

Councilman Smith confirmed that six to seven families are on that road and he agrees the matter is best left to the Planning Board to resolve.

Mr. Smith said he believes Route 9G is not mowed very well and, although he appreciates the highway department's recent mowing along the road, he feels the mowing of road edges is a bit excessive.

Supervisor Brown indicated he had discussed the matter with Rich Jennings and mowing along the road edges is done for safety concerns, especially in light of a recent accident on Route 9G involving deer running out from the high grass and being hit by motorcyclists traveling the road.

Sewer - reported by Joel Craig.

- average daily gallons is 26,000;
- generator is fixed and back in service. George will be taking SEMO's generator back to them and many thanks to them for letting us borrow it;
- working and waiting on quotes for the repairs of Pump Station #2 and the refinishing of our tanks at the plan;
- letters are being finalized to be sent to sewer participants regarding home inspections to look for infiltration into the collection system.

Councilman Smith inquired the status of repairs and addressing problems in the sewer district.

Councilman Craig said that the generator problem came out of the blue. Pump Station #2 repairs are fairly simple and the expectation is that costs to repair will be reasonable.

Councilman Smith is concerned about the tanks being a big-ticket item. Hudson and Greenport received stimulus money for their needed repairs and Germantown will have to charge the sewer district for their repairs. As the town just raised the rates this is a concern going into the next budget year.

Supervisor Brown said the town is starting the budget process much earlier this year and the board should have a better idea of where we stand to address these concerns. He said that Mr. Harkins is making repairs at the college, county and Greenport plants and indicated that our problems are not as severe.

Councilman Craig said he is trying to open a dialogue with DEC to keep them involved and to work with them on any upcoming issues.

Parks & Maintenance - reported by Joan Snyder

- two picnic tables and new grills installed at Cheviot;
- the lake was treated and a surprise inspection was done by DEC;
- the bath house is open;
- water chestnuts have been pulled from the lake in the park;
- picnic tables ordered for Dales Bridge;
- mowing and weed eating as weather permits.

Councilman Craig asked that the police keep an eye on Dales Bridge during their shifts.

Police Department – reported by Roger Rekow

- 354 hours of patrol time was logged in for the month of May. Police Commissioner Rekow reminded the board that the high number of hours are due to the cadets working to meet the qualifications required to keep their police status.

Commissioner Rekow advised the board that the town has six unpaid officers and two are voluntary because of re-certification. There is another officer, Clifford Weigelt, who would like to volunteer, as he needs eight hours of police work to keep his certification.

Councilman Smith said he is afraid that Germantown is turning into a training ground for Columbia County, as a number of our cadets go on to other police organizations in the county.

Councilwoman Snyder stated she would like to see some of the other police commissioners interview the candidate, and Supervisor Brown indicated he, as well as Officer In Charge Lawson and Mr. Rekow, had interviewed the candidate and they all recommend him for the unpaid position.

Councilwoman Lamberta sought the percent of cadets who go to other law enforcement agencies from Police Commissioner Rekow, who estimated the number to be approximately 47%.

Councilman Craig said he is sure the candidate is qualified, but all departments have been asked to take cuts and the police department filled a salaried position last month. He would like to see the force trimmed down and the department fill vacancies as they occur.

Supervisor Brown reminded the board the Police Department budget is \$31,000, which is much less than one salaried position in other towns. He does think the officers should come to a board meeting and introduce themselves so that the board members know who is on the force. Councilman Smith said he would like this issue to be readdressed at budget time.

Councilwoman Snyder said the town will benefit from the unpaid cadets and recommends the candidate be approved.

Motion to approve Clifford Weigelt as an unpaid police officer to the Germantown Police Department made by Councilwoman Snyder, and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilman Craig: Nay/opposed
Councilman Smith: Abstained from voting

Park Commission - reported by Mike George

- dead and fallen trees are being cleared at Dales Bridge;
- work is being done on installing a handicapped ramp at Dales Bridge;
- basketballs backboards are on order and are expected within the next two weeks. Thanks to Councilwoman Snyder who donated \$300 towards the project and the Cub Scouts who donated \$200;
- July 6th will be the next Park Commission meeting.

