

**REGULAR ROMULUS TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 17, 2015**

Call to Order – The Romulus Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor David Kaiser at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call -	Supervisor David Kaiser	Present
	Councilman Robert Gerlach	Present
	Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.	Present
	Councilwoman Theresa Jackson	Absent
	Councilman Kyle Collinsworth	Absent

Others Present:           Town Clerk – Terry Smith  
                                  Planning Board Vice Chairman, William Karlsen  
                                  Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson  
                                  Water District Supervisor, Robert Stapleton  
                                  Town Attorney, Steven Getman

Pledge of allegiance. Followed by moment of silence. Supervisor Kaiser asked that we remember Debra Horton, wife of Varick Councilman Horton who passed away this weekend in car accident and Romulus Town Councilwoman Theresa Jackson who needs our thoughts and prayers to get well.

Public Hearing

Proposed Local Law no. A of the Year 2015:  
Motioned by Councilman Robert Gerlach to open Public Hearing.  
Seconded by Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Motioned Carried Unanimously

Supervisor Kaiser asked if anyone would like to comment on the New Local Law 1 to Eliminate the elected position of Superintendent of Highways and replace it with an appointed position of Superintendent of Highways of Town of Romulus. Resident Mary Anne Kowalski spoke in favor Local Law to make the Highway Superintendent an appointed position. Ms. Kowalski said, "I think it would be a way to make the Superintendent more accountability on the part of the Highway Superintendent." Resident Jane Brauning spoke asking "Do we have a criteria about how we are going to appoint the person?" Supervisor responded that we have set forth in the proposed law the qualifications that would be required of somebody who would be interested in being appointed. They will have to have knowledge of equipment etc. The law itself, if we act on it tonight and move that way, will go on the ballot this fall as a referendum and be voted up or down by the voters.

Resident Paul Doyle said that he was also in support of the proposed law to change this position. "I think that your intention is to have a full time position for someone who would be working. The

current position has a minimum number of hours that required the kind of services a Highway Superintendent or a position has like that. It seems to me that they need to have extended work hour, work year and on top of that, services if you take a look at the rain, flooding and all the other stuff we have had over the past few years. Obviously, those are the responsibilities that they Highway Superintendent gets involved in. Otherwise, it almost becomes an overtime position opposed to a straight salaried position. This kind of position would probably require the person to have some level of expertise that would go thru the Civil Service Commission in terms of a person having to take a test with minimal qualifications and they would have selected group that they could pick from. I think it make a lot of sense and I think it is working in the right direction.”

Resident Jim Bromka stood and said” I think it is important for the employee to be accountable to the employer.

Supervisor Kaiser asked if anyone else would like to speak. Having no more responses, Supervisor Kaiser asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Motioned by Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded by Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was closed at 7:40 PM.

#### Petitioner to the Board

Ken Reimer – Mr. Reimer was approached by some residents in the Route 89 Area, Poplar Beach regarding public water. We have visited this several times over the past few years. This year it seems to be more severe than ever. Mr. Reimer has had approximately 15 people tell him horror stories that they were out of water for six weeks. At this particular time, with the flooding of the Lake, people are drawing water from the lake and they cannot purify it. A group of citizens got together and we got approximately 54 signatures of people that are interested in public water down the Route 89 corridor. That would represent about 75 plus services because if you own multiple residences you can only vote once. Example – Toro Run will have approximately 11 residences and they will only be able to vote once. We are asking you to please go forward and get engineering firm in line, contact your attorney and see if we can indeed create a water district. The map is highlighted where the residences are so you may plainly see that there is quite a bit of interest and a definite pattern where the interest is. Mr. Reimer would like to volunteer his services to work with the Board and the engineer, and attorney and whoever else. He is not affiliated with any entities. He is just a home owner down there. He is not an elected official so he can remain pretty much unbiased. Mr. Reimer asked the Town Board to again venture forth on a new water District.

Supervisor Kaiser said the Board would have to take a look at this project again.

This is a formal petition to the Board to start this process. We do have an engineering firm, Clough Harbor Engineers, on contract to review engineering projects.

Chuck Bosman – A Councilmen for the Town of Covert brought to our attention a report that was put forth by the IDA as required by the state when they approved LOGO. Even with court challenges, there is still a good chance we will still have LOGO. If this program goes through, it will have a tremendous effect on the area and we wanted to make sure that everybody would get their fair share. We looked at this plan very carefully. Basically, the LOGO Casino was approved by the New York State Gambling Commission. They were hired by the

State Commission to hire someone to do a benefit cost analysis. They hired a company by the name of Shepstone Management Company. It detailed some of the facilities that we are going to have there. Basically a 8700 square foot building, Casino – 85 tables, 2000 slot machines, 208 rooms, restaurant, lounge, saloon. The gross revenue would be approximately \$238.7 Million dollars. There will be 2500 direct 1257 non direct jobs. \$138 million dollars in labor costs, 1200 full time and 600 part time jobs. A ¼ of those jobs would be new households in the county. Property taxes would increase. Sales taxes would also be sizably increased. Quite a few more businesses would be in. Possibly a strip mall, stores, gas stations, etc. All of this would bring additional sale tax to the county and the state. Nothing was said about towns, villages, or schools. The cost ratio turned out to be 50-1. Unfortunately, this would not be distributed to all areas of the County. The southern end of the county is the worst depressed section and will not see a significant amount. I looked at 56 counties in NY State and 42 of them distribute sale tax in one form or another to towns, cities and villages. There are 16 counties in the Finger Lakes and only 2 counties don't distribute money to their schools (Yates & Seneca). For examples – Tompkins County – distributes 30 percent of their sales tax revenue to its towns and villages. Last year in the Trumansburg Village budget, they budgeted \$350,000.00 distributed from the sales tax. And in addition, the Town of Ulysses, budgeted \$209,000.00. In 2016, will retain 100% of its base year (2014) and 50% of the new revenue. The other 2016 taxes would be distributed as follows: 25% of the tax revenue would be distributed to 10 towns that make up Seneca County. 15% for the school districts, based on population. 10 % to the 4 villages.

