

**Regular Town Board Meeting
February 21, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Town Board was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor David Kaiser.

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
- Planning Board Chairman, David Hayes
- Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson
- Water Commissioner, Jack Holley
- Ovid Gazette, Neil Chaffee
- Finger Lakes Times Brian Lothridge
- Residents 7

Pledge of Allegiance – followed by moment of silence. Supervisor Kaiser asked that we remember Daniel McDonald who passed away last week.

Public Hearing – Regarding the Snow Removal Local Law.

The Public hearing was opened at 7:38 PM by Supervisor David Kaiser. Nobody spoke in behalf of the Snow Removal Local Law. Supervisor Kaiser said there are some changes to be made to this law. Section 3-a – instead of being a warning ticket, it should say “On first day of offense will be issued a warning”. On section 3-c, Third day, it will be towed at owner’s expense and not to be released until all fees have been paid (remove “to the court”). In section 4 on the second sentence, it should read “Such owner or person in charge of the vehicle may redeem the same upon payment in the amount of all expenses actually and necessarily incurred in effecting such removal together with any charges for storage”.

There are exceptions to the law to drivers that do not have driveways or places to park their cars. Also, exemption for a business that stays open later than 12:00 AM.

It will be extended to 2:30 AM.

The Public hearing was closed at 7:50 PM by Supervisor Kaiser.

Approval of Minutes – January 24, 2007 – Regular Town Board Meeting and Closeout Meeting

Motioned: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

Petitioner's to the Board – None

If you want to speak to the Board as a Petitioner, you must be register for such Friday before the board Meeting.

Communications to be filed:

- a. County Planning board report and resolution regarding the special use permit requested by Empire Green Biofuels. Attached
- b. Notice of Public Hearing to be held at Romulus Town Hall on March 15th 2007 at 10:00 am regarding Empire Green Biofuels, Inc. The Town of Varick will be at 11:30 AM.
- c. Empire State Development information regarding upcoming 2010 census. When the 2000 census was conducted, the Town of Romulus missed by a month or so the opening of some populated areas of the town such as Five Points Correctional Facility and Willard Drug Treatment Center and Spring Meadows. These areas did not make the count. Our Town did our own count and felt that they miscounted the Amish population as well. It is believed that the Town of Romulus could have been credited with enough increase in population that it would have forced a recalculation of the weighted vote in the county. Almost to a point where Romulus would have been given two supervisors, a Supervisor for the Town and a Supervisor at Large on the Board of Supervisors. We would have to come up with \$30,000.00 to recount.
- d. Seneca Transit Service, Inc. offer to attend meeting to answer questions. Want to obtain another Bus Station enclosure.
- e. Time Warner Cable regarding removing another station.
- f. Lollypop Farm advising of new \$25.00 admission fee payable upon entry and they will no long offer a billing option.
- g. Certificate of Completion was issued for the Community Development Block Grant. We have the \$400,000.00 freed up so that the Town of Romulus can make use of these funds for development.
- h. NYS Dept. of State notification to Town of their success in obtaining a Waterfront Revitalization Grant. Tom Bouchard worked very hard to apply for a Waterfront revitalization Grant. The grant was successful for \$11,200.00. The Board thanks Mr. Bouchard for all his hard work.
- i. NYS Town Clerk's Association Conference Registration Form.
- j. Letter of concerns from Lakeshore Landing Board of Directors. These are some of the concerns of the Lakeshore Landing residents.

Code Enforcement Report - No Report

Planning Board's Report - Minutes attached.

Zoning Board Report – No meeting held this month.

Highway Superintendent's Report – Minutes attached. The plans for the old dump are

that it will go to the Palmyra Auction in May 2007. The mailbox that is in the Highway report is being replaced by a mailbox that a former resident had and the new owners did not want so we will be putting that mailbox up for the one that was destroyed. I did forget to plow the Chamberlain Road and was contacted by the owner and we did get that all cleaned up and opened up. There are no residents or animals there but the owner wanted to make sure it was clear for Fire emergencies.

Dog Control Officer's Report – Minutes attached.

Water Commissioner's Report - Everything is pretty good. We did have one small water leak in Romulus and there was nothing serious. We assisted the village of Ovid two weeks ago on a Sunday repair a water main leak.

Bookkeeper's Report – None this month.