Councilwoman Snyder and Councilman Smith met with Anthony and are writing letters to each of the park users to request they volunteer someone to join the Park Commission. The group is looking for ideas to finance the Park and they are in need of volunteers as well.

Mr. George explained that for successful water chestnut removal from the lake, the pesticides are applied to kill the plant and then they have to be pulled from the lake in order to prevent the pods from repopulating the lake.

Supervisor Brown thanked Mr. George for doing the planting in the Municipal Lot and Mr. George in turn thanked Mr. Brown and his wife for weeding the area over the past weekend.

Economic Development - reported by Corinne Curry

Ms. Curry presented a proposal to the board about economic development, in which River Street Development did a presentation. She has a request that the Re-Zoning Committee and the Economic Development Committee marry their funds in order to get potential matching funds from the government. This proposal is to bring River Street Development to the Economic Development committee and a request to provide some

funding to both committees to proceed with an application for a technical assistance grant. They would not be signing a major contract with River Street Development – they would be using them to write the technical assistance grant, as they already have the zoning regulations and are familiar with them.

Councilwoman Snyder stated her concern that money is not in the budget for the expenditure of a technical assistance grant. Councilman Smith said that the potential benefit down the road make it almost imperative to go forward with this plan.

Supervisor Brown indicated that there is funding within the budget which could be used for this project and it will help to attract businesses to the town.

Councilman Craig said there is the sense of renewal but some business owners are struggling and could use a boost.

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$1500, to move forward with contracting with River Street Development to write a technical assistance grant, was made by Councilman Smith, and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta.

Supervisor Brown:	Aye	Councilwoman Snyder:	Aye
Councilman Craig:	Aye		

400/300 Anniversary – reported by Jeremy Smith

- one meeting was held earlier in the month;
- the Halve Moon flotilla went up the river and everything went smoothly with access to the parking area available for all those wishing to view the boats;
- the barbeque the committee was hoping to hold seems unlikely at this point;
- Germantown Central School, with the help of Sue Brown, has a wonderful program of events celebrating Henry Hudson’s voyage up the river;
- a brochure listing the committee’s plans for the 300th celebration is planned for the fall;
- letters are being sent to foundations seeking donations and local businesses and residents will be contacted later in the year as well;
- plans for digitizing and cataloguing the more valuable historical documents in the History Department as well as churches in town as well as with local residents are underway. If anyone has any photographs or documents they feel would be useful in this project, please contact Marguerite Riter or the History Department.
- A seminar with leading Palatine experts is scheduled for the first weekend in October, 2010 and they will speak at the school as well;
- Musical activities are planned, involving as many local musicians as possible;
- A Walter Miller history reproduction is planned, and local guides will show folks around;
- The Garden Club is planning a calendar;
- October-fest is being re-established and will be a largely volunteer effort and the committee is glad that George Sharpe Sr. is helping with this celebration;
- A logo is being designed and merchandise featuring it will be sold.

Councilman Smith said he had three ideas for the board to consider:

- painting the logo on the Highway garage;
- painting murals on the Youth & Activity Building;
- put banners along Main Street featuring the logo

Mr. Smith was pleased to announce there were representatives from Saugerties Historical Society at the last meeting, and the committee will be coordinating the town’s activities with them, as they represent the descendants of West Camp Palatines.

Mr. Smith also brought to the board’s attention the state of disrepair at the Parsonage. It’s the oldest building in the town and needs some money spent on it. He hopes to establish a Friends of Parsonage to collect donations for repairs, but the town board is responsible for the state of it and he thinks it should be included in budget projections

for next year as a major repair. He suggested it be done in stages due to monetary considerations.

Councilman Craig wanted to note there is a link on the town website for those interested in the Garden Club calendar.

Supervisor Brown said later in the evening there will be another recognition. The Germantown Girls Softball team won their Class D section title this year and also went to the state where they competed as well. They are now at their Varsity sports banquet but when they arrive they will be recognized by the town board.

