

**Town Board Meeting
November 28, 2007**

Call to Order: The regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor David Kaiser at 7:30 PM.

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

Others Present: Terry Smith, Town Clerk
Barry Roach, Planning Board Chairman
Jack Holley, Water Commissioner
Paulette Likoudis, Finger Lakes Times
Ovid Gazette, Neil Chaffee
Residents 5

Pledge of Allegiance: followed by moment of silence.

Public Hearing – Wood Burning Boilers – Opened at 7:32 PM.

We have Jason and Matt Martin here this evening to give us a presentation of the other side of the issue about Outdoor Wood Burning Furnaces. Mr. Martin thanked the Town of Romulus for inviting them here. One of the biggest deals that has come up in the last few years is emissions. The EPA has become involved. In 1995 the EPA conducted testing of outdoor wood furnaces, including a Central Boiler OWF. The US EPA test report states that “Compared to a wide range of residential heating options, these furnaces’ emissions were of the same order as other stick wood burning appliances.” Since then, EPA has developed the OWHH (Outdoor Wood-fired Hydronic Heater) Phase 1 Program. This is the first program that has ever been developed for this class of wood heating appliance. One of the things they have done is standardize the testing. So far this program is voluntary. We sell the Central Boiler which started manufacturing stove in 1984 and retailing in 1985. The past two year they have been working with the EPA on the regulations. Central Boiler has developed a new stove called the E – Classic that does meet the Phase 1 test guidelines that were set up by EPA. The EPA has come up with a hang tag that will be on all stoves that are in compliance. This hang tag will appear with every outdoor furnace that meets the EPA’s OWHH Phase 1 program requirements. There is also a permanent label affixed to the furnace. The product is free standing, self contained, outdoor appliance, standing away from the building, pipes the hot water into the house that you hook in to your heat exchangers for the forced air or radiant heat which ever you have. It has a natural draft that comes in the front door and goes across the fire. Smoke exits out the Back of the Chimney. A few things that make it where they are getting their efficiency from is the ripple top

for one. This creates circulation near the smoke that so it re-burns. The other thing that really helps with the efficiency is the heat lock baffle. This traps the hot gases at the top of the fire where you have the most heat so a lot of the smoke actually re-burns before it exits out the chimney. They are equipped with dual ready option with a fuel oil gun in the side with propane fuel oil or natural gas. You may put those guns in so if you go away for a week, you would not need to burn wood. The stove is outside with the water pump underground which comes into the house. It may be hooked up to a domestic hot water heater to heat the hot water. From there it goes into a heat exchanger and forced air plenum. A standard thermostat in your house controls your fan just like it always has. When the fan turns on it blows the air into this hot heat exchanger. They come standard with 2 sections of Chimney. There is not limit how high the chimney may go but it does have to be braced. They recommend that if you go further than 3 sections you start bracing from there on up. The furnace should be located no less than 100 feet from any residence not serviced by the furnace. If you are located within 100 feet to 300 feet of any residence not serviced by the furnace, it is recommended that the stack be at least 2 feet higher than the peak of that residence. Be considerate of neighbors when operating your furnace. If you use your furnace in the summer months, be certain your chimney exhaust is not adversely neighbors with open windows. For safety purposes, outdoor furnaces remove the threat of devastating chimney fires and dangerous carbon monoxide buildup or the oxygen depletion associated with burning wood indoors. Home fires caused by indoor wood stoves have claimed many lives. Over the period of 1980-1998, indoor wood burning was responsible for 1,541,800 fires; \$1.024 billion in property losses; and 3275 deaths. There is a reason the insurance companies have a rider or increased risk premium added to home with indoor wood stoves.

Efficient use is seasoned wood. It provides better combustion and more BTU's available per pound.

You should load at regular intervals. It give a better controlled combustion rate, better drafting, more efficient burn and load proper amount of wood for heat demand. Only burn the fuels recommended by the manufacturer.

Never burn Garbage. Chlorides and sulfurous gases can be produced from combustion of plastics and other materials and combined with moisture released from the wood combustion process can produce hydrochloric and sulfuric acids. Not only is this bad for the environment, this will create extensive corrosion and failure of wood heating appliances.

