

Minutes of February 26, 2007 Public Hearing on 9/11 First Responder Memorial
Committee Presentation and Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Roy Brown
Deputy Supervisor Jason Clum
Councilwoman Joan Snyder
Councilman Anthony Cidras
Councilman Patsy Zanchelli
Highway Superintendent Rich Jennings

Recorded by: Town Clerk Charlene Diehl

Supervisor Brown led the Pledge to the Flag.

Tim Otty and Rich Jennings gave a presentation on the 9/11 First Responder Memorial and then the floor was opened for comments.

Mr. Osgood thanked the town board and committee for making the meeting possible and requested that the process be left open to allow for additional proposals and also relayed an offer from an architect's firm offering their services to assist in the final design of the memorial.

A question arose as to whether the location is designated as a wetlands and if this could cause future problems. Supervisor Brown responded that the monument will be on land that the town has access to and that is not designated as a wetland.

A sketch rendered by artist Edwina Sands was described to the board and audience and passed around.

Responding to a question of whether a memorial is necessary for every city, town and hamlet, Supervisor Brown said that currently Taconic is the only town in Columbia County that has anything acknowledging 9/11 and that the Germantown site may possibly be the memorial site for the county.

Mr. Otty gave a final statement and reiterated that all ideas are welcome.

The public hearing was ended at 8:10.

Town Board meeting

Motion made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilman Zanchelli to approve the January town board minutes and Senior, Veteran and Low Income hearing minutes. All in favor, none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilman Cidras.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilman Zanchelli: Aye

Highway Department: Supervisor Brown stated there would be no Highway Department update since the Superintendent and crew had to leave to sand the roads.

Police Department: It was reported that for the month of January 183.50 patrol hours had been logged.

Mr. Abraham informed the board and audience that the Keep Farming Committee would be meeting at Clermont Town Hall on that Tuesday, and that at the last meeting 65 people attended.

Mr. Bohnsack announced a March 31 10:00am public forum at the Activity Building to unveil the Comprehensive Plan and extended an invitation to the boards and public.

The Website Committee has received a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Webmaster that they would like the board to consider.

The Town Application Fee Committee is still looking for members to establish fees for the zoning and building departments and to call the Town Hall if interested.

The Air Monitoring Commission sent a letter to Governor Spitzer asking that an air monitoring device be installed in Germantown and asks for support in this endeavor.

Old Business

Mr. Trezza, from the law firm representing Mr. Terranova, announced his request for a zoning change for the property in question to Village Residential and he has sent a petition to the town board to rezone.

Supervisor Brown said he had faxed the petition to the town engineer and lawyer for their review. Town Lawyer Jason Shaw, who was present, said that the zoning on the parcel is not consistent and would require legislative action on the board's behalf to rezone. It's an issue the courts have already addressed and the potential environmental impact as set forth by the applicant don't deal with the project itself, and don't seem consistent, i.e. the Environmental Assessment Form has not been filled in to reflect the specific project as opposed to a generic zoning change. He cited some previous court cases and advised the board to consider the resulting impact of the zoning change versus just the change itself.

Foreman: \$1,200.00 stipend, annually
Sewer Operator: \$3,000.00 stipend, annually

Motion made to accept the hourly rates for Building and Highway employees made by Councilman Zanchelli and seconded by Councilman Cidras.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilwoman Snyder: Aye

The next town board meeting will be March 26th at 7:30pm

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilman Cidras and seconded by Councilman Zanchelli, with all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,