

**Regular Town Board Meeting  
June 15, 2005**

**Call to order at 7:30 P.M.**

<b>Roll Call</b>	Supervisor David Kaiser	Present
	Councilman Robert Gerlach	Present
	Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.	Present
	Councilwoman Barbara McCall	Present
	Councilman S. William Ritchie	Present

**Others Present:** Deputy Town Clerk, Angel Lawrence  
Code Enforcement, Lee Hoaglan  
Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson  
Planning Board Vice-Chairman, Barry Roach  
Planning Board Member, Tom Bouchard  
Residents: Bill Bowen  
                  Kyle Collinsworth  
                  Frank Guereri  
                  Jane Dox

**Pledge of Allegiance followed by moment of silence:**

**Public Hearing – Sidewalk District**

David Kaiser explained the location of the sidewalks proposed and the details of funding, materials and labor. He explained that the sidewalks on the East side of Main Street would run from Cayuga Street South to the Insurance Agency and on the West side of the Main Street the sidewalks would run from Seneca Street to the Depot gate, unless Aspen is willing to pay for the materials to extend this, than it will extend up through to Spring Meadows driveway.

The town has been working with Superintendent Williams with regard to obtaining the work crews to provide the labor for this project. We will have to hire a professional mason to oversee the work crews and we will also need to hire a backhoe operator for the purpose of digging the area for the sidewalks.

A grant application has been enclosed for everyone's review. This application explains our main street development and is requesting grant funding to aid us with this project. David explained that we also have seed money to start the project. This money came from the administrative fees that were paid to the town for the CDBG grant and also the in-lieu of taxes money, which came from the Advantage Group. Both were unallocated and unanticipated funds.

It is the thought of the board to recuperate the seed money and then use it to replace the sidewalks in Willard and then onto Hayts Corners. Resolution passed and listed in resolution section of the minutes.

Public Hearing was closed.

Motioned by: Barb McCall

Seconded by: Robert Gerlach

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 18, 2005  
Motion: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Second: Councilman Robert Gerlach  
Carried Unanimously

### **Petitioners to the Board:**

Jane Dox- Resident of Hamlet of Willard @ 1477 County Road 132

She wanted the board to be aware that many residents would like to see the Town obtain the lakefront on East Lake Road in Willard. She spoke with the Superintendent of WDTC to inquire if it is possible for the town to obtain this property. She did learn from this meeting the town had previously sent a letter requesting the possibility of taking ownership. Supt. Williams informed her that the letter was forward to Albany and he is awaiting their response. Dave advised the people of our ongoing communication with WDTC and that they have advised us of the same. The Supt. has informed us that he will schedule a meeting as soon as he receives a response. Angel asked Jane if she would like to join the existing lakefront committee. Jane agreed to be apart of this.

Frank Guererri – Resident of Town of Romulus @ Baptist Church Road

He expressed his concerns for the illegally parked mobile home, which is located on his neighbor's property. He understands that his neighbor is talking about selling this mobile home and is aware that it is not to be occupied. However, his point still remained that this mobile home was brought in illegally and remains there without permits. He would like to see the Town Board set a time limit for Mr. Standish to remove this from the premises.

Dave explained to Mr. Guererri the steps the town has taken to rectify this situation. Dave spoke with the Town Attorney regarding this mobile home. Mr. Gabriel has informed David that the mobile home must abide by the mobile home ordinance if it is to be occupied. However, if its intention is that it will be used as a storage building than it must meet set back regulations per the zoning. The board decided that Mr. Standish is indeed in violation and a letter will be sent certified mail notifying him that he has 14 days to remove this from the premises, until which he can be in compliance with the Town of Romulus regulations. Barry Roach from the Planning Board agreed that this was moved onto the premises illegally and he has had ample time to take measures in complying and has not. Therefore Mr. Standish will have until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005 to remove the mobile home from the premises. Resolution was passed.

