

AGENDA
ROMULUS TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 20, 2015

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

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

Others Present: Town Clerk, Terry Smith
Planning Board Chairman, Tom Bouchard
Planning Board Vice Chairman, William Karlsen
Planning Board Members, Mary Joslyn & Al Nivison
Highway Superintendent, Jim Williamson
Town Attorney, Steven J. Getman
Residents 12

Pledge of allegiance:

Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law No. B of the Year 2015

a. To amend the Zoning Ordinance for the Town of Romulus, Seneca County, New York
Motedioned by Councilman Robert Gerlach to open the Public Hearing at 7:45 PM.

Seconded by Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Carried Unanimously

The Public Hearing is now opened:

This is regarding to years of work put in by our Planning Board in conjunction with the Varick Town Planning Board to better clarify and co-ordinate the zoning between the two towns on the former Army Depot which occupies the towns of Varick and Romulus. The two planning boards have been working on this for the past 2 plus years. Tonight, we are here to take comments. If anyone would like to speak on this amended zoning proposal please speak. Please stand and state you name and place of residence.

Would anyone like to speak on the Zoning Proposal changes?

Motioned by Councilman Robert Gerlach to close the Public Hearing and Seconded by Councilman Kyle Collinsworth.

Carried Unanimously.

The hearing is now closed.

Petitioner to the Board

- a. Katherine Fischer – Miss Fischer thanked Supervisor Kaiser and the Town Clerk for their help the other day with problems in her flooded basement. Miss Fischer would like the Zoning for the Town of Romulus to co-ordinate with the County Zoning and also do their job and do something about J. Martin’s place because it is impacting on my brand new roof, and impacting on my quality of life. I believe in the Town’s safe there are multiple pieces of his roofing material and wood, some of which has hit me in the face on the way out my door when it has been really windy. Also, I gave some papers with information that yes we do have ordinance against obnoxious weeds. Japanese Knot weed is an obnoxious weed. It started on J.

Martin's property. He has been asked repeatedly to nicely by me, to clean it up and clean up what has spread to my property. He has not. It could become a major problem for Willard. It does block water ways and will spread all over the town. The other problem I have is in general I would like my neighborhood to be cleaner and neater and come in appliance with the Zoning. There are yards that are 20" high with grass. I had to call the town to get them to get the Highway Dept. out to my ditch repeatedly. The ditch builds up and causes the basements of 3 residences to flood. They did clean it out in the past week. None of us should have to repeatedly call to have that ditch cleaned out. The pipe is inadequate. The man that owns the property, when he does a little mowing and trimming, throws everything in the ditch. He doesn't rake the leaves he lets them blow in the ditch. I am bone weary picking up other people's trash, other people's roof shingles, and physically taking a shovel to clean out a ditch that I am not responsible for. The quality of life such as the bike race and the traffic we had last weekend in the heat, I don't appreciate being bullied in my own village or by outsiders. I don't want to call the troopers to get out of my driveway. I don't appreciate people threatening me on my own property. Supervisor Kaiser will talk to the code enforcement office about these problems. Supervisor Kaiser thought the county had taken care of this problem. Supervisor Kaiser will find out what the county did do. If a residence has not mowed, they will be notified. Supervisor Kaiser has reported the condition of the ditch to the County Highway Supervisor, Roy Gates. Supervisor Kaiser will get some answers and get back with Miss Fischer.

b. Anthony Del Plato – Seneca Solar Power

Mr. Del Plato is asking for endorsement of all four towns in southern Seneca County to enable us to get a community solar grant from New York State Energy Research and Development authority (NESERDA). The purpose of the grant is to promote solar power in these four towns. We are working with STEPS. At this point, we have the towns of Covert, Ovid and Lodi that have approved. Ovid is having a lawyer review the resolution. Covert and Lodi have approved it. Village of Interlaken and Villard of Ovid have also endorsed the resolution. We are close to having support from all the municipalities. I have a meeting with the NESERDA Representatives next week. We will review our applications and they will give us their thumbs up or down. At that point we will interview Solar Contractors and we will chose 2. We hope to bring businesses and residents together with the contractor to not only get tax benefits, but federal and state and NESERDA Grants. We are hoping that that the contractors can order enough panels that we can bring the prices down. Supervisor Kaiser said that he talked to Supervisor Reynolds and told him that he would be supportive of this plan. Supervisor Kaiser asked that he forward a copy of the resolution him and he would forward a copy of the resolution to the Town Attorney for review. Supervisor Kaiser also stated he would probably have it ready for the June Town Board Meeting, June 19, 2015.

c. Seneca Ag Park – Greg Brown

Mr. Brown's back ground is basically agriculture. I have been with Agway for 10 years. I became an Agway representative and owned and operated a few peat stores. I started a Company called Akron Ag. Products. The product blend that we are making is the reason why I am here is to ask you to take a look at zoning at the

piece of property that we are trying to acquire. It is the old Seneca Bio Energy. That is still in existence. We are going to be revising that and it will be call Seneca Ag Department. The majority of our work is in animal bedding business and it is a product that we will be introducing for dairy equine. The majority of our business will be in an agricultural setting. The grape seed oil business will still be existing and Seneca Bio will still be existing. We are going in there and setting up a complex that brings out this animal bedding both the equestrian and the dairy. There is a large need for dairy products in this region as well as western New York. There is 629000 cows in New York State and we are in the middle of it. It is nothing more than paper being processed. We are going to introduce our product line which will be all food grade anti-microbial activities to this product to help the farmers cut down on e-coili In some of the food challenges that are up in front of us. The reason why I am here today is basically have you understand what the crust of our business is. We do other Ag type businesses. The current zoning on this facility is industrial. Going forward we would like to be put under Agricultural rather than industrial. Supervisor Kaiser suggested that this be brought to the Planning Board meeting on the first meeting of the month at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes

- a. April 15, 2015
Motedioned by Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded by Kyle Collinsworth
Carried Unanimously

Communications:

- a. Time Warner Cable
- b. Time Warner Cable
- c. Time Warner Cable
- d. Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
- e. Seneca Lake Area Partners In 5 Counties – Minutes 5-4-15
- f. Department of State – 2015 Consolidated Funding Application Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Grants

Code Enforcement Officer

No Report this month.