Supervisor's Report - I would like to offer just a few remarks on another important issue affecting our towns Water Production. When the Depot started down sizing and it got near the point where it would no longer maintaining the utility infrastructure on the Depot, in regards to water and sewer, Seneca County commissioned a study to be done and to figure out what to do. In 1997, this study indicated and advised that the county should either form a water and sewer district in the south end of the county, to maintain that infrastructure or to form a county water authority. In 2000, the county Board of Supervisors opted to form a south county water district and an additional south county sewer district. That water district and that one sewer district were to be in charge of the maintenance of the water and sewer that the Army was in charge of when they were active on the Depot. The County had already formed a sewer district with the plant that is located here in the Hamlet of Willard that serves the sewerage needs of the Hamlet of Willard, the Village of Lodi, and the Village of Ovid. That has always been known as Sewer District 1. Sewer District 2 which incorporates the Depot, was formed in 2001. Before the Board decided which way to go, the County Board needed a quick fix to keep the water flowing to the users that were served by the former Army infrastructure. As a quick fix, they opted to form limited size lines from the Village of Waterloo Treatment Plant in Fayette, through the town of Fayette and the Town of Varick into the existing pumping station down at Lake Shore Landing on Seneca Lake. At that time, Lake Shore landing was officer housing. Since then, it has been turned over to public use and is a growing community, a great asset to the Town of Romulus. South Seneca Water District 1 is governed by Board of Directors made up of Supervisors from the towns of Fayette, Varick, Romulus and Ovid and the mayors of the Villages of Ovid and Lodi. The water is sold to the Town of Varick. It passes through Varick. Varick sells the water to Seneca County Water District #1. From the intake plant, it is pumped up to a million gallon reservoir on the Depot. From there it is distributed to a large water tower at Five Points Correctional Facility and another water tower at Hillside Children's Center.

From there it serves the Hamlet of Romulus, Lake Shore Landing, Spring Meadows Housing Project, Sampson State Park and any place on the Depot That receives water from that infrastructure. The District was formed shortly after that quick fix was instituted in the year 2000. Since then, the Board has been getting on its feet, getting organized to the point that in 2004 there was an engineering study done by an engineer from Skaneateles to do a feasibility study on opening up the intakes to produce our own drinking water. The study came back showing that we could produce our own water much cheaper than what we were purchasing from the Town of Varick via the Village of Waterloo. We authorized a follow up study from O'Brien and Gere to verify those findings. In 2005, the O'Brien and Gere firm came back and confirmed those earlier findings. The first year, the average annual savings per user in the South Water District #1, will be \$132.00. The fact is that the District can produce its own water supply for itself at a much lower cost. This past Tuesday, the District presented our plan to the County Board of Supervisors. It was blocked by 2 supervisors from the Town of Waterloo. Because our districts were formed by local law from the Seneca County Board of Supervisors, unfortunately for us we have to be allowed by the County Board to produce that filtration plant. Our water users should not be subsidizing the water rates from the Village of Waterloo. A Village, by charter, should only be providing the service for itself. Basically the cost of water at this time is being determined by a Village Board of Trustees with no representation of the users in the South end of the county. If the Village of Waterloo wants to be a regional water supplier, then let it pursue expanding North to willing customers. Holding southern Seneca County Hostage against its will at higher costs, is just plain wrong. The District is continuing to pursue this project and I will keep the Town Board updated on this issue.

Committees Report – None

Old Business – The County owns the property regarding the Parsons House in Romulus. We need to figure out how to take the Town's Money they received in a grant, to Tear down a house on County Property. There are a few mechanisms that need to be discussed. Another meeting will be scheduled in a couple of weeks to figure how to go about using the money to remove the house. Several environmental issues will have to be taken care of. The process may be able to begin the beginning of April 2007. At this time, it looks as though it will go back to public ownership and the school has been talking with us of maybe having a tree planting or a plaque on school playground in memory of this family.

New Business – None

Resolutions:

14-07 – Local Law 1-07 Snow Removal

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

15-07 – Increase maximum Income Eligibility of the Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collingsworth

Carried Unanimously

16-07 – Verification of Payables

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

17-07 – Authorize Town Clerk to Attend Conference

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collingsworth

Carried Unanimously

18-07 – Freedom of Information Requests

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Ralph Walborn, Jr.

Carried Unanimously

19-07 – Appointment Zoning Code Officer

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collingsworth

Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's Report

Monthly Report Attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Supervisor David Kaiser

Carried Unanimously