Kyle Collinsworth – Resident of the Hamlet of Romulus @ 1968 Seneca Street

He wanted the town board to be aware that he is a registered repair shop and is requesting that if ever he is not in compliance with town regulations that the board simply contact him. Providing the violation is legitimate he will correct the situation. He is aware that a neighbor has been to the board to complain about his establishment and therefore he is appearing to clarifying any misinterpretation of the condition of his establishment.

**Communications to be filed:**

- a. Crosswalk and Speed Zone Correspondences – Copies of all the correspondences have been provided for the board's review. Angel suggested we send a thank you to Senator Nozzolio as he was persistent and pushed to make this happen for us.
- b. Joint Meeting Scheduled for June 30th Regarding Manure Deposits - Mr Bowen asked if this meeting is open to the public. David informed him that all meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions. Mr. Bowen was not in favor of bags being placed on horses to catch the manure and assured the board he would be bringing several Amish residents with him to the next meeting. Mr. Kaiser thanked Mr. Bowen for the offer and told him the board would very much appreciate hearing the Amish's input and thoughts.
- c. Application for Grant – A copy of the sidewalk development grant is attached for the boards review.
- d. Letter to WDTC Asking for Construction of Signs – A copy of the letter of request is enclosed for the board, along with copies of all the proposed sketches.
- e. Supreme Court Order for Refund of Taxes – David explained that the town itself was not being sued. The Railway Corporation disagreed with their assessment and took it before the Board of Assessment Review and was denied their request for a lower assessment. The Railway then took it to the Supreme Court and fought the assessment again. It was determined by the Supreme Court the fire tax levy was over assessed and therefore they awarded the Corporation the sum of \$585.32 plus interest to be paid back to them by the fire dept.
- f. Romulus Central School Newly Elected School Board Member – A letter was received notifying the Town of Romulus Town Board of Brian M. Sparrow's now being the newest member of the Romulus School Board.

**Zoning Board's Report:** The meeting for this month was cancelled.

**Planning Board** – See attached report.

Mr. Barry Roach distributed a draft property codes for the town boards review. He asked that we hold a Public Hearing for September with regard to this proposal. He stated the draft comes from the Property Codes of New York State. He explained that Harriett Haynes for the County Planning Dept. has been working with them and suggested they abstract the items that pertain to our township. She also suggested we add this to the zoning as an appendix. By having everything in one booklet, it will make it easier for the residents to find the information they are looking for. This property code manual excludes electrical, safety, etc..., which are already being enforced under the County, permit regulations. If the resident is not in compliance with the property code than pictures are taken and attached to a certified letter, which allows so many days to meet the expectations. Page 12 – Section 5 outlines that an investigation and report will need to be completed by the Zoning Officer and then his report should be given to the Town Board. Other towns have found that a courtesy letter with an attached picture of the violation has been an effective means of getting the resident to clean up the area in violation. If

they do not comply than the board would determine if they would allow extended amount of time or if they will act on enforcing the law by taking them to court. This property maintenance is still in draft form and a copy has been given to the town attorney.

On another issue Mr. McDonald questioned the inability of selling agricultural items at commercial property. This is another area that needs to be reviewed and revised more specifically.

Barry brought to the board's attention the fact that the mobile home ordinance was last revised in 1973. The Planning Board suggests we amend this and hold a public hearing at the same time as the property code hearing.

Tom Bouchard discussed the meeting that was held here regarding common goals for the preservation area of the depot. He would suggest an area be reserved for the preservation of wildlife. An attached report summarizes the meeting that was held here. David Kaiser commended Mr. Bouchard and Mr. Lazzalere for all their hard work.

Councilman Gerlach explained there are pros and cons to wind farms and will leave a pamphlet here at the town hall for people to read that shows the different opinions. Tom explained the wind farms are still a work in progress. The planning board is considering zoning for the cell towers.