These OWF reduces demand on electrical infrastructure and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. It is a reliable energy source. Wood is renewable, inexpensive and often free vs. conventional sources (fuel oil, propane, natural gas, electricity etc.). It reduces energy cost. Consumers report healthier indoor air quality. More home safety and increased comfort level in home.

Outdoor wood furnaces are not a new source of emissions. The majority of OWFs installed replace one or multiple existing wood stoves and fireplaces. Most commonly is a non certified wood heater.

Central Boiler Supports responsible wood Burning. They educate dealers and customers about proper installation of OWFs. They work with local regulators to craft proper and reasonable regulations. They work with ASTM to develop industry standards for testing emissions and efficiency. Central Boiler also is working with US EPA to develop voluntary emission program. Central Boiler supports responsible regulations such as proper set backs from property lines and neighboring residences as well as proper chimney heights for best burn practices. They have come up with developed a web site www.outdoorfurnacefacts.com. They have different EPA reports relative to the outdoor furnace industry, air tests, sample ordinance that they have come up with and other independent tests that are the results are posted on that web site.

A questions was asked “When you get called out to do an installation and go into a Hamlet of Romulus or Hamlet of Willard residential area, and you are trying to sell a customer a boiler, are all the set backs in consideration? Do you tell somebody this isn’t the area for this deal because of the closeness? The answer given is “that doesn’t happen very often because a lot of the people that are buying these have their own wooded lots. It is not cost effective to buy the wood.” Where a lot of these boilers are going are to people that have farms and wooded lots. They also have wood pellets and corn furnaces which are totally different. Barry Roach stated that the Planning Board had made their pitch at a previous meeting and we have a proposed Draft for permitting outdoor wood burning furnaces and it includes many of the things that have been presented here including the set backs, distance from other residences and we are basically saying by this is that you cannot burn trash or foreign objects treated lumber. It includes things that would be noxious in the air that would cause other people around to experience difficulty. We are proposing that they be permitted but there are certain zones that we did not think they should be such as close residential areas. We have residential zones in our plans, but, in rural areas where the set backs may be observed, and will not interfere and operated according to the manufacturers specifications, we don’t see a problem. Barry Roach thanked Matt Martin for coming and enlightening us on the OWFs.

Resident Bill Bowen checked with 4 different insurance companies whether it would make a difference with your fire insurance on being an outside or inside wood stove and at this time it does not make any difference.

The Public Hearing was closed by Supervisor Kaiser at 8:16 PM.

Approval of Minutes

- A. October 17, 2007 – Regular Town Board Meeting Public Hearing
 - Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
 - Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
 - Carried Unanimously
- B. October 24, 2007 – Special Town Board Meeting Public Hearing
 - Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
 - Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
 - Carried Unanimously

Petitioners to the Board:

Martin Sales & Service Representative
Spoke at the Public Hearing along with slides and full presentation of Outdoor Wood Boilers.

Correspondences:

- A. Robert Allen Esq. – Re: Lakeshore Landing, Sections 2 Subdivison
 - i. Letter to the Town of Romulus - attached
 - ii. Letter to Michael Mirras, Esq. - attached
- B. Catherine Ardoline Foil Request – Taken Care of and return letter attached.
- C. Sampson Air Force Base – Veterans Cemetery – attached
- D. Association of Town’s Training School and Annual Meeting – attached
- E. NYMIR (New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal)
 - i. Bus Stop Endorsement - Attached
 - ii. Bus Stop Damage & Deductible Notice - attached
 - iii. Proposed Rate Adjustments for 2008 - attached
- F. State of NY Division of Criminal Justice – Romulus Court in Compliance - attached
- G. Response to Residents Inquiry Regarding Ownership of Sidewalks – attached
- H. Request for Martin Sales & Service to Attend Meeting with Information - attached
- I. Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Coverage Changes - attached
- J. Verizon Discount for State & Local Government Employees - attached
- K. Thank you Letter to the Honorable Justice Henry Brown - attached
- L. Thank you card from Barbara Gerlach - attached

Code Enforcement Officer’s Report - Attached

Four permits were issued in the Month of November 2007.

