

Minutes of January 24, 2011 Germantown Town Board meeting, held at the Germantown Town Hall, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm

Present: Supervisor Roy Brown
Councilwoman Joan Snyder
Councilman Joel Craig
Councilman Jeremy Smith
Town Lawyer Jason Shaw

Not Present: Councilwoman Graceann Lamberta

Recorded by: Town Clerk Charlene Diehl

Supervisor Brown opened the meeting and led the Pledge to the Flag. Supervisor Brown welcomed back Councilman Smith, who had been absent due to medical reasons.

Motion to approve the December town board meeting minutes, the December public hearing minutes on the dog law, the end of year meeting minutes and the 2011 re-organizational meeting minutes made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilman Craig, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to approve Budget Amendments #6 and #7 made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilman Smith.

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

Motion to approve paying audited bills made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Supervisor Brown.

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

Communication – reported by Town Clerk

Nothing to report

Department Updates

Highway Department – reported by Joan Snyder

- plowing and sanding for snow and ice removal;
- Cleaning and going over equipment as much as they can;
- Please remember there is no parking on roads and streets during snow storms;
- 2003 International had to have an oil pan replaced, due to the original rotting out, at a cost of \$521.86.

Supervisor Brown said the Highway department has done a good job of keeping the roads clear with all the snow we've had.

Police Department – reported by Roger Rekow

- 189.50 hours of patrol time were logged in for December.

Park Patrols: Cheviot –30 times, Anchorage – 31 times, School –30 times, Palatine Park – 27 times, Dales Bridge – 20 times

Sewer – reported by Joan Snyder

- Average daily flow for the month was 19,000 gallons per day;
- 2 'Call Before you Dig' requests were received for the month;
- assisted Highway crew with plowing snow.

Parks & Maintenance – reported by Anthony Cidras
Nothing to report

Economic Development – presented by Roy Brown

- met last week and talked about continuing ArtSpace and working on funding.

Rezoning Committee – reported by Joel Craig

- committee met on January 20th and four changes were made to the draft:
 - removed waterfront commercial language as it's not conducive at this point and is creating a sidetrack. The issue will be addressed later on.
 - addressed density issue in hamlet-made lots not in sewer district 1 acre.
 - capped density bonus at 25%.
 - decided to go back to a floating zone but the committee reserves the right to change it, if the right project comes to town, but decided for now it's best to keep the floating zone.
- Public Hearing will be held on February 15th at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.

Town Lawyer Jason Shaw asked about the SEQRA review status and said it has to be completed and the new zoning law should go to the county along with the review when completed.

Councilman Smith asked about a letter to the editor he was made aware of which stated the town is not in compliance with State law and asked Councilman Craig about it. Councilman Craig said the town is absolutely in compliance with State law.

Park Commission – no report

300th Anniversary – reported by Jerry Smith

- there was a final meeting on Wednesday, with little to report on actual activities.
- There is some merchandise commemorating the anniversary still available.

Student Reports – the following students presented reports:

Spencer Beuhler and Joshua Palmer – Ambulance Services in Germantown. After their presentation, Supervisor Brown said that Northern Dutchess bought the Certificate of Need from Southern Columbia, the previous ambulance service in the town, and the town is bound by it until another Certificate of Need is requested.

Kate Savarese and Mike Wyant – Summer Youth Programs in Columbia County.

Lauren Fix, Victoria Fuchs, Krista Kline and Robert Queirolo – How Recession in Albany Impacted Local Counties, and their Budgets over the past 3 years.

Emily and Giovanna Buffa - Safe Place for Germantown kids to play – looking into Grants.

Old Business

9/11 Memorial Steel – Councilwoman Snyder reminded the board nothing has yet been done with the donated steel and she would like to solicit ideas as to what to do with the steel and how to display it. She requested any ideas be sent to the board where they will be read. Mrs. Snyder would like to have something done with the steel by 9/11 of this year.

New Business

2011 Committee Appointments: Supervisor Brown put forth the following recommendations for committee appointments:

- Economic Development Committee Chairperson – Corrine Curry

- Public Works & Highway – Joan Snyder & Graceann Lamberta
- Buildings & Facilities – Graceann Lamberta & Roy Brown
- Zoning, Legal, Police & Emergency Preparedness – Joel Craig & Graceann Lamberta
- Parks & Recreation – Joel Craig & Jerry Smith
 - Park Commission Chairperson – Tim Otty
- Town Planning & History – Jerry Smith & Roy Brown
- Budget & Salary – Roy Brown & Joan Snyder
- Town Clerk & Tax Collector – Roy Brown & Graceann Lamberta

Motion made by Councilman Craig to approve the appointments as put forth, with a second by Councilman Smith and Councilwoman Snyder.

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

Supervisor Brown said the draft engineering report on the Waste Water Treatment Plant has been received and he would like the board members to review it and make recommendations on how to proceed, possibly at the next monthly meeting.

Supervisor Brown made a recommendation to accept the Justice Court Annual Report and submit it to the Office of Court Administration (OCA).

Motion to accept and submit to OCA the Justice Court Annual Report made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Supervisor Brown.

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

Supervisor's Report

- On February 17th at 4:00pm the Germantown Economic Development Committee and the Bank of Greene County will be making an announcement.
- On March 3rd at 7:00pm the County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board will be giving a local presentation in the Kellner Community Youth and Activity Building.

Open to Public

Larry Osgood asked if the change in the draft rezoning pertaining to the floating zone meant that Taconic Farms was taken out of it. Councilman Craig responded that no, current Taconic Farms is the sole property in the floating zone.

Art Cady thanked Councilman Smith for bringing up the article in the Register Star pertaining to the Rezoning regulations and requested that Councilman Craig elaborate on the statements contained in it. Councilman Craig suggested that Mr. Cady attend the Rezoning meeting, which is a more appropriate forum for Mr. Cady's concerns, and that he disagrees with Mr. Cady's statement in the article that suggests the town is doing something not in accordance with New York State law.

Mr. Cady stated he hoped that Councilman Smith will find himself informed as to the legality of the rezoning regulations. Mr. Smith suggested that Mr. Cady write in clear, succinct notes about where he feels the town is not in compliance with state law.

Mike Senzo, a student at GCS, thinks the town should build a statue with the 9/11 steel and believes the school would participate as well.

Jennifer Klein suggested that Art Cady's statement be looked at and thinks the water table is at risk and should be looked at now rather than having to fix it later. She also asked for clarification from Councilman Craig that the waterfront revitalization plan in the rezoning regulations had been eliminated from discussion.

Martin Overington echoes the concern of Mr. Cady and Ms. Klein and supports his neighbors.

The public hearing for the Rezoning Regulations is Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:30pm.

The next town board meeting is Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:00pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully submitted,