

Minutes of the April 20, 2015 Germantown Town Board meeting, held at the Germantown Town Hall, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Craig  
Councilman Westmore  
Councilman Mortenson  
Councilman Phelan  
Councilwoman Foley

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Craig opened the meeting and led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion made to approve the March Town Board meeting minutes by Councilman Mortenson, seconded by Councilman Phelan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion made to pay Town Board audited bills by Councilman Mortenson, seconded by Councilman Phelan, with all in favor and none opposed.

**Written Communication** by Joyce Vale

None to report.

**Maintenance** by Anthony Cidras

- Getting ready for summer.
- Picnic tables are in at the Anchorage and Cheviot
- Getting picnic area ready in park.
- Working on ball fields with Highway department.
- Have been treating the lake.
- Meeting with Bob Preusser.

Councilman Phelan asked Anthony who has been pulling out the stumps? He was told Scoob's. Councilman Phelan also asked if they were working on the concession stand. He was told yes, but not going to use it this year.

Councilwoman Foley reminded Anthony to call Jamie Snow when they were ready to put the door on.

Supervisor Craig asked about the signs on 9G.

Supervisor Craig thanked Southern Columbia Little League for the work they put into the field.

Anthony also mentioned that the well pump was replaced in the Town Hall and the well was shocked.

The kiosks are in the process of being shipped. The bike rack and bench came in.

**Highway** by Councilman Mortenson

- Cheviot docks are installed and in for the season.
- Anchorage had to be rescheduled due to equipment break down.

- Brooming of roadways is done.
- Cutting & chipping trees from winter damage.
- Installed a driveway on Dales Bridge Rd.
- Helping Anthony with the ball fields.
- River Sweep is May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

**Sewer** by George Sharpe Jr.

- Ed Harkins is not starting this week.
- Problems at Town Hall with the frost.

Let Supervisor Craig know Ed Harkins gets there.

**Police** by Roger Rekow

- Light patrol this month, because of the consultant doing policies & procedures.
- 24 hours logged in for the month of March.
- Not patrolling, but did 3 funerals.

Commissioner Rekow said that they are getting close to activating the plan.

**History**

No report

**Business & Economic Development** by Roy Brown

Quarterly report.

- Discussing the replacement of the Kiosk in town.
- Moving the kiosk in front of the beach house across the street from the post office.
- Repositioning the municipal parking sign for better visibility.
- In support for 1 hour parking in town during business hours.

Mr. Brown said the committee recommends the Town Board form a comprehensive plan review committee, since it's been 7 years the last plan was adopted.

Mr. Brown also said the committee had been discussing the Dollar General and there were a few topics they would like to make the Town Board aware of.

All sales taxes are collected and distributed by the County through a formula. The county keeps 50% and gives 50% back to the towns based on population.

He also mentioned there had been discussions around town that Germantown is anti-business. This is not the truth, over the past 10 years the town has been proactive in recruiting businesses into the Town of Germantown. The Dollar General proposal to move to Germantown and residents for and against the idea doesn't make Germantown anti-business.

Mr. Brown told of the website where residents could find out more information about the Dollar General. The website is: <http://files.shareholder.com/downloads/DOLLAR/0x0xS1047469-14-2721/29534/filing.pdf>

The EDC would like to see the Town Board or Planning Board require a study of the economic impact of the Dollar General to current locally owned businesses already in existence in Germantown before any applications are approved.

Councilman Phelan asked what has changed with local economy to update the Comprehensive plan. Mr. Brown told him it is recommended to review and update the Comprehensive plan if it is needed.

Councilman Mortenson asked if anyone had reached out to PrimeMax? Mr. Brown said they would be happy to reach out to them.

**Parks & Recreation** by Councilwoman Foley

No report.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration** by Councilman Phelan

- Vendor registration open- go to Town website
- Secured contracts for the bands
- Clowns
- Secured fireworks.

**Community, Arts & Tourism** by Corrine Curry

- Met a couple of weeks ago.
- Art Space in need of a new place. If anyone knows of a barn or a perfect space with a perfect wall.
- Wordscape in during the month of June, which is art and words in different formats.

Supervisor Craig mentioned the Jazz art displayed in the Central House.

**Old Business**

Town Board met with the Police consultant and went over the report. They are moving forward.

**New Business**

Since Roger Proper passed away that left an opening on the Ethics Committee, Supervisor Craig asked if they would appoint Thomas Colwell to the Ethics Committee and Faythe Smith as the chairperson.

Motion made to appoint Thomas Colwell to the Ethics Committee and Faythe Smith as chairperson by Councilwoman Foley, seconded by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig:	Aye
Councilman Westmore:	Aye
Councilman Mortenson:	Aye
Councilman Phelan:	Aye
Councilwoman Foley:	Aye

Supervisor Craig mentioned several changes to the fee structure.