**Zoning Enforcement Officer** – See attached report.

**Highway Superintendent** – See attached report.

The highway received approximately 50 truckloads of concrete from WDTC. Councilman Walborn asked if the highway would mow in front of the Romulus School for their graduation ceremony.

**Dog Control Officer's** – See attached report.

**Water Commissioner's Report** – Fifteen water lines need to be installed. Jack has been working on trying to get the Romulus residents hooked up to Varick's sewer.

**Bookkeeper Report** – See attached report. Angel will be away on vacation from June 30<sup>th</sup> and returning July 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Supervisor's Report** – The County IDA agreed to take possession of the depot property. Army agreed to take down seventeen buildings. Highway Superintendent should speak with Steve Absolom about using debris for the Cayuga Lake Road project.

David asked that all department heads please turn their bills and reports into the main office by the Friday before the board meetings. It is too much to try to complete before a meeting when it is arriving the two days before the meeting. When everything is turned in the Friday before a meeting the main office staff is able to compile the meeting folders and leave them for everyone's review a couple of days prior to the meetings. This enables

everyone to review their folders before the meetings and asked questions on items they may not be familiar with.

### **Committee Reports:**

- a. Heron Park next meeting will be May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. Minutes are attached. Angel advised the board and residents of a community block party that is being planned for August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 from 2:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. This community block party is to include all hamlets and residents of Romulus outside of the Hamlets. Rick DeLong has been working diligently on trying to obtain bands and D.J.'s that will perform for our party. We are awaiting an answer from Lenny Church regarding his setting up his hamburgers and hot dogs stand to sell food to the residents. Mary Unger has offered to do her clown act for the kids and a letter was sent to Ricky Nixon to see if we can interest him in providing his services as a clown also. Angel asked that anyone with suggestions please let the committee know as they appreciate any help they can get.

### **Old Business:**

Councilman Walborn expressed his concern for the property at 5634 Main Street. The neighborhood kids are going in and out and using this building on a daily basis. This is a safety issue and something needs to be done. Lee said that he would speak with Sarah Ryan from the Seneca County Health Dept. about posting the property and having it boarded up.

### **New Business:**

Angel asked the board to consider accepting debit/credit cards as a form of payment for all purchases through the town hall, such as water/sewer bills, hunting and fishing licenses, etc... She explained the cost of protesting a bad check and the loss of interest by not having the money in the account. She also discussed the cost of certified letters and the convenience for those that live out of town a lot of the year. The main office has had many requests for debit/credit card payments, especially birth certificates needed quickly for passports. The board later passed a resolution accepting this.

### **Resolutions:**

- 43-05 Verification of Payables  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously
- 44-05 VFW Bingo License  
Motioned: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Seconded: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Carried Unanimously
- 45-05 RVFD Bingo License  
Motioned: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously

- 46-05 Accept Debit/Credit Cards for Payment  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall  
Carried Unanimously
- 47-05 911 Signs Mandatory  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Carried Unanimously
- 48-05 Re-Open Cayuga Lake Road  
Motioned: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously
- 49-05 Approve the Repairs to Sidewalks in the Hamlet of Romulus  
Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall  
Seconded: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Carried Unanimously
- 50-05 Fourteen Day Notice to Remove Mobile Home  
Motioned: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously
- 51-05 Authorize Planning and Zoning Members To Attend One or Both Classes  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall  
Carried Unanimously
- 52-05 Authorize Supervisor to Send Letter Requesting Snow Removal Increase  
Motioned: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously
- 53-05 Accept Letter of Resignation  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Supervisor David Kaiser  
Carried Unanimously (out of respect for S. William Ritchie)

### **Town Clerk's Report**

- a. Monthly Report – See Attached
- b. Accept Town Clerk Report  
Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie  
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously

**Next town Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.**

Adjourn Meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Motioned: Councilman S. William Ritchie

Seconded: Councilman Robert Duke Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

June 15, 2005

Angel J. Lawrence, Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Romulus