

Minutes of March 13, 2018, Germantown Town Board meeting, held in the Germantown Town Hall, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury
Councilman Moore
Councilwoman DuFresne
Councilman Kukon
Councilman Sullivan

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

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

Motion to approve the February Town Board meeting minutes made by Councilwoman DuFresne, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Written Communication by Town Clerk

No written communications.

Town Department Reports:

Maintenance by Councilman Sullivan

- Problem with furnace in the Parsonage. Dave's plumbing fixed it.
- Put up another waste container in the Dog Park.
- Brought garbage that was picked up along town roads to Greenport dump. There was 340 pounds of garbage and 6 tires.
- Madsen Overhead Doors fixed one of the garage doors at the Highway department.
- Electric work is completed in the Parsonage. Waiting for the inspector and National Grid.

Dog Control by Councilman Sullivan

- Caught one dog at large.
- Assisted a resident to find their dog.
- Ag & markets came down for their annual inspection and all went well.

Building and Code Enforcement by Councilwoman DuFresne

- 1 inground pool permit.
- 1 generator permit.
- 1 SFR (single family residence) permit.

Highway by Councilman Kukon

- Docks going in at the Anchorage on April 16th-23rd.
- Plowing & sanding.
- All trucks up running.
- Thanks to Livingston highway for the use of their truck.
- Stump grinding when weather and shoulders of the road allow.
- Getting sweep equipment ready within the next 10 days.
- Cold patching pot holes.
- Straightening up road signs.

Sewer by Councilman Sullivan

- Average flow is 25,000 gallons per day.
- Received 7 call before you dig requests.
- Getting options on prices for replacing check valves in Pump Station #1.

- On Monday February 26th at 10:15am lost power. Everything was ok.

Police by Officer-in-Charge DuBois

- 20 hours logged in for the month of February
- 1 funeral detail

Brian would like to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of Roger Rekow a long-time Police Commissioner and Town Board member.

Councilman Moore brought to the attention of the Police Officer-in-Charge that there are some problems with billing issues and the department head is not receiving their invoices. Supervisor Beaury asked why is this being brought up at the Town Board meeting? He said Brian can call the office, email or stop by to request an invoice. Supervisor Beaury said he would take care of this tomorrow.

History

No report this month.

Supervisor Beaury wanted to comment about the borrowing of the truck from the town of Livingston. Supervisor Beaury said we have a shared services agreement with the town of Livingston and that it works out really well. NYS is pushing for these shared services agreements and Columbia County began entering into these agreements the first year it was available as an option.

Old Business

Robert Florez from Delaware Engineering started the discussion about the amendment to the sewer district and the mapping. Robert Florez said the first thing we have to do is to go through the SEQRA process.

Motion for the Town Board to declare itself Lead Agency for SEQRA review for the sewer district made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilman Sullivan.

Roll call by Town Clerk:

Supervisor Beaury:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part I- Project Information was read by Supervisor Beaury. Attached to minutes.

Tal Rappleyea offered that the information contained in the SEQRA form is compiled by the engineers who have researched based on true scientific information and is on file with DEC and online.

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part II- Impact Assessment was read by Councilman Moore. Attached to the minutes.

Councilman Sullivan read Town of Germantown Sewer District No. 1 Amendment. Attached to the minutes.

Motion to issue a Negative Declaration made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne.

Roll call by the Town Clerk:

Supervisor Beaury:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

Supervisor Beury read the following:

Resolution: Attached to minutes.

Supervisor Beury said the resolution will take effect within 30 days subject to a permissive referendum. Only individuals in the district can vote.

Motion made by roll call by the Town Clerk:

Supervisor Beury:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

Tal Rappleyea said the resolution on the bonding not this month. Tal will work with Town Clerk for the posting which can't go beyond 10 days.

Supervisor Beury said there was a workshop held on February 28th regarding the ball fields and parks. Councilman Kukon gave the update from the workshop. Councilman Kukon said they had received price quote from Visage for top soil. Councilman Kukon said the fences need to be extended on the south ball field. The fence fits the standards for the 9 & 10-year old but the 11 & 12 year-olds hit the ball harder and they don't want anyone to get hit with a ball. George Sharpe Jr will help with the top soil. Councilman Kukon said it was a very good meeting. Supervisor Beury said they have received good prices for 7 truck loads of top soil.

Supervisor Beury said the Comprehensive Plan was not reviewed by the Columbia County Planning Board because it lacked a quorum, and was referred again to Columbia County Planning Board to review at their March meeting.

Supervisor Beury said they have been working on a purposed fee schedule for permits. Supervisor Beury said Jay Trapp will join us next month at the Town Board meeting. Councilman Kukon would like the fencing permit explained. Does the permit apply to pool fencing, agricultural fencing, what type of fencing? Councilwoman DuFresne said there is a big difference between a privacy fence around your house and an electrical fence. Supervisor Beury said to send their questions to Jay ahead of time to review. Councilman Kukon asked about portable generators? Councilman Moore said they get plugged into the panel. Councilwoman DuFresne would like it specified how it is connected. Janet Crawford said a lot of this information is in the zoning book. Councilman Kukon he would like to know about expiring building permits and permits that are over a year old. Supervisor Beury said when one project is done apply for another permit. Councilman Moore would like it to be more specific. Councilwoman DuFresne wanted to know more about a porch with a screen needing a permit and a driveway permit. Councilwoman DuFresne would like to know if a pool fence is included with the pool permit. The Town Board will be putting questions together for Jay Trapp at the April Town Board meeting.

Supervisor Beury said the street light update is they are waiting for warmer weather to start. The municipal lot now has functioning lights. Timer was not working.

New Business

The Waterfront Committee gave a presentation. Jen Crawford said they are wrapping up the process. Jen read the Waterfront Vision: The Germantown waterfront is a link to the Town's colonial past and a gateway to its future. It helps define our identity as a Hudson River community that is a desirable place to live, work, play and visit. Our improved waterfront parks will provide a wider variety of recreational opportunities and an attractive setting for educational and cultural activities. Improved connectivity will tightly integrate the waterfront into the community, linking the riverfront parks to each other and to regional land and water-based trail systems. The Germantown waterfront will be made more resilient and protected from sea level rise to ensure that its bounty is shared by future generations. Our enhanced waterfront will create a destination that attracts both residents and visitors and promotes economic activity in the Town. Jen said they have tasks for all the waterfront and parks. Different goals and

recommendations. The visioning sessions were well attended. A lot of history along the waterfront. We own riparian rights at Lasher which are very rare. Serious erosion issue at Lasher park. Cheviot park in the summer has dense beds of water chestnuts an invasive species. Tivoli acquired land from CSX for a waterfront park that could be an option. Some recommendations the committee has are: Forming a Waterfront Action Committee, Addressing the erosion issues at Lasher Park, Riverwalk connecting Lasher & Cheviot parks, Istoc parcel as a water accessible camp site, address the water chestnut problem, improve Lasher park boat launch with a side ramp for kayaks, osprey platform for bird watching, a path from the pavilion to a platform overlooking the water at Roe Jan park, people want swimming back at Palatine Park and because we own riparian rights at Lasher Park putting in a boardwalk. Martin Overington said they are losing land at Lasher Park and action needs to be taken fast. Councilman Moore asked what type of action? Jen Crawford thinks it should be looked at by a civil engineer. Supervisor Beaury said this was discussed at the workshop also having DEC come down to take a look at it.

In receipt of a proposal from Amtrak to put gates at Cheviot and Anchorage to prevent vehicular trespass and the Waterfront Committee is asking for an extension to the comment period for 15 days. Supervisor Beaury thanked the committee for the 18 months of hard labor.

Supervisor Beaury said there will be a meeting on Sunday, March 18th at 9:00am on the extension to the comment period at the Town Hall.

Motion to authorize Supervisor Beaury to work with community stakeholders and write letters requesting an extension to the public comment period and/or clarification of the project made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilman Sullivan.

Supervisor Beaury:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

Supervisor Beaury questioned what kind of gate will it be?
Officer-in-charge DuBois said CSX put a gate up about 10 years ago and it was a big pain.
Supervisor Beaury said that first responders will need access to the river.

Supervisor's Report

- Supervisor Beaury said they set up a warming station at the Town Hall during the last storm and he would like to thank the volunteers, Janet Crawford, Joyce Vale, John Rustici, Sharon Nordfors and Anne Jennings.
- Looking for some volunteers for a new committee to spruce up the town campus. Supervisor Beaury likes Martin's suggestion on the lighting similar to what is in the hamlet. Supervisor Beaury said maybe some landscaping and maybe paint the town hall. Contact the town hall if you would like to volunteer for the committee.
- River Sweep will be held May 5th.
- Fireworks are on June 30th, rain date is July 1st. Volunteers are needed.
- Next town board meeting is April 10th, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Public

Martin Overington would like to talk about Amtrak and the fence. Martin said in 2001 George Sharpe fought against the gates. At the time we were thankful to Mr. Sharpe for making that happen. Martin said if the fences and gates go in they will not be able to do the River Sweep. Martin announced the 21st River Sweep on May 5th. Meet at Lasher park at 9:00am. Martin invited all volunteers. Martin gave Supervisor Beaury the declaration from 2001. Brian DuBois said in Westchester County CSX tried to block off the tracks. Brian also wants to know what type of gates they are planning to put in? Supervisor Beaury said they are doing this all over the country as a safety precaution to alert the public there is a train barreling down on them. Supervisor Beaury will ask at the meeting on Sunday what tools did they use to stop this and how to fight it.

Kaare Christian said one tool that helped in 2001 was higher levels of government were involved including Governor Pataki and Greenway. Supervisor Beary said to Kaare he noticed that Kaare was circulating an email for residents to write in to the Department of State.

Tony Albino asked if there was an opening on the Planning Board? Supervisor Beary said he was the third person he had heard that from today and as far as he knows nobody has resigned.

Councilwoman DuFresne wanted to thank all the first responders and the utility companies for all they did for the last two storms.

Councilman Sullivan mentioned the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast on Sunday March 25th 8-11am in the Activity Building.

Supervisor Beary would like a motion to enter into executive session.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne.

Supervisor Beary:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

Supervisor Beary said he didn't know if they were going to make any decisions.

Motion to come out of executive session at 9:01pm made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne.

Supervisor Beary:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Aye
Councilman Kukon:	Aye
Councilman Sullivan:	Aye

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

Meeting closed at 9:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,