Michael DiAcetis, representing National Grid, gave a presentation of their Express Feeder Project, which will allow Taconic Farms to have its own circuit, which will allow them to meet their increasing power needs. Adding a circuit will eliminate the need to install another substation from the Blue Stores area. They anticipate the project starting July 1st and will use Blue Stores as staging for the project. They will be starting at the Blue Stores substation and work westward. 140 poles are target for replacement, and National Grid will work with G-Tel and their crews. 4-5 trucks will be used along the route and two dedicated flaggers will be working at all times to ensure safety. The project is expected to be finished by February 1, 2010.

A letter will be going out to residents who live along the route and National Grid will have a hotline number.

Scott Shultz, representing Taconic Farms, said there are no plans to expand the facilities; this project is needed for upgrades planned at the existing facilities.

Councilman Smith said Taconic Farms is important to the town and he is happy about this project to help them.

Councilwoman Snyder thanked National Grid for helping Taconic for this needed project.

Supervisor Brown wanted to thank National Grid for their service during the winter ice storms and for their donation to the town.

A motion to surplus the 1988 Dodge 150 Pickup truck and put them out for bid was made by Councilman Craig and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilwoman Lamberta: Aye
Councilman Smith: Aye

Local Law #5 – Adoption of New Town Junk Law

Councilman Smith inquired about who would provide compliance for enforcing the Town Junk Law and Supervisor Brown said the intent is the Code Enforcement Officer, John Fieser, along with the town board as necessary backup.

Motion to adopt the New Town Junk Law that will supercede any previous version was made by Councilwoman Snyder with a second by Councilman Smith.

Supervisor Brown: Aye Councilwoman Lamberta: Aye
Councilman Craig: Aye

Councilman Smith said he wants to include this information in the Germantown News and Councilman Craig suggested a link be provided to the web site as well.

Supervisor's Reports

- Germantown News is out – Nan Elliott is working with Roy and Austin on getting this newsletter out, and is on the town website as well;
- The town website will be shown to the audience at the next months town board meeting as there are new features folks should be aware of;

- July 4th festivities will be held on Saturday, July 4th this year. The town was advised recently that the ride and game vendor they used previously went out of business. Options are being looked at, but the food vendor list is down and several other events are going on throughout the county as well. Volunteers are still being sought – please contact Joan Snyder if you're interested;
- Gtel will not be able to provide VHS playback over their new format, which is what the current recorded format is for recording the town board and other town meetings. Supervisor Brown is looking for the most cost-effective way to record and view the town board meetings as Gtel transitions to the new system;

Councilman Smith confirmed with Bruce Bohnsack that when the meetings were being professionally taped, it was done in a digital format which is what the new system is compatible with.

Councilwoman Snyder said she had received numerous inquiries from residents concerned about the impact to their home alarm systems when the new G-tel system is completed. Mr. Bohnsack answered from the audience that there should be no impact, and if folks have concerns to contact their alarm company.

Open to Public

Larry Osgood – is the Treasurer of the 300/400 Committee and has already committed \$15,000 of the projected \$30-\$40,000 budget. Letters to potential donors and grant applications have not been sent out yet, and he is fairly confident the funds can be raised for these celebrations.

Mr. Osgood said he believes the town board is aware of an e-mail circulating throughout the town that he characterizes as hateful, and that this forwarded e-mail sent on by a town official relays a message which he characterizes as vicious and violence-inciting. His feeling is that by forwarding the e-mail, the town official endorses its content. He finds this alarming.

Councilwoman Lamberta said she didn't think this was the forum to discuss the matter.

Supervisor Brown told Mr. Osgood that he had received the forwarded e-mail and deleted it after reading the first sentence as he does most forwarded e-mails of this nature. He spoke with the official who wasn't aware of the e-mail. He suggests that folks who receive such e-mails look deep within themselves and realize they will suffer the consequences of forwarding it on, and shares some of Mr. Osgood's concern.

Mr. Osgood said he hopes some restraint will be exercised by the person who forwarded the e-mail.

Mike George said he had received a copy of the e-mail and nowhere on the e-mail did it say it was from the Town of Germantown or sent by an official; therefore he doesn't think it's necessary to bring the matter to the town board since it didn't represent the Town of Germantown.