Approval of Minutes:

May 20, 2015

Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

Communications: - Attached

- a. Time Warner Cable
- b. NYS Dept. of Taxation & Finance
- c. Seneca Lake Watershed
- d. Seneca Lake Watershed Bylaws
- e. Local Planning and Zoning Officials Training Workshop
- f. Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council – Floodplain Mgmt. Trng.
- g. Association of Towns - Planning and Zoning Summer Schools – Registration Forms
- h. Cayuga County Planning Board

Code Enforcement Officer

None this month

Romulus Planning Board

Seneca County Planning Board Agenda – June 11, 2015

Seneca County Planning Board Minutes May 14, 2015

Town of Romulus - Planning Board Minutes – June 1, 2015 DRAFT

Town of Romulus – Planning Board Minutes – May 4, 2015 Final

June first meeting – Business moved in to be part of the Seneca Ag Park. They process animal fat.

John Caruso – Citiva spoke to us about coming to Depot. He explained there will be 24 hours of Security, 4 dispensaries, and nothing that can be smoked. Its all in liquid or pill form.

Akron Products bought out the Seneca BioEnergy facility. It will be operating under a new name, Seneca Ag Park. Seneca BioEnergy is now their tenant and is still in operation there.

#### Zoning Board

None this month

#### Highway Report

Report attached –A request was recieved for a Poplar Beach Rd block Party. The nature of the road is on a steep hill and not safe. Jim would like the road to be marked for local traffic only instead.

Drain pipe hole on Main Street Romulus can be filled. Up to home owner to do so.

#### Dog Control Officer

None this month.

#### Water Department

Report Attached

April Master Meter Totals – Willard Water District 840.00 gallons/28000 daily average gallons

Romulus Water District 1,011,900 gallons/33,770 daily average gallons

May Master Meter Totals – Willard Water District 830,000 gallons/daily average 26,774

Gallons – Romulus water District 1,089,800 gallons/daily average 35,154 gallons

Both Districts all sample draws are current. 2 water main leaks 5/8/15 and 6/11/15 repaired.

NYSDOH month reports – May reports have been completed and sent to DOH.

Service truck transmission cooler leak – replaced

Fire hydrant flushing started flushing the Willard District last week rest is scheduled for Friday June 19, 2015.

Romulus sewer District – manhole #5 near north property line of Seneca Community Church Main Street appears to have been covered during construct of church – will be conducting Exploratory dig to locate manhole this Friday, June 19,2015.

Scrap metal – scrap brass to Champions scrapyard Lodi, brass – \$406.50/fire hydrants -

Unknown at this time as they were scraped by the Highway Dept.

Water/Sewer District – back lots sewer main right-of-way clearing, requested price proposals from Finger Lake Forest Management, Lodi, D.C.Rauscher Inc. Waterloo and Teed's Tree Service, Phelps. Received price proposals from Finger Lakes forest Management and D. C. Rauscher Inc.

#### Bookkeeper

Report Attached – Work being done on the building. Doors for side of Municipal Building will be put in soon.

Will be starting new budget for next year.

We are still receiving delinquent water/sewer payments.

Hallway and bathrooms are painted at this time and we will keep adding a couple of rooms each few days.

Next water/sewer bill will be out by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2015.

Supervisor –

I have gotten several calls on the house on Main Street Willard that had the house fire. We are having a hard time getting hold of the owner. It is owned by a bank and these banks are making themselves hard to find. The County Codes Department provided a bank phone number in Dallas, Texas. I called that number only to have them tell me that they sold the mortgage to a bank out of North Carolina. I then called North Carolina. I went through the menu and when I got to the last item on the menu, I got disconnected. I was not able to talk to a person. By Law, we have to send a certified letter to the bank notifying them of the condition of the building and property. After that, we will have it mowed put the associated costs on the property tax bill. As for the building itself, it is being handled by the County Codes Department.

New Business – Supervisor Kaiser would like to get approval authorizing the Board to get bids for siding for the building.

Resolutions

50-15 Verification of Payables

Motioned by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

51-15 Resolution of the Town Board of Romulus, New York endorsing Solar Seneca, not-for-profit, in its efforts to solarize Romulus

Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

52-15 Ovid VFW Post 6200 – Bingo Renewal License #622

Motioned by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

53-15 Project Proposal for Town of Romulus Water/Sewer Department

Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded by Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

54-15 Resolution adopting Proposed Local law No. A of the year 2015

Subject To A Mandatory Referendum:

Motioned by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

55-15 Seneca County Logo Resort And Casino Cost/Benefit Ratio for all of Seneca County

Motioned by: Supervisor David Kaiser

Seconded by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously.

56-15 Advertise for bids for siding for the Town Hall.  
Moted by: Councilman Robert Gerlach  
Secoded by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's Report

May 31, 2015

Moted by: Councilman Robert Gerlach  
Secoded by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

Moted by: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.  
Secoded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach  
Carried Unanimously