

**TOWN OF DEERPARK  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015**

**Invocation** by Councilman Trovei (Participation Optional)

**Attendance**

**Supervisor:** Gary Spears

**Councilmember's:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei

**Engineer:** Alfred Fusco, Jr.

**Call to Order** at 7:31 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** by Councilman Schock

Presentations/Communications

Brenda Blair – thanked the board for the opportunity to come again to talk about the *Neversink Drive speed limit* and her signed petitions. She mentioned there had been more police presence and a monitor was set up for a couple days and thought it decreased the speed. She reported having 264 signatures on her petitions and she has more out. She had a few that wouldn't sign and didn't want the speed changed. She hoped the board would support her efforts and fill out the TE9 form and sending it to Goshen and a resolution. She asked that the road be described as 4.5 mile, narrow and twisty, no shoulders, double yellow lines almost the entire length, and has many 40 and 45 safety signs and driveways and intersecting roads. The volume, as well as the speed needs to be addressed. She considered the road a country road, not a thoroughfare short cut. Repeated comments heard involved children waiting for the school bus. She checked and learned that the minimum of 30 Port Jervis District School buses go up and down that road, Occupations and AHRC and shuttles use that road. Other comments were about tailgating. She mentioned other straight roads like Route 209 having speed limits of 40 and 45 mph; I-84 being 65 mph and County Route 8 4.5 miles that Neversink Drive is twisting, with no shoulders and a 55 mph speed limit.

D & H Canal – Jane Lord is with the *Neversink Valley Area Museum*. Before the canal went out, she was there all the time. The canal has gone away and is replaced with grass. She felt she had to do something about it. She looked into the history of how it was designed to help figure out how to fix it. Steve Sky, Chairman of the Board of the Neversink Valley Museum spoke and said their President is Barbara Cooper; their two past presidents were Norma Schadt and Dr. Frank Simpson. There is support from the museum committee that has been around since the museum was formed almost 50 years ago. He gave a report on the history of the canal built from 1825 to 1828, and was 108 miles long. From Cuddebackville to Phillipsport is a 17 mile section of the canal that has no locks. It was a sandy stretch and didn't hold water, so the boats weight was reduced from 20 tons to 10 tons. They added more clay over the next three years so eventually the water wouldn't leak out. The canal was shut down in 1998. (He gave more historical information that is on audio file in the Town Clerk's office.) Deerpark has the only controlled source of water in the D & H Canal. Ms. Lord picked up the presentation by requesting that the public officials of the town, county and state meet and agree to permit workers to start repairs. Supervisor Spears said that Ms. Lord had come to see him a few weeks before and he took a tour with her and they explained to him what had happened and Dr. Simpson gave him material to read. He said that he thought everyone was in their corner and he had contacted David Church at the County. He told him they were going to start this project and would call a meeting with whoever they could get to come. He wanted to invite them to give the history and explain what happened. Jane Lord asked everyone to visit the Neversink Valley Area Museum. Norma Schadt asked if when planning this meeting, they would include the DEC, because the crux of the matter lies within the Neversink. The theater has to be fixed in order to fix the canal. Supervisor Spears said part of the information that Dr. Simpson provided was the Orange County DOT's responsibility or the Nature Conservancy. They were at square one of a very long process. Wayne Decker, previous Orange County Legislator added they had meetings back in 2009 with the Conservancy and the county and DEC. The Conservancy agreed to do a water study to determine how much water had to come in to keep it full. Some of their discussion was asking how far they should go to rebuilding it. He thought perhaps that fell to the wayside. The County DPW had been doing work on it and he thinks in 2010, the DPW was in a meeting and had a plan to fix it and they needed the money. He went on to suggest there were a lot of files between the County Parks and Recreation and the DPW regarding the work that has been done. More discussion followed.

Tom Faggione, the County Legislator for the 13<sup>th</sup> District spoke about the Education and Economic Committee he serves on. One of their topics is to increase historical tourism. He said the County Executive is very mindful of bringing people into the county, because tourism dollars are on the rise. He told him there was great history in western Orange County. He is 100% on

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board and as a kid who graduated from HBE. The County Historian wanted him to communicate her support to their efforts. He addressed Neversink Drive and said he signed the petition. The County Executive is aware of the dangers on the counties highways. He will do what he can in the process.

Norma Schadt looked at the Hudson River Valley Greenway and there were grants available. She was not aware of it but since Deerpark is a member of it, this might be a place to look for funding to use for the canal.

Supervisor Spears said it will take a consortium of everybody to get this done. He referred to Dr. Jane Lord's ideas to use local volunteers, money from the town, county and state. They were needing to do more research for Deerpark, tourism and for local people and those who live around there. Homes have lost value due to the shortage of water. He was thankful Dr. Jane called him and they will start on it as soon as possible.

Dr. Simpson said he thought they should understand that any work being done on the canal needs to be done by union labor because it is a county operation. Secondly, there is money available. The Town of Mamakating just got a grant for \$1,700,000 roughly to rebuild the old berm used to travel. If Mamakating can get that much money, he thought if the county applied themselves...in the past 15 years he has worked on this, he has gotten one thing.

Supervisor Spears said they would make sure it is done right and there would be room for volunteers and they will get started.

**Motion to Add a Resolution for County Route 80 Speed Limit/Bond Renewal for Tax Collector/Asbestos Survey to the Agenda**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Arthur Trovei to add a Resolution for a TE9 Application and Submittal to the County for County Route 80 Speed Limit, a Bond Renewal for Tax Collector, and Asbestos Survey to the Agenda.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to Approve the Bond Renewal Resolution for the Tax Collector**

Motion by David Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Smith to approve the Bond Renewal Resolution for the Tax Collector for 2016.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Town Engineer Al Fusco* reported on the Asbestos Reports on two buildings at 29 Upper Brook, which had some crock around the windows contained some asbestos; and the trailer at 1514 Route 209 had floor tile and had asbestos. They included both of those in the bid documents and prepared for today. They are capable of going out to bid and they can put an advertisement out this week for demolition of both of those. They were bidding them together. The Town Board has a right to accept both of them together or either one separately or none of them, there are a lot of options. He did suggest they have a two week period in which to receive the bids. They were looking for local contractors.

**Motion to Seek Bids Advertised for Demolition of 29 Upper Brook/1514 Route 209 Properties**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Schock to seek bids advertised for demolition of both 29 Upper Brook and 1514 Route 209 properties for two weeks in the Gazette.

Discussion: Councilman Dean asked if the asbestos complicates things so far as the contractor is concerned. Mr. Fusco said to a degree, but most of them would hire a sub-contractor to do that. There were several however, that could do both.

Councilman Dean clarified that this was a minor asbestos situation and Mr. Fusco agreed but said the town would need to hire a monitor, which is minimum and usually \$300-\$400. After remediation takes place, they take some outside yard samples. He was getting a quote for that now.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Town Clerk Florence Santini* said she didn't understand the advertising. Supervisor Spears asked where she advertises and she replied it had to go in the Record. He also said it could go for two days. Ms. Santini said if it was okay, it would come back until the next Public Hearing on the 16<sup>th</sup>, