

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
April 15, 2009

Call to Order: The regular town board meeting 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.	Absent
	Councilwoman Barbara McCall	Present
	Councilman Kyle Collinsworth	Present

Others Present:	Town Clerk, Terry Smith	Present
	Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson	Present
	Water Department, Robert Stapleton	Present
	Planning Board Chairman, Barry Roach	Present
	Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Hayes	Absent
	Dog Control Officer, Aaron Covert	Absent
	Bookkeeper, Angel Lawrence	Present
	Residents	9

Pledge of Allegiance: followed by moment of silence. Supervisor Kaiser asked that we keep Jack Holley and Kathy Greule in our prayers. Both are recovering from recent operations.

Public Hearing:

- a. Restore New York Round 3 Grant – Mr. Fred Gaffney from the County Chamber of Commerce, gave the Chamber’s support for the redevelopment of the former Depot for the economic growth of Seneca County. They recognize “that significant rehabilitation and infrastructure improvements at the site are necessary. This site offers tremendous opportunities to diversify the county’s economic base while capitalizing on existing assets and creating numerous symbiotic relationships within the business community. The two projects identified in you grant application, Seneca BioEnergy, LLC and Top Quality Hay Processors, will support and compliment Seneca County’s leading industry, agriculture.” (Letter attached.)
 - i. Advertisement Attached. (Public Notice)

Supervisor Kaiser asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no reply, Supervisor Kaiser closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

- a. March 18, 2009 Regular Town Board Meeting
Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Carried Unanimously

Petitioners to the Board:

- a. Kenneth Riemer and James Bromka regarding Route 89 Water Project
Ken Riemer addressed the Board and audience concerning the Water & Sewer Hook up on Route 89. Mr. Riemer submitted to the Romulus Town Board the Petitions that he has gotten to establish a water district along Route 89 in the Town of Romulus, NY. This petition gives approximate number of household in district and approximate total assessment of these parcels. There are a total of 5 petitions altogether with 77 parcels on them. Mr. Reimer and 4 other residents canvassed the area. This represents over 50% of the total households that would like this project to proceed. There are some who still do not want this water project to go thru. Some of the reasons these residents would like water is a secured source of water along with the quality of water being the biggest reason for wanting water. I would like to see the Board forge forward and go ahead with the processing of a public hearing scheduled and start getting people in line so that we can catch the next group of funding which comes due in July 2009,. It sounds like a long way away but it took 3 weeks to get the petitions etc. I would encourage the board to act as quickly as possible and establish a date for the public hearing. Supervisor Kaiser said that we agreed to let everyone that is affected by this, be aware of this and let those that oppose be aware of the cost that they will have to bear if this proposal goes through. We want to make sure that we do everything correctly. Some of what has been done in the Town of Varick was not done correctly. We are going to make sure that we have the complete public outreach and that the public knows everything we submit to Rural Development is exactly right. These petitions will make it a lot stronger. We will have the Public Hearing before the June 17, 2009 meeting. We will get this done if the majority wants this and Supervisor Kaiser is sure that they do. We have the information that Mr. Reimer submitted and we will see that this is done correctly. Mr. Reimer encourages the board to act in a speedy manner. The annual cost will be between \$600-900 dollars. There may be a chance of getting the Public Hearing by the May 20th, 2009 Meeting. We could get another Special Board Meeting to do a resolution so that we can meet that meeting. Mr. Reimer will create a letter and mailed out to the new updated list of residents. Mr. Reimer said that he will have to take the next step and that would be to, since he has submitted this plan, is to force the Board to do this.
- b. Bill Jones on behalf of Sweet Water Ethanol, LLC – This Sweet Water Ethanol, LLC produces a cellulosic feedstock for the production of ethanol. The cellulosic process is totally different than the conventional corn to ethanol process that is currently being used throughout the United States. They process ensiled biomass on the farm and ship the resulting starch and sugar based concentrate to a regional fermentation facility for processing. Jerry Horton and Mike Coia are working together to develop a grant application to the Department of Energy for a pilot plant for testing and are proposing to locate this 10,000 SF Facility in Building 357 at the Seneca Army Depot. If approved, up to 10 people will be working in the facility and hundreds of

thousands of dollars will be spent on upgrading the facility. This would be a small scale pilot facility, not a commercial production operation. Sweet Water is requesting a Letter of Support from the Romulus Town Board.