Town Planning Board Minutes – Attached.

- A. Town of Varick SEQR Notification- Notice of Intent to Establish Lead Agency - Attached

- B. Our Planning board has been looking at the comprehensive Plan. We need to update our comprehensive Plan for the town of Romulus. We have an outside consultant come talk to us and give us a presentation. He gave us a map of what an update of what a comprehensive plan would look like. Basically, it is taking a look at the whole area covered by the town along with the present zones that we have established. This is to see if they are still valid or if there should be changes made. The Planning Board feels that we really should put some effort into updating our comprehensive plan. Other towns have updated their plans which took about 2 years to do. They received a grant through our Assemblyman Brian Kolb and hired a firm to help them do it. The expense was in excess of \$50,000.00. The consultants basically gather data. They do questionnaires, focus groups and public hearings. It is a bottoms up unity involvement to find out what we have and what we would like to see and

what Town of Romulus should look like in ten or fifteen years. Updating our current comprehensive plan would cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000. We need to get a grant to do that. The process would take approximately 1 to 1-1/2 years to do that. We will be working with Peter Brown at the County level. Supervisor Kaiser suggested that a meeting be scheduled with Peter Brown at the Town Hall in Romulus and talk in more detail to him.

County Planning Board

- A. Agenda November 8, 2007.
- B. Minutes – October 11, 2007
- C. Docks & Moorings Meeting Minutes - attached

Highway Superintendent's Report – Attached

- A. Romulus Central School Snow Removal Contract - attached
- B. Estimate for run a crush on Beaujon Road – Next month

Dog Control Officer's Report – Attached – Very Busy

- A. Lollypop Farm Contract - attached

Assessor's Report - None

Water Commissioner's Report

- A. Seneca County Health Department Annual Report – Attached
 - i. Romulus/Varick Joint Water District
 - ii. Willard Water District

We would like to replace a pick up truck. We need to advertise locally. To dispose of the truck, normally we take them to Palmyra in the Spring but at this time of year, we would like to advertise it locally first. If we don't get a decent price, we do not need to take that price. Councilman Collinsworth has agreed to work with use and possibly take it to Waverly, NY to a truck auction as the next step. Resolution #78-07 will cover this.

The County Sewer District has purchased a sewer cleaning machine so that the towns that are in that sewer district will be able to use the machine without cost. In the past we have had to hire Brewer's Construction and this should be some savings to us.

Bookkeeper's Report – Attached

Books are balanced to date and copies have been given to all the Board members.

Supervisor's Report – Nothing to add tonight.

Committee's Report – None

Old Business

- A. Four Wheeler Regulations- Highway Superintendent Williamson has brought forth some discussions for 4 wheelers. Our town Attorney said that the

examples we were given from up North in a township that allows 4 wheelers, specifically states that it will be used for transporting yourself to get to a state park. The law was not designed to be just for open roads for 4 wheelers to use for recreation. Our attorney recommends that we do not open the roads for 4 wheeler traffic.

New Business

A. Reorganization meeting to be held January 3, 2008@ 9:00 AM.

Resolutions:

78-07 Advertise Accepting Bids for S1050 Pickup Truck

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

79-07 Town Mandates Fingerprint Records for Court Officials

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Discussion: Question asked, " Did this only pertain to two people?"

Answer "Yes"

Carried Unanimously

80-07 Budget Appropriation Transfers

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Kyle Collinworth

Carried Unanimously

81-07 Verification of Payables

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

82-07 Full Time Employees will be given option between two Health Insurance Plans

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Discussion: Question – " Will the coverage be as good?" Answer, "it will cost less but the coverage should remain almost the same."

Carried Unanimously

83-07 Authorize Supervisor to Execute consent form for the Town of Varick

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

84-07 Authorize Supervisor to Execute Snow Removal Contract with Romulus
Central School

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

85-07 Authorize Supervisor to Execute Contract with the Humane Society

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's Report – Attached

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment: The next meeting will be on December 19, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: at 9:05 PM.

Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinworth

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously