

Minutes of Germantown Town Board meeting, held May 21, 2007 at the Germantown Town Hall, commencing at 7:30pm

Present: Roy Brown, Supervisor
Jason Clum, Deputy Supervisor
Graceann Lamberta, Councilwoman
Joan Snyder, Councilwoman
Anthony Cidras, Councilman
Patsy Zanchelli, Councilman
Richard Jennings, Highway Superintendent
Jason Shaw, Town Attorney

Recorded by: Charlene Diehl, Town Clerk

Supervisor Brown led the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to approve minutes of last month's meeting made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilman Cidras, with all in favor, none opposed.

Motion to approve audited bills made by Councilwoman Lamberta and seconded by Councilman Zanchelli.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilwoman Snyder: Aye
Councilman Cidras: Aye

Communication to the Board

The clerk read a letter from George & Dusty Nahlik thanking the Highway Dept for a delivery of fill to address a flooding problem; a letter from Martin & Kathy Overington thanking the Supervisor, Board members, and Rich Jennings and family for supporting the Great River Sweep; as well as a letter from the Germantown Library reporting on the status of the library project and the need for donations to cover both exterior and interior expenses.

Highway

The Highway Superintendent reported on the storm of May 15th, which hit some parts of the town worse than others. He also noted that if anyone wants fill or chips to contact the Highway Department - there is currently a list in the Highway garage - as this helps the Highway out as well. He also wanted it noted that he hasn't received any material from the town; there was a recent complaint and the owner of the property in question is his neighbor, not himself.

Mr. Jennings will also be meeting with FEMA about storm damage the town suffered recently, and culvert replacement will begin on East Camp Road.

Maintenance/Sewer

The department is currently getting the lake ready for summer recreation; two new residents would like to hook into the sewer system; and the recent storm caused no major problems.

Police

The Police Commissioner reported that everything ran smoothly during the previous month.

Supervisor Brown mentioned that he is still taking names of interested persons for the Town Revitalization Committee, and will let people know when the meeting is scheduled.

A report of the May 2nd Memorial meeting indicated changes to the design, i.e. the top will be sloped, bronze medallions will be placed in lieu of the flags which have been narrowed down to three, with the American flag in the center. A light will shine on the American flag and there will be an eternal flame in the pentagon base. Mike DelPozzo is working on incorporating the changes into a final design.

Councilwoman Lamberta expanded on the flags, indicating the New York State flag is the choice for one of the flags flanking the American, and considering the tri-centennial of Germantown, announced a flag-design contest to demonstrate our pride in the town. The particulars of the contest are posted on the Town website and will be announced at the school. The winner will be announced at the June 30th Fourth of July celebration and the judges will be Ms. Tanner, Columbia County Clerk, Mr. Gabriel, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Baer, Columbia County Deputy Chair of Supervisors.

A resident expressed displeasure that the memorial planned is more prominent than current memorials in town, suggested an alternate site, and indicated that the current site is designated wetlands.

Rich Jennings indicated the map of the site does not show the planned memorial encroaching on the wetlands.

Comprehensive Planning Committee

Larry Osgood gave a report of the April 30th public hearing which was well attended. He indicated the Plan recommends appointing a zoning committee and then presented the Plan to the Clerk.

In response to a complaint about residents having junk on their property and the resolution that the Town of Lebanon reached recently regarding the same situation, the Supervisor said that the town's Junk Law should be looked at by the Board.

For those residents who are having trouble with the new website, the Supervisor suggested they refresh their computers once they access the new site, since the old website most likely was stored on the computers and causing the trouble. He also said there is a comment page on the website now for entries of resident's ideas and opinions.

The Germantown Sportsmen announced they have adopted a highway from the light in Germantown to the bridge, and will be cleaning up the trash along the road. Supervisor Brown indicated he has also brought the issue up at the county level.

In response to a question of the park being purchased with Iriquois pipeline money and potential deed restrictions, Councilman Cidras answered that he had reviewed the papers and found no deed restrictions on said property.

Upcoming Events

- Senior's trip to Whitestone Café, May 23rd, leaving 11:30 from Palatine Park.
- May 28th – Memorial Day Celebration – parade starting at 11:00am
- May 31st – Sidewalk Meeting
- June 18th at 6:00pm – New York Rural Water Association reporting before the Town Board meeting
- June 30th – Fourth of July celebration at Palatine Park – information on the website.

Motion made by Councilman Cidras to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter, seconded by Councilman Zanchelli, with all in favor, none opposed.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta, with all in favor, none opposed.

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

Respectfully submitted,