Romulus Planning Board

- a. Seneca County Planning Board Meeting Agenda
- b. Seneca County Planning Board Minutes

Zoning Board

- a. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – April 23, 2015

Highway Report

- a. Report attached
Dumpster Days went very well. We had to call in 2 more dumpsters.
There is trouble with the Loader with the sensor.
Went to Syracuse and got a new sensor and put it in.

When I got done it started acting up again so called 5 star and they are going to send person down to check it out.

Started mowing both sides of roads. All the roads are broomed.

Maybe next year do dumpster days Monday thru Saturday and eliminate Sunday. There is no one to pull from Saturday 11:00 AM to Monday. This would spread it out. This would be a normal work day for the men at least Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday. We could get dumpsters pulled everyday by doing it that way. WE got final occupancy on tank – 100 % use of tank. The Highway agreement was signed last month.

Water Department

- a. None this month

Bookkeeper

- a. None this month

There will be a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 to discuss the prices of the International Auction. We need to discuss whether we want to accept the price. We can call special Board Meeting next week – Auction before Wednesday. Tuesday would be best day.

Old Business

- a. Proposed Local Law No. A 2015 – to eliminate elected position of Superintendent of Highways and replace it with an appointed position. Discuss the proposal that the Town Board has put forth to eliminate the position of Superintendent of Highways and replace it with an appointed position. Tonight we have pre-filed a resolution to authorize the town clerk to advertise for public hearing next month on that issue. We could talk about under discussion or we could share some thoughts now. Basically what happened was we were approached by several residents who would like to have us consider us to have an appointed public works person who isn't elected feeling that the Town Board would be more directly involved with the activities. It is the people's decision. So what we, the Board elected to do was to put it up to the people to decide whether we want to continue to with elected position or be appointed by the Town Board. Then, that person would serve the pleasure of the Board. Its up to the people. We have to introduce a local law, have to have a public hearing, which we anticipate we will schedule tonight for our June Meeting. After that Public Hearing, after taking public comments deciding to go forward, then they would adopt a local law, and that would be forwarded to the board of elections no later than August. If the Law gets passed than that supersedes the election of the individual. Then it would be the appointment of the Town Board. And there are separate requirements in the local law for Superintendent such as minimum qualifications, minimum experience with machinery. The thoughts of the Board is that you may not get someone who runs for office that will have these running equipment, doing road work. By Law, elected position for Superintendent anyone can run for it. By Appointed position, qualifications listed, they would have to have that knowledge.

Memorial Day Parade on Monday starts at 9:00 AM Line up across from school and 9:30 AM you step out to Cemetery and very nice ceremony there. Then there will be Chicken and Port BBQ at the Romulus Fire House.

- New Business - a. Seneca County Logo Resort and Casino Cost/Benefit Ratio for all of Seneca County
- I was furnished a copy of a proposal that the Town of Covert had put forth. They want A revenue sharing plan with the County for shares of the Logo Resort. If the projections Are what they say, the county stands to make a lot of revenue. This councilman have put up a plan which is filed with you guys too, to put forth to the County the Towns and the school districts to share in the revenues. Whereby the ordinance rules out the geographic benefits. Many of the counties in NYS 38 out of the 52 upstate counties, have devised some method of fairly split sales revenue in their county. Therefore, it is proposed that Seneca County adopt the following to distribute the county's share of the sales tax beginning in the beginning of 2016. Basically, Seneca County Government will retain 100% of the amount of base year sales tax and 50% of any new tax revenue for the first year (2016). After that, 25% will be distributed to the 10 towns that make up the county. This distribution will be based on the formula similar to the way the voting formula is used on the county board. 15% will be distributed to the four school districts that are wholly contained in Seneca County, Romulus, South Seneca, Waterloo and Seneca Falls. 10% will be distributed to the four villages in Seneca County. The sales tax revenue will be presented by the Seneca County to each municipal on a quarterly basis to the schools, towns and villages. The schools, town and villages will be able to use these funds for bond payments, municipal repairs and municipal costs determined by the budget. If the board is comfortable or not, we can act on this tonight. We can add this to our resolutions.

Resolutions

46-15 Verification of Payables

Motioned by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Seconded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Carried Unanimously

47-15 Negative SEQR Declaration – Approval of Amendments to the Town of Romulus Zoning Ordinance Local Law B.

Motioned by: Supervisor David Kaiser

Seconded by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Discussion: Basically this is the pre req. of the Zoning Law itself. We would have to pass it or not pass it, declaring a negative environmental impact declaration. Mr. Getman was asked if there was anything more to say. Basically, this is part of the SEQ process.

Carried Unanimously

48-15 Proposed Local Law no. B of the Year 2015

Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach

Seconded by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Carried Unanimously

49-15 Authorize Town Clerk to Advertise

Motioned by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth

Seconded by: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Carried Unanimously

Town Clerk's

- a. Report Attached
Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

Motioned by: Councilman Robert Gerlach
Seconded by: Councilman Kyle Collinsworth
Carried Unanimously