

Town Board meeting minutes of August 8, 2005, held at the Germantown Town Hall, commencing at 7:30pm

Present: Supervisor, Alan Liepshutz
Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman, Graceann Lamberta
Councilwoman, Donna Diehl
Councilman, Anthony Cidras
Councilman, Andrew Marchisio
Highway Superintendent, Mike Lawson

Recording Secretary: Town Clerk, Charlene Diehl

Reporter: Debora Gilbert, The Independent

At 7:30 Supervisor Liepshutz led the Pledge to the Flag.

The Town Clerk announced that hunting licenses for the upcoming season will go on sale August 15th and there will be expanded clerk hours for the first week of sales.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Diehl, and seconded by Councilman Cidras, the previous month's minutes were approved, all in favor, none opposed.

Supervisor Liepshutz filed his monthly report with the clerk.

Communications to the Board

Brandon Graver thanked the board for a get-well card regarding illness in the family.

Mystery of Medicaid will be presented at the Columbia Greene Community College on September 17th.

Defensive Driving classes will be held on August 23rd and 24th and are open to the public.

Motion made by Councilman Marchisio and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta, to pay the audited bills from the abstract dated August 8, 2005, with all in favor, none opposed.

Privilege of Floor

Supervisor Liepshutz said there will be executive session called later to discuss union matters and an assessment on property.

Resident Denis Crawford, representing the Southern Columbia Soccer League, requested approval from the board to use the ballfields in the fall, and he will set up the fields. Supervisor Liepshutz made a motion to approve the request, pending proof of insurance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cidras. All in favor, none opposed.

August 13th at 10:00am will be a Germantown Neighbors Association meeting at the Activities Building to discuss the cement plan.

Standing Committees

Sewer:

- Supervisor Liepshutz indicated he was satisfied with the as-builts for outgoing laterals but not for the plant, and will need the as-builts for the plant.
- Excessive metal was found in generator coolant - the recommendation is flushing of the coolant system, and can be done at the same time as the regular maintenance in September/October to save the \$106 trip charge.

Old Business

Supervisor Liepshutz mentioned some actions/motions taken at the previous month's workshop meetings:

7/14: no actions/motions

7/21: Shawn Ogden hired in maintenance;
Kinderhook Union bank account closed to consolidate banks;
Accept sand & salt annual payment for reserves-will rebuild parsonage fund and cap accounts;
Amend youth contracts for youth programs;

7/28: sell Ford 250 truck/received bid for \$800.

Police Update:

- Speed signs have arrived, been insured and put on various town roads, specifically around the village. The speed meter will only pick up cars traveling toward the sign, not away from it.
- Alfa-sensor/breathalyzer ordered and in service.
- New recruits had one agility test, with another one scheduled for Chatham. Pending those results, along with the criminal background checks, Chief Lawson will be able to make recommendations to the board.

Highway:

- Work is complete on Young America Road and blacktop is scheduled for this month. Palatine Park Road will be worked on in the next few weeks. Upcoming roads to be worked on include Sharpe's Landing, Mountainview and Reuter Road.
- The culvert pipe on Best Lane will be replaced before the winter.

Park:

- Per the insurance company's request, a piece of equipment on the playground was disassembled.
- New dock arrived for the lake.

There was a request for stepped up patrols for Cheviot.

Sidewalks:

The town is looking for cooperation from some homeowners for frontage, and the engineer is currently working on the design. The county will support signage and ADA work.

Resident Arthur Schiff requested the board support his inquiry into the federal government's legislation regarding 'quiet zones' for trains that pass through Cheviot, to see if the change in procedures would benefit the people in the area.

Resident Allen Schuenhoff requested that a reference to a public hearing be included in any resolution pertaining to this issue. The resolution that the Supervisor prepared will be rewritten to incorporate those changes and will be reviewed by the town attorney.

Bill Lee, appearing on behalf of the Germantown Library, made a brief statement regarding a proposition to be placed on the November ballot for the townspeople to vote in increasing the town's support of the library from \$7,000 to \$58,000. Supervisor Liepshutz indicated he will investigate the course of action to determine how or if to put the proposition on the ballot.

Supervisor Liepshutz requested the board's permission to investigate quotes to purchase a 3rd generator for the sewer. Pump Station #1 needs a mobile generator but Pump Station #2 needs a permanent generator, and could be purchased when the insurance money comes in.

Motion for Supervisor Liepshutz to investigate price quotes for a generator made by Councilwoman Lamberta; with a second by Councilman Cidras. All in favor, none opposed.

Supervisor Liepshutz said he has received 2 quotes to maintain the town's web site and is waiting for a 3rd before making a decision. Lori Marchisio has been working on the current website, as the current webmaster is not as prompt at changing information as the town needs.

A public hearing was scheduled for September 12th regarding Ordinance #4, Subsection 2 and the fine for open container for beverages. All in favor, none opposed.

Councilman Marchisio suggested a line item for the library. Resident Cheryl Rekow praised the efforts of the library in helping the youth of the community.

The 'found' money, according to Ernest Friedlander, amounting to \$7,500 before finder's fee, will eventually come to the town, but the Supervisor has not been given a timeframe in which to expect it.

The Hudson Valley Greenway is sponsoring a 200-mile cycling marathon down Route 9.

Supervisor Liepshutz has a survey of where Germantown stands in relation to other towns in New York State and will make copies for the board members.

Privilege of Floor

Resident Richard Jennings questioned the purchase of a 3rd generator and Mrs. Jennings inquired as to who was operating the sewer and if the person anticipated to run it had been qualified yet. The supervisor responded that Mike and John Tremper from Cano were currently operating the sewer and the replacement has not yet been qualified/licensed.

Resident Joan Snyder said the town should have a qualified operator on duty in case problems occur with the sewer to which the Supervisor said they are in the process of getting a qualified operator to attend to the sewer.

Numerous requests for the installation of an audio system were made, in order for the audience to hear better.

Resident Allen Schuenhoff asked about the procedure for an easement from the town, and if one was granted to Councilman Marchisio. The Supervisor said he will look into the easements referenced, there may have been an oversight.

Councilman Marchisio made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:57pm, with a second by Councilwoman Lamberta. All in favor, none opposed.

Motion to end Executive Session made by Councilwoman Diehl and seconded by Councilman Cidras at 9:50pm.

Supervisor Liepshutz said in the Executive Session the board discussed an assessment grievance against the town and the attorney and assessor will address the matter at a later date. There was also an update given on the status of a union hearing, and that no action was taken during the Executive session.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilwoman Diehl and seconded by Councilman Cidras, with all in favor, none opposed. Meeting ended at 9:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Diehl