Public comment was stopped while Supervisor Brown welcomed Coach DelPozzo and the Girls Softball team. Mr. Brown congratulated Mr. DelPozzo and the team, including Carissa Phillips and Susie Wright, co-MVPs, for their successful wins during the 2009 Softball Section 2 Champion Class D and Semi-Finalist competition in New York State. He read a resolution recognizing and honoring their achievements in softball and declared that June 2009 is Germantown Softball Clipper Month.

Resolution #29 - A Resolution to Recognize and Honor the Accomplishment of the Germantown High School Girl's Varsity Softball Team for Winning the Girl's Section 2, Class D, 2009 Softball Championship

Whereas, the 2009 Germantown Girl's Varsity High School Softball Team completed the regular season with a record of 17-3 thereby qualifying for sectional playoffs, and

Whereas, the Girl's softball team won seventeen consecutive games to qualify for the Class D Sectional championship game, and

Whereas, the Germantown Clippers defeated two challengers, thereby becoming the Section 2, Class D Champion for 2009, and

Whereas, the Germantown Clippers team defeated Section X Campion Heuvelton 8-5 showed determination, athletic ability, and excellent teamwork by overcoming all obstacles and determined foes in order to achieve the honor of competing for the New York State Class D Championship Title , so

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown New York that the Germantown Town Board congratulates the members of the Germantown 2009 Section 2, Class D Championship Girl's Softball Team for their achievement of this high honor that was earned by their dedication, skills, and teamwork, and that The Town Board also congratulates Coach Mike Del Pozzo and his staff for their efforts to coach and mentor these young women as they worked to develop their skills and talents that led this talented team to the Section 2, Class D Championship Title, and

That in recognition of the achievement of the Germantown High School Girls Softball Team Section 2, Class D 2009 Championship, the Germantown Town Board hereby declares that the month of June 2009 be known and remembered as the **Germantown Softball Clipper** month.

2009 Team Players

Courtney Parlman
Caitlin Briggs
Suzy Wright
Patti Cameron
Linda Gerlach
Nicole VanAlstyne

Victoria Fuchs
Nicole Lyons
Carissa Phillips
Lauren Fix
Rachel Vale
Alexa Comesanas

2009 Coaches

Mike Del Pozzo, Head Coach
Ken Wright, Assistant Coach

Art Schiff stated his concern about hate e-mails making its way through the schools and thinks it's a town problem and something has to be done. He urges the board to do something proactive in the future.

Kay Abraham said this is not a partisan issue and she states her support for Larry Osgood's viewpoint.

Councilman Craig said he believes he can speak on behalf of the town board in that nobody on the board harbors the point of view reflected in the e-mail and he doesn't believe the person sending it does either. The internet is a 'whole new world' and makes it easier to pass information along without thinking much about it. Until he hears differently, he is willing to say forwarding the e-mail was a mistake and shows poor judgement.

Councilman Smith said he shares the views of those who spoke against the e-mail and is concerned about what the board does next. He thinks perhaps a dialogue should be started to make it understood this behavior is unacceptable. He asks that this item be put on the agenda for the next month's meeting.

Councilwoman Snyder said she believes this situation wouldn't have gotten to the point it has if Mr. Smith, when he originally received the forwarded e-mail, had approached the board at that point rather than forwarding it to many more people.

Sherry Oughton is concerned about cars speeding on Main Street and what can be done to enforce the speed limit.

Supervisor Brown said he will speak to the Officer in Charge and request they double up on patrol efforts along Main Street.

Cynthia Smith said that she forwarded the "hate email" to a number of people, including town board members, and that her husband had only forwarded it to a few people at an earlier date. In addition, all forwarded emails from both her and Jerry included notes of disapproval and had their names attached. This was not true of the original email circulated by the unpaid town employee. Ms. Smith noted that her decision to forward the email came as a result of watching a TV program and reading several news paper articles which espoused the idea that remaining silent and doing nothing in the face of

bigotry and a threat to human life is the worst thing one can do. Councilman Smith stated his support of everything said by Ms. Smith."

The next town board meeting is July 20th at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,