

**The Regular Town Board Meeting
January 24, 2007**

Call to Order: Supervisor David Kaiser called the Regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Supervisor David Kaiser	Present
Councilman Robert Gerlach	Present
Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.	Present
Councilwoman Barbara McCall	Present
Councilman Kyle Collinsworth	Present

Others Present:

- Town Clerk, Terry Smith
- Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson
- Planning Board Chairman, David Hayes
- Water Commissioner, Jack Holley
- Ovid Gazette, Neil Chaffee
- Finger Lakes Times, Brian Lothridge
- Residents 10

Approval of Minutes: December 20, 2006 Regular Town Board Meeting and Closeout Meeting:

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.
Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Carried Unanimously.

January 3, 2007 – Reorganization Meeting

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.
Carried Unanimously

Petitioners to the Board: Lynn Snedaker – Sned Acres Mr. Snedaker came before the Board seeking permission to build a motel in the Town of Romulus. I have emailed Dave Hayes who told me that I had to bring the plan before the Town Board. The snag we have run into is that we apparently are running a camp ground and we are zoned agricultural. We are running the camp ground on a special permit. According to the zoning of agricultural, we need to change the zoning to put in a motel. We will have to change the agricultural to remove that from not allowed or not permitted to use special permit or permit required. The process has to start with the Town Board because it is a request from a resident. If the Town Board requests the planning Board to look at it, then we will go ahead and file the paper work, hold the hearings to change it to whatever. The Planning Board is looking for an approval from the Board this evening to ask the Planning Board to go ahead and investigate the changing of the Town's Zoning Law for that purpose. We need to change it to say that anything in it

that is zoned agricultural could have a motel with either a special use permit or just a regular permit. You could change to zoning to Lake Shore residential and residential could have that kind of business in it. The object is to keep it as much agricultural as possible so that everyone does not put in a motel etc in any field. The best thing is to change the area that the petitioner lives in and keep the rest agricultural. A motion was made by Councilman Robert Gerlach to look into rezoning the Lake Shore residential to be able to build the motel. Councilman Kyle Collinsworth seconded: Carried Unanimously.

Communications to be filed:

- a. 2007 Training School Information for February 18-21, 2007 – attached
- b. Romulus Town Court will be closed Wednesday, January 31, 2007
- c. Letter from Bishop Sheen Housing – attached
- d. Annual Water Works Conference Application attached

Code Enforcement Officer - There were a couple of letters that had gone out to residents to clean up. A couple of them have complied and a couple we are still waiting for them to comply. We had one permit on the W. Blaine Rd.

Planning Board's Report:

Minutes attached. The Public Hearing got changed from the 22nd of January to the 12th of February, 2007. It is the special use permit for Bio Fuels.

Zoning Board Report No Meeting held.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Agreement to spend town highway funds. Attached.
The salt should be here January 25, 2007. The new truck has really cut down on the sand routes. All equipment is working fine. The new truck will cut down on overtime. Mr. Williamson has supplied the agreement to spend highway funds which is done every year. This is standard procedure required by law. I gave everyone a copy of the cost of plowing County Roads. We met as highway Superintendents. The group that plows the County Roads. We came up with a formula and figured up how many times we could plow the county road with the money that we get. I summarized everything with the amount of hours and the stuff we spend pushing back in the snowing blowing areas. The county manager has requested of all the towns to supply a cost analysis of what it costs the town to plow county roads. Not all towns plow the county roads. Romulus is one of the few that do. We do not believe we have been reimbursed fairly or adequately. This is been brought up at Supervisor's meetings several times. The county manager has requested us to supply the information so that the 2008 county budget that number can be ad-

justed. M r. Williamson and the other highway Superintendents met and have formed a uniform pricing schedule so that all towns are presenting the same formula. For the men working, we did not use overtime. For wages of the men, we used regular time and the number of men working. Depending on the number of men working and what the pay scale was in that particular town, it would change the level.

Dog Control Officer's Report

Monthly Report Attached.

Bookkeeper's Report – Attached

The books are balanced to date. Copies of all trial balances have been given to the Board members. The 2006 books have been finalized. The 2007 books have been opened.

Water Commissioner's Report

Water Conference Request – attached.

Currently, we have no problems. We are trying to do service work in the shop.

Supervisor's Report – State of the town Address – Attached:

Foremost on the agenda will be to continue economic development, as exemplified in such projects as Empire Biofuels. I cannot stress enough the importance of what this ethanol facility means to our local economy. We need the jobs that will be generated.

In addition to bringing jobs to the area, we have to continue to do what we can to lower the property tax burden. 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. 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.

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. 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. The Town of Romulus takes very seriously the needs of the former depots' wildlife.

Along with our South County partners, the Towns of Ovid, Varick and Fayette, the villages of Ovid and Lodi, 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 water costs for the long term.

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

However, with assistance of Senator Mike Nozzolio, \$12,600.00 has been awarded for the demolition and removal of the house in the hamlet of Romulus that was the scend of a fatal house fire involving the family of Eric Parsons. After the property is cleaned up, the Town and County will take steps to turn it into a productive e 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. 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 projects are being funded in large part by grants that we were successful in obtaining through the Cayuga Lake Watershed program.

First and Prospect Streets in the Hamlet of Willard will see continued street work with new pavement on continued infrastructure improvements.

Our sidewalk revitalization program got off to a great start in 2006 and will continue to proceed in 2007. 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 without tax dollars.

Our hamlet welcome signs are erected and seem to be appreciated. 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. I am very grateful to the Tows 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.

Committees Report - None

Personnel Committees has chosen 3 finalists for the job of Code Enforcement Officer. Our final decision with be made on Wednesday the 31st of January, 2007 at 10:00 AM. We will give our recommendation to the Board and vote on it next month.

Old Business – Resident Lee Hoagland asked if there was a time frame for the destruction of the Parson’s house. The town of Romulus received the grant but Seneca County owns the building. We will have to see what the mechanism will be to tear down their building and use our funds without transferring the property over to the Town of Romulus.

New Business – None

Resolutions:

6-07 Authorize Water Department Employees to Attend Conference

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

7-07 Authorize Town Clerk to Advertise for a Public Hearing for the
Planning Board to meet Monday, February 12, 2007 at 7:00 PM

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

8-07 Tax Collector's Books

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

09-07 Town Clerk's Books and Reports

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

10-07 Supervisor's Books

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

11-07 Judge's Books

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

12-07 Verification of Payables

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

13-07 Bishop Sheen's Letter of Support

Motioned; Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's Report

Monthly Report attached.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn
Seconded; Councilman Robert Gerlach
Carried Unanimously