

**Regular Town Board Meeting
August 20, 2003**

Call to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Raymond Zajac

Present Roll Call: Councilman David Kaiser
Councilman S. William Ritchie
Councilman Robert Gerlach
Councilman S. William Ritchie
Supervisor Raymond Zajac

Others present: Town Clerk Terry Smith
Highway Superintendent Jim Williamson
Zoning Code Enforcement Officer Lee Hoaglan
Planning Board Chair Walter Mittermeyer
2 Petitioners to the Board
4 residents

Pledge of Allegiance, followed by moment of silence.

Petitioners to the Board: Dan Motill came to us as President of the newly formed non-profit organization known as the Friends of the Three Bears. He wants us to know who they are and what they are about to do. We would like it if you would issue a resolution giving us your support and equally important request you as individuals to become members. The corporation that is forming is dedicated to the preservation, restoration and the use of the Three Bears. We emphasize the word use because we have learned that preservation is best achieved by utilization. In fact, funds for preservation and restoration are more easily gotten when you have a strong case for utilization. So, with that frame work in mind we decided that it was time to structure the corporation and its trustees structures that looks ahead in terms of after we get the preservation and the restoration of how we can use the buildings. What we want to do as a corporation is first become a partner with the account. Through a study done in 1998 on these three buildings and they characterized the repairs in two kind of classifications. One is you just want to fix them up in what they call stabilize them and that is \$200,000. If you want to restore them to their historic elegance, it would be under \$1 million, around \$750,000. We know the brackets that we have to go after and this study will be updated shortly. We will launch modest fund raisers ourselves, we will go after independent rents through independent means. To augment the funds that the county can't get that we want for other reasons. They will be a partner initially, but eventually we will start operating on our own and have our own structure to do that. So that is where the Friends of the Three Bears are going. What we have in mind in the terms of use is student and adult education, casual tourism, planned tourism. Because of the site that we have, (bottom of the Cayuga Wine Trail and top of the Seneca Wine Trail) it is in a unique place in terms of the Wine Fest. The Wine Trail Board is anxious to be part of the structure. Both school districts are trustees, historical societies are trustees, and we hope both wine trails will join us and we have several churches. Those are the institutional trustees and then we have about 8 individuals who are excellent people in the community and they will be the driving force to have us move ahead. With the users in our back pocket, as we go through this organization stage that hopefully will help us in terms of the ultimate utilization. A

private organization does not necessarily have to react or meet every requirement. That is something we have to think about down the road as we move through this corporation. There will be some discussion in the future, that the site is owned by the county. They must own it because it is the county seat. However, there are ways that ownership and control can pass through the quasi-governmental organization called the IDA. They come in and begin to lease it and so there is an opportunity in the long run for the facility control site occupancy and use to be controlled by an organization as a renter, so to speak. I am urging you to join us as the bigger the crowd, the more attention we will get. I am asking you to fill out cards and vote yes on the resolution. September 4, 2003 at 6 p.m. there will be a reception at the Three Bears for all local residents for a semi-official kick off for the corporation. Everyone is invited.

Sarah Dawley is seeking placement of the banner that has been given to the Town of Romulus for Seneca County Bicentennial. The decision of the board is across Main Street in the Village of Romulus where the old Romulus Hotel used to be. The Town Hall has presented an afghan to be hung at the town hall. They will also be available to the public, but no one knows when. A motion was made by Councilman Gerlach to hang the banner on Main Street and seconded by Councilman Ritchie. All approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Motioned by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded by: Councilman S. William Ritchie

Communications to be Filed:

- a. Charles Schumer, U.S. Senate – Letter to Census Bureau
- b. Seneca County IDA – Transfer of Conservation Area
- c. Seneca Meadows Landfill – Open House
- d. Town News Letter

Zoning Board's Report: No meeting this month.

- a. Letter of Resignation from Betty McNaught. Will send a letter to thank her.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Complaints are up this month, but the building permit requests are down. See attached.

Planning Board Report: A copy of the Planning Board's minutes are attached.

Highway Superintendent's Report: See attached.

Dog Control Officer's Report: See attached.

Assessor's Report: No report this month.

Water Commissioner's Report: Between Water and Sewer have been very busy this month.

Bookkeeper's Report: See attached.

Supervisor's Report: Re: the IDA letter, we are not going to take it till cleaned up. The bottom line is we are not going to take it as is. We do want it, but not as is.

Committee Meetings:

- a. Hernon Park – next meeting scheduled for September 24, 2003 at 6 p.m.
- b. Flea Market at Park on Sept. 6th and 7th, Saturday and Sunday.
- c. Willard DTC/Five Points Facilities
- d. Fire Company in Ovid not started yet, except for cleaning up lot

Old Business: The budget is coming up and Angel will be contacting you for a budget meeting before the September Board Meeting.

New Business: None.

Resolutions:

#50-03 Letter of Support

Motion: Councilman David Kaiser

Second: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

#56-03 Chief Fiscal Officers Approval for the Fire Dept. Request

Motion: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Second: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

#57-03 Filling Road Ditches by Landowner

Motion: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Second: Councilman David Kaiser

#58-03 Verification of Payable

Motion: Robert Gerlach

Second: Ralph Walborn, Jr.

#59-03 Bingo License #551 for the VFW

Motion: Councilman David Kaiser

Second: Ralph Walborn, Jr.

#60-03 Budget Appropriation Transfers

Motion: Councilman S. William Ritchie

Second: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

#61-03 Accept Resignation of Zoning Board Member

Motion: Councilman S. William Ritchie

Second: Councilman Robert Gerlach

#62-03 Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing

Motion: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Second: Councilman David Kaiser

Town Clerk's Report:

- a. Dept. of Health mandatory vital statistics rate changes.

Executive Session:

Started at 9:10 p.m. and ended at 9:25 p.m.

The Next board meeting will be September 16, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting:

9:30 p.m.

Motion: Councilman S. William Ritchie

Second: Councilman Robert Gerlach