Communications to be filed:

- a. Seneca BioEnergy Press Release

Assessor's Report:

- a. No Report this Month

Code Enforcement Officer:

- a. Permits issued
 - i. #6-09 5849 East Lake Road – Storage Shed
 - ii. #07-09 2001 Prospect Street – Storage Shed

Romulus Planning Board:

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes Attached.
- b. Summary of Farmland Protection Conference. Attached
- c. Docks and Moorings Meeting Attached
- d. Finger Lakes Regional Planning Training – Attached This training takes place every May.

There is a draft report for the Lakefront Visioning attached. It will be presented before the Board next month.

Romulus Zoning Board:

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes Attached.

They interviewed 5 people for positions of 1 new Zoning Board member and 2 alternates. They would like to recommend Debbie Wood from Lake Shore Landing as the full time Zoning Board member and Gordon Carroll and Warren Coon as Alternates. There is a resolution tonight for us to add these new members to the Board.

Highway Superintendent:

- a. Report Attached
- b. Highway Conference in Ithaca

The cold storage building that was built a while ago has a couple of doors that are getting bad. One can't be locked completely and part of that latch is missing. Mr. Williamson thinks he can go to Lowe's and buy the materials and build the doors. He went down to Seneca Farm and Home in Seneca Falls. They have new tracks there and all the hardware. These are sliding doors not overhead. We can buy all the hardware right there locally. He can confer with the building committee and I do think we can build them ourselves. We got an appointment with Seneca Vinyl Windows to replace the windows in the office and the bathroom in the Highway Barn. Seneca Vinyl will be replacing them in May. Mr. Williamson also submitted a proposal this evening to bid on a roller which is in our 15 year replacement plan. This has already been through the highway committee. I

talked to the State Comptroller and he said we need to bid it out because of the amount of money and there is none on state bid. There has never been any on state bid. With approval this evening, I will be sending out the bids that I have passed out to the Board. May 20, 2009 will be the date set for the opening of the bids at 3:00 PM before the Board meeting that evening.

Dog Control Officer:

- a. Report Attached
- b. Rabies Clinic Saturday, May 2nd, 2009

Water Commissioner:

- a. NY Rural Water Association Conference
- b. Finger Lakes Water Works Conference – Report attached
- c. Ken Kline Training Report & Class D

Robert Stapleton reported 2 water main breaks in Romulus. We also had a main valve line replacement March 30, 2009. We think this may have been a water surge from the Fire Department. We urged the fire department to use another hydrant. They are going to try and use the fire hydrant in front of the school which does not work as well. We have read all the meters. Ken Kline has attended the Certification class and submitted his report. Congratulations to Ken on passing his Class D license test. We have 2 conferences coming up. One in Saratoga Springs and the Finger Lakes Fluoridation Class. We had 2 assist calls for the Village of Ovid. Ovid also assisted us on one of our calls. The Seneca County Water District sent out a letter to the County Emergency Office, and the Village of Waterloo, Town of Varick to ask for cooperation to supply water to the training facility. The training facility was opened up in 2003 and at that time the previous Town Supervisor had an agreement with the county for that 10000 gallons of water which cost the residents in the district. At that time, until it could be determined what the use would be. There was a meter installed in 2004. The meter readings between 2004 and the present reads a much higher usage than that. The District Board felt they had come to ask for assistance from the other people in the water system. We are still waiting for further communications. Basically, what the District is proposing, for the record, is that the metered water at that facility, which has its own meter, that the reading could be passed on to Village of Waterloo, and the Town of Varick. That amount of water could be reduced in rate or perhaps hopefully, given as a donation to the community as a public safety issue to the District, Town of Varick who supplies water, with a surcharge in the water we can all share in providing for the facility. There is a misunderstanding on part of some of the county fireman and fire chiefs, about what the District meant by that letter. I had called up Charles McCann and talked to him extensively. I also talked to various fire chiefs in the county and made that part of the record.

Historical Society:

- a. Historical Society Building Tours
- b. Historical Society Minutes – attached.

The Willard Drug Treatment Campus Crews have been working very diligently on renovations for Museum. They have donated a good many of the materials. The Historical society is planning an open house sometime in May 2009. The Tour with the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Children's Center is on May 16, 2009 and the also want to go through the Historical Society Building. There will be a Chicken BBQ to benefit the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Children's Center.

Bookkeeper:

- a. Report Attached
- b. Town Finance School
- c. The Bookkeeper has put in a resolution pertaining to the FOIL Protocol and procedures. There has been a great deal of time spent on this lately taking a very big share of time away from normal duties.
- d. There is also another resolution put in tonight with the current water & sewer rates.

Supervisor: I would like to announce tonight that today I received word ESD (Empire State Development Corporation state agency) met this afternoon and voted to approve the reprogramming of the remaining amount of our Restore Round 2 Grant. As you know, we had \$1.5 million dollars left from Restore 2 that we were awarded back in 2007. We worked very hard with DEC in Rochester. There was a lot of work in our office with Angle Lawrence as the grant writer. There was a lot of paperwork and a lot of phone calls. I would like to thank Seneca Bio Energy. Now we can use that grant to bring power into the depot. That is the one thing the depot lacks the most. We also have an outstanding Round One Grant and that is now in the process of being saved.

Committees Report:

- a. Hernon Park – Next meeting scheduled for April 21, 2009. We have put in 2 Grant applications. One went to the Seneca County Youth Bureau which we were turned down for. The other was for Seneca Community Players and we are waiting to hear for the results.

Old Business: Supervisor Kaiser wanted to start the old business with the infamous Census remembering what the town went through in the year 2000. We did not do very well. We tried to get a recount. They reviewed our request and came back gave us a price of \$30 some odd thousand dollars to do a recount with no promises. We said yes and then they came back and said 40 thousand dollars so we chose not to do it. We were severely undercounted. The residents at Lake Shore landing were not counted, Spring Meadows in Romulus was not counted and 5 Points Correctional Facility was not counted nor half of the Willard Campus that is in the Town of Romulus was given all to Ovid. We also thought there was and incorrect counting of the Amish. Angel Lawrence and Mary Farnsworth are the registered Census reviewers for the Town of Romulus and

have gone to Rochester and spent the day reviewing information that was submitted previously on our behalf by Census. Dave Thorn headed the project and we met the gentleman that was the liaison for us and of all the addresses they went through, they missed two. We recently received an e-mail that the Census bureau will allow us to submit those last two addresses. We should have every address counted. We need to encourage people to respond to these Census people. We need to put it in the newsletter to "make sure you are counted". It affects us in aid, in home, and the Board of Supervisors. Jim Williamson also suggested that we talk to the Amish Community and make them realize how much it will mean to the County especially the South end. Two names that are mentioned that put together such accurate numbers are Joyce Nolan from emergency 911 numbers and Harriet Haynes who were very instrumental in helping to make this work. It is very important that everyone is counted and represented at all levels.

Seneca County is conducting a water symposium. We need to have had better attendance. The symposium is moving ahead. It looks like we are looking at a county wide district rather than a county wide authority. A county authority would have the power to do something that they thought was a community benefit such as opening up the water intakes at the depot. They could do that and nobody could stop them. A county wide district is controlled by the Board of Supervisors. The fear right now is anything that would cost the North End a penny more would be blocked. Anything that might make them a penny, and cost us at this end of the county, will be done whether we like it or not. We need to go to these symposiums and speak up and at least know what is being done.

About one year ago, the Town of Romulus passed a Moratorium on expanding commercial dog kennels (large scale breeding facilities). The planning board has worked very diligently for that year. We even have a sub committee working to develop a zoning mechanism to control that. They have made a lot of progress but it will not be ready by the expiration date of the Moratorium which expires the end of May. The Planning Board would like this Moratorium expanded for a period of six months. We need to schedule a Public Hearing to do this.

Supervisor Kaiser asked the Board to schedule a public hearing for the May meeting. That will be another resolution put on tonight (#38-09). Barry Roach suggested that we expand the Moratorium for one year instead of six months.

New Business:

- a. Census Information – attached The letter is notifying us that the Census takers will be knocking on your door.
- b. Mr. Collinsworth asked if anyone had any ideas about the Memorial Day Parade to come to a meeting on April 27, 2009 at 5:30 PM. Everybody is welcome to come and give ideas. We would like to make the parade a little bit more than what it has been in the past. The meeting will take place at the Firehouse in Romulus. There will be a chicken BBQ at the Firehouse after the parade if anyone would like to help. Line up is at the School North Parking Lot if you want to be in the parade at 9:00 AM on the 25th of May 2009.

- c. We will be getting our \$25,000 for the sidewalk on the other side of Main Street in Romulus to be done. This is an ongoing program and we will be going through all the Hamlets and bring the sidewalks up to speed.
- d. Angel Lawrence said several people have called and could like to see the Town of Romulus go back to 2 dumpster dates. Most people want the clean up in the spring. We could use our Contingency funds. We will be putting in another resolution #39-09 for the June Clean up Dumpster Days. The dates will be June 12-13, 2009. No Tires.

Resolutions:

- #24-09 Authorize Submission of Grant Application for Restore NY 3
Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Carried Unanimously
- #25-09 Reaffirm Appointment of Members to Docks & Moorings Committee
Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Carried Unanimously
- #26-09 Authorize Planning and Zoning Board Members to Attend Training
Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Carried Unanimously
- #27-09 Authorize Highway Superintendent to Attend Highway School
Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Seconded: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Carried Unanimously
- #28-09 Authorize Water Department to Attend Fluoride Training
Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Carried Unanimously
- #29-09 Authorize Main Office Staff to Attend Training
Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Carried Unanimously
- #30-09 Verification of Payables
Motioned: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Carried Unanimously
- #31-09 Reinforce Understanding of Existing Water & Sewer Rates
Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Carried Unanimously
- #32-09 Protocol to Obtain Information
Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall
Discussion: In third paragraph, it should read 5 business days.

The cost that will be incurred for these records, how is it based?
According to FOIL, \$.25/ copy is the Maximum that can be charged.
Supervisor Kaiser said he talked to Frank Fisher and is you have any
FOIL Requests that requires you to put in more than 2 hours you have
right to charge per hour rate of the most paid person who has the
capability of getting that information.

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Supervisor David Kaiser

Carried Unanimously

#33-09 Authorize Water Department to Attend NY Rural Water Conference

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Carried Unanimously

#34-09 Authorize Clerk to Advertise for Public Hearing for Lakeshore Vision

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

#35-09 Advertise and Accept Bids for Used Vibratory Roller

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

#36-09 Accept Zoning Board Member Recommendations

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

#37-09 Letter of Support for Sweetwater Ethanol

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

#38-09 Clerk Authorized to Advertise for Public Hearing to
Extend One-Year Moratorium on the New Construction of
Kennels and/or Pet Breeders in the Town of Romulus

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

#39-09 Allocate Contingency Funds for the Purpose of Additional Dumpster
Days Weekend in June 2009

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's Report:

a. Report Attached

Motioned: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded; Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Carried Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Motioned: Councilwoman Barbara McCall

Seconded: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Carried Unanimously

The next meeting will be May 20, 2009 at 7:30 PM.