

Town Board meeting minutes of September 12, 2005, held at the Germantown Town Hall, commencing at 7:37pm due to the public hearings.

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

Not Present: Councilwoman, Donna Diehl

Recording Secretary: Town Clerk, Charlene Diehl

Reporter: Debora Gilbert, The Independent

At 7:30 Supervisor Liepshutz tested the new sound system by leading the Pledge to the Flag and asked for a moment of silence for the Ates family as well as Hurricane Katrina victims.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Lamberta, 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.

#### Miscellaneous Announcements

9/17 - "Wine" with the Supervisor  
9/17 - Lasher Family Association Reunion – all are welcome  
9/21 - 2:30pm – Music for Seniors  
9/24 - Germantown Telephone Company Anniversary celebration at the Park  
10/1 - Senior trip – Train ride to Arkville (9:30-3:30)  
10/15 - Democratic Committee meeting  
10/26 & 28 – Defensive Driving – Activity Bldg  
11/29 & 30 – Defensive Driving – Activity Bldg

#### Communications to the Board

Germantown Neighbors Association thanked the town for the use of the town hall due to extreme heat during their last meeting.

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) is putting people in "jail" to raise money – Supervisor Liepshutz has been picked to be put in "jail", and donations to the MDA can be made at the town hall.

The Katrina Relief Fund has received over \$4,000 thanks to the contributions of townspeople.

Motion made by Councilman Marchisio and seconded by Councilman Cidras, to pay the audited bills from the abstract dated September 12, 2005, with all in favor, none opposed.

#### Privilege of Floor

Resident Jennings asked the price per person that the Lasher family and Germantown Neighbors Association were charged and expressed his displeasure at the thought of the Ates family being charged for a service they were planning. Supervisor Liepshutz,

along with Councilwoman Lamberta confirmed that the Ates family was not being charged any fee and recollected the situation of events that led to Mr. Jennings questioning of the board.

### Standing Committees

Sewer:

- Problem with generator – waiting for quotes with only Alison generating a furnished quote so far.
- Visit from Purestream to check out the plant, motor changeovers, minor improvements, nothing major.

Supervisor Liepshutz noted there has been a problem with geese and droppings on the beach. They are currently working on getting a permit to move the geese to eliminate the problem.

### Old Business

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

8/11: passed resolution paying respect to the families of those lost at the World Trade Center, and expressing support that the memorial will be for the victims of the WTC. Some family members will be visiting at the next town board meeting.

8/18: Mike DeCheck was hired

8/25: accepted donation of 1990 Buick Century; accepted Joseph Metzler's resignation

9/8: Katrina Fund started.

Police Update:

- 6 police cadets were interviewed – the pre-physical left 4 cadets, and that was reduced to 3 that are officially in the Academy: Ryan Chase, Jason Garvey and (get name from MIKE)
- townspeople will see the cadets at the Halloween festivities and then after January 1<sup>st</sup> so that they can concentrate on their academics.
- Supervisor has the school calendar and highlighted when they need town police for their functions – they have hired a permanent chaperone – Chief Lawson said whatever the school asks for the town police provide in terms of security.
- The silent policeman has been put out and about on town roads with the police planning to concentrate on the area around the school for the next few weeks or so.

Highway:

- Palatine Park Road and Young America has been paved and done to Highway Superintendent Lawson's satisfaction. He also noted that Palatine Park road will be striped due to the ballfields.
- Speed limit signs are up on Round Top Road, although they are too close to the edge of the road. The county has been called to move them to meet the regs of 2-8' from the edge of the pavement).

- Cheviot, Cheviot Extension and Hunterstown Road will have signs put up reducing the speed limit from 55 to an area 30 in the fall. They have been ordered.

Supervisor Liepshutz said there will be a special workshop meeting on September 29 regarding the budget.

Parks:

Supervisor Liepshutz met with representatives of the playground company but hasn't heard anything back yet.

Supervisor Liepshutz spoke with a representative regarding the painting of the Pavilion roof. Using roof coating on the roof is the least favorable method as the longevity, durability and quality are not as good as industrial paint.

Resolution #12 – Supervisor Liepshutz made a motion to move forward to use oil-based paint for the Pavilion roof, seconded by Councilman Marchisio.

Councilwoman Lamberta: Aye                      Councilman Cidras:                      Aye

A new furnace is needed for the Parsonage. The supervisor has received one quote from Suburban and more will be forthcoming.

The engineer is still in design phase for the sidewalks with work on the trail connection anticipated for the fall.

#### New Business

There is an opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) due to the resignation of Bill Muirhead. Supervisor Liepshutz said that Steve Savoris is willing to serve on the board. He acknowledged Mr. Savoris who was in the audience and made a motion to accept him to the ZBA. Motion seconded by Councilman Marchisio.

Councilwoman Lamberta: Aye                      Councilman Cidras:                      Aye

Supervisor Liepshutz thanked Mr. Lawson for the roadwork that was done on Palatine Park Road.

#### Privilege of Floor

In response to requests from the audience Supervisor Liepshutz explained:

- 3 roads are in the process of being evaluated for speed signs, with Camp Creek Road being one of them;
- There has been no visual work done at the intersection of Rte 9G and 114 to amend the poor visibility which has caused numerous accidents;
- The west side of Palatine Park Road will not be receiving any additional gravel.

Mr. Bower, from the Board of Appeals, stated his resentment of remarks he attributed to Supervisor Liepshutz. The supervisor apologized for any comments that offended Mr. Bower, and stated his objective is to project the best interests of the town.

Resident Ann Jennings commended the Highway Department for their help with a sewer emergency that occurred, inquired about the location for town job postings and expressed her displeasure about a recent hiring done without formal interviews.

Resident Martin Overington thanked Mr. Lawson and the Highway crew for helping to clean up the park and that the Boy Scouts he works with appreciated the effort as well. He stressed the unpleasantness of the situation with the sewer and generator and expressed his feeling that the community has to help each other in times of crisis.

Resident Allen Schuenhoff stated that contrary to what the Supervisor indicated at the last meeting the easement for Councilman Marchisio was not mentioned in the town board or workshop minutes. Supervisor Liepshutz said that the wiring in question is Niagara Mohawk's property and the situation will be taken care of.

Mrs. Jennings asked about treating the pond, since the algae situation is quite unsightly. Supervisor Liepshutz said the algae are quite unmanageable this year and they are using the maximum amount of chemicals, as well as running the aerator more than ever. The lifeguards had been working every day to keep it under control for the park use.

Councilman Marchisio made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss an assessment situation at 9:06pm, with a second by Councilwoman Lamberta. All in favor, none opposed.

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

Supervisor Liepshutz said in the Executive Session the board discussed one assessment grievance against the town as well as a pending one they are waiting for the paperwork on and that no action was taken during the Executive session.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilman Cidras and seconded by Councilman Marchisio, with all in favor, none opposed. Meeting ended at 10:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Diehl