Supervisor Craig then read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GERMANTOWN  
AMENDING BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Germantown has determined that agriculture has been an integral part of the history and economy of Germantown; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board do the Town of Germantown wishes to encourage and support agricultural activities in the community and in order to do so finds that it is appropriate to amend the Town Building Permit levels relating to the construction of agricultural buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Germantown hereby defines agricultural buildings as follows:

“A structure designed and constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, livestock or other horticultural products. This structure shall not be a place of human habitation or a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated or packaged, nor shall it be a place used by the public.”

**NOW THEREFORE**, it is hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Germantown fee schedule shall be and hereby is amended to reflect that for the erection and modification of agricultural buildings, the fee shall be 25 cents per square foot, and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be filed with the Town Clerk of the Town and the Building Department of the Town of Germantown, both of whom shall amend the aforementioned fee schedule and implement the within modification.

Motion made to approve the Resolution for Amending Building Permit Fees for Agricultural Buildings for the Town of Germantown by Councilwoman Foley, seconded by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig:	Aye
Councilman Westmore:	Aye
Councilman Mortenson:	Aye
Councilman Phelan:	Aye
Councilwoman Foley:	Aye

Supervisor Craig said there had been several changes of the fee structure. They did not put in a fee for Site Plan Review. Supervisor Craig would like to attach a \$75 fee to it based on another Town that has a similar structure.

Motion made to accept the \$75 fee for the Site Plan Review by Supervisor Craig, seconded by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig:	Aye
Councilman Westmore:	Aye

Councilman Mortenson: Aye  
Councilman Phelan: Aye  
Councilwoman Foley: Aye

Supervisor Craig said there is an increase in the fees this summer for Camp Palatine.

For residents of Germantown & Clermont:  
Camp Palatine---\$75 per child and Pre-camp---\$50 per child.

Non-residents of Germantown:  
Camp Palatine---\$125 per child and Pre-camp---\$100 per child.

Supervisor Craig: Aye  
Councilman Westmore: Aye  
Councilman Mortenson: Aye  
Councilman Phelan: Aye  
Councilwoman Foley: Aye

### **Supervisor's Report**

River Sweep will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Martin Overington spoke in regards to River Sweep. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> annual event. They will start 9:00am at the Lasher Memorial Park and walk south to Cheviot. Councilwoman Foley mentioned last years River Sweep and what a blast it was.

Supervisor Craig said along that line now that it's springtime that residents do some cleanup of their properties.

May 16<sup>th</sup> Garden Club plant sale and Town wide yard sale.

Councilman Westmore said the Library holding spring book sale on May 16<sup>th</sup> also.

Supervisor Craig had the privilege to attend the Fire Department banquet. He would like to recognize and thank three members for their 50 years of service. They are Wayne Dedrick, Paul Hoffman and George Sharpe.

### **Public**

Supervisor Craig reminded the audience of the 3 minute time limit to speak.

Steve Reynolds said that the Comprehensive Plan has to be revisited. The Planning Board is asking the Town Board to form a committee to work on the Comprehensive Plan.

Supervisor Craig said he is concerned about the timing. Supervisor Craig is also concerned about the comments being made by the Planning Board members. They need to play fair and especially communicate.

Arthur Schiff recalls when Comprehensive plan was last done there was a multiple thousands of dollars, not sure if it is budgeted in this fiscal year. There are grants they would have to apply for and they don't happen overnight.

Carol Neville the hamlet is developing one way and 9G corridor is developing in a completely different way. Make 9G consist to the hamlet and Palatine park. There is process and content that needs to be looked at. This should be a real discussion for the whole town.

Ellen Jouret-Epstein said for the update doesn't require consultant help. The Comprehensive plan will need legal review at some point. Please move ahead with it.

Tammy Dillon explained about the discussion to update the Comprehensive plan. She was in favor of the discussion for the review and wanted to make the recommendation to the Town Board.

Martin Overington asked for more voter support for the school proposal for the new stage, classrooms and auditorium.

Supervisor Craig apologized to Stephen Reynolds in regards to comments made in a public meeting.

Virginia Sibbison admired what Supervisor Craig just said and did.

Councilman Westmore thanked the Dollar General so this discussion could be addressed. He feels there should be a workshop held where people could read the Comprehensive Plan and review it.

Arthur Cady said that the Dollar General application is insufficient and inaccurate. They are not addressing the subdivision. Bring the village center character onto 9G in some form. Extend the village mixed use onto 9G.

Pamela Wallace questioning a big box store coming into Germantown and she doesn't see that kind of a business bringing business into Germantown. And the location of the business is a prime view which would be blocked by the store.

Supervisor Craig will present the information to the Planning Board.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation made by Councilman Phelan seconded by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig:	Aye
Councilman Westmore:	Aye
Councilman Mortenson:	Aye
Councilman Phelan:	Aye
Councilwoman Foley:	Aye

Motion made to come out of executive session by Councilman Westmore seconded by Councilwoman Foley.

Supervisor Craig:	Aye
Councilman Westmore:	Aye
Councilman Mortenson:	Aye

Councilman Phelan: Aye  
Councilwoman Foley: Aye

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Westmore seconded by Councilman Mortenson, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Vale