a place where clean green energy is being researched and produced in conjunction with wildlife preservation will enhance the interest of both. It is simply wrong to suggest that limited development and wildlife preservation, within a larger perimeter fence, are exclusive of each other. The Town of Romulus takes very seriously the needs of the former depots' wildlife.

The Town Board and staff will continue to strive to better the Town in the new year. Along with our South County partners, the Towns of Ovid, Varick and Fayette, and the villages of Ovid and Lodi, we will continue to pursue the reopening of the former Seneca Army Depots water intakes. This effort is to help reduce water cost, further infrastructure development at the former base and to take control of our own water costs for the long term.

Last year we were successful in securing a Restore New York grant for \$356,000.00. Much of this money will go towards economic development, directed toward infrastructure improvements at the former base.

However, with the assistance of Sen. Mike Nozzolio, \$12,600.00 has been awarded for the demolition and removal of the house in the hamlet of Romulus that was the scene of a fatal house fire involving the family of Eric Parsons. The Town thought it best to have this house torn down and removed rather than burnt out of sensitivity to the community. After the property is cleaned up, the Town and County will take steps to turn it into a productive use, most likely returning it to our tax rolls.

Our highway department is in good shape. We took possession of our new ten wheel truck this past December and were able to purchase this equipment outright without having to take out a bond with additional interests cost.

The hamlet of Willard will see continued street work with new pavement on First and Prospect streets and continued infrastructure improvements.

Some of our other highway projects for 2007 include making Cayuga Lake road safer, the continued rebuilding of Vineyard road and addressing erosion issues on Swick road. These last three road projects are being funded in large part by grants that we were successful in obtaining through the Cayuga Lake Watershed program.

The Town as a team continues to work to ensure that our highway budget is healthy. Mr. Williamson, our highway superintendent, along with all of the highway crew, continue to do a great job.

Our sidewalk revitalization program got off to a great start in 2006 and will continue to proceed in 2007. I would like to extend the town's appreciation to all of the people and residents involved for participating in this program. Anything that we all can do to help ensure the safety of our residents, especially our youth, is something that we can all be proud of.

Again, this program is designed to operate with out tax dollars. It allows those in need of sidewalk revitalization to be able to do so at an affordable cost. This is an ongoing program that over time will help address sidewalk issues through out the town.

Our hamlet welcome signs are erected and seem to be appreciated. We will look into relocating the sign in the hamlet of Romulus to a more visible location as these signs not only welcome passers by to our communities but also help travelers to know where they are and where they are going.

It is our responsibility, as public officials, to make our community one that our residents can be proud of. It is our responsibility to do what we can to improve services, attract jobs and to keep our taxes low. Not just for ourselves, but for the future residents of the Town. I am very grateful to the Towns dedicated officials and staff for their work in the past year and I am sure that we will all work as hard for you this year.

Assemblyman Brian Kolb is planning to visit

He is planning to be at the Romulus Town Hall in Willard on Saturday, March 24th, 2007 at 11:45 p.m.

This is a time to speak with your Assemblyman about your concerns or discussion on things you'd like to see happen in our town .

Perhaps you have concerns on a statewide level this is your time to speak to your local representative

LAKESHORE REVISION GRANT

Thank you Tom Bouchard for all your hard work in requesting a grant for the lakeshore area. We are very pleased to inform our residents that he was successful in obtaining this grant. However, unfortunately there was some confusion in the Times about the area this grant is for.

Once again, the Willard Drug Treatment has been working with the town to try to provide an area for families to picnic, perhaps go fishing or just sit along the water's edge and enjoy the view. The grant is for us to develop a plan to enhance the area that is presently the WDTC's property. The town is hoping to eventually obtain title to this property. In the meantime, the facility has begun clearing the area and placed picnic tables and benches along the shore for our residents and others to use. This only effects the property owned by the state facility. **It will not effect any property belonging to our residents.**

SNOW REMOVAL LOCAL LAW

Please keep this in mind for the years to follow:

The following local law was put in place for the safety of the motorists on our highways. It is easier for the plows to push the snow back when there is nothing to obscure their path. Therefore, the Town of Romulus Town Board gave the following local law much consideration before a public hearing was held.

**Town of Romulus
Local Law No. 1-2007
Resolution #14-07**



A Local Law regulating the parking of vehicles on the Town of Romulus roads and streets.

Be it enacted by the Romulus Town Board of the Town of Romulus, New York as follows:

Section 1: For the purposes of this local law the words “vehicle”, “owner” And “parked” shall have the meanings as defined in the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York.

Section 2: No vehicle shall be parked or abandoned on any street or road within the Town of Romulus between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 7:00 a.m., during the period beginning November 1st and ending April 1st of each year.

Section 3: When any vehicle is parked or abandoned in violation of this Local Law said vehicle would be subjected to the three-step program, which is as follows:

- First day of offense will be issued a warning
- Second offense will be issued a ticket
- Third day will be towed at owner's expense and not to be released until all fees have been paid.

Section 4: After such removal the said police officer or public official may store such vehicle in a suitable place at the expense of the owner. Such owner or person in charge of the vehicle may redeem the same upon payment in the amount of all expenses actually and necessarily incurred in effecting such removal, together with any charges for storage.

Section 5: The said police officer or public official shall ascertain the owner of such vehicle or person having same in charge and to notify owners of the removal and disposition of such vehicle and of the amount which will be required to redeem the same.

Section 6: The violation of Section 2 of this Local Law as a second offense by any person shall be deemed an offense against this Local Law and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$50.00.

Section 7: An exception to the time restraints for parking on the streets and roads would be for that of a business who advertises their hours of operation beyond the midnight hour. Therefore, under this circumstance patrons will be allowed to park until 2:30 a.m.

Section 8: An additional exception to this Local Law would be for those residents that do not have adequate parking or no driveway. Under these circumstances the Romulus Town Board would issue a hanging exception tag. This tag must hang from said vehicles interior windshield mirror so as to be easily readable by police officers and public officials. If an exception tag is warranted it will be at the discretion of the Romulus Town Board as to whether or not the request is viable enough to receive an exception tag.

Section 9: This Local law shall supersede in so far as it contradicts, any other ordinance, order, rule or regulation previously adopted by the Romulus Town Board.

HOW ABOUT THOSE ROMULUS LADY WARRIORS???

What a phenomenal season for the Romulus Varsity Girls Basketball team. We are so proud of your accomplishments and are rooting for your success at the state level. We are preparing your picture for the place of honor at the Romulus Town Hall. Romulus is a small school with a lot of spirit. It is truly amazing what can be accomplished when a small group comes together. We are pleased to see so many of our South Seneca neighbors are there rooting for you as well.



From left to right:

Front row: Ashley Kenyon, Heather Kelsey, Morgan Kuryla and Erica Nicholson

Middle row: Jackie Vincent, Amanda Farnsworth, Montana McDonald, Sheree Galipeau, Kara Schrader, Ali Newcombe and Tiffany Trotter

Back Row: Coaches
Assistant Coach Colleen Cooke
Varsity Coach Damon Nicholson
JV Coach Barney Farnsworth

Special congratulations to the seniors who will take this memory with them:
Jackie, Kara and Tiffany

Heron Park Spring meeting will be held at the Romulus Town Hall on April 23rd at 9:00 am

The park committee members have a lot planned for this year. We will see a baseball diamond going in to the park. Contractors have been hired to prepare some of the work on this project. This ball field will be in Tommy Davis' memory rather than the original plan for a skate park. We learned the liability was too much for a small town park.

The park has also been fortunate enough to purchase property in front of the park, which will be landscaped and developed into a parking lot. This is in anticipation of future growth.

Again this year, the park will hold an essay scholarship with a deadline date of May 18th for submission.

As always, we welcome new members and encourage residents to get involved with your community and the future development of our communities.



3RD ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY Scheduled for August 4th, 2007

The block party committee will meet on May 21st @ 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall in Willard.

Please come out and get involved, help us with your ideas of fun and enjoyment for everyone.

The Basketball Tournament will be held again this year. The application is already on the town web site. You can find this at www.romulustown.com under forms.

THANK YOU WDTC FOR THE SIGNS

We would like to thank the Willard Drug Treatment Vocational Department for the signs they generously provided to the Town of Romulus. It has made it much easier, especially for visitors, to determine what part of Romulus they are in.

The campus once again has contributed a very useful item to the town that we otherwise would not have had the money in our budget to do.

We will have the posts painted and you will see flowers planted in the boxes this spring. It is our intention to make the signs inviting.

We would like to thank Dana Scalzo for allowing us to install the Romulus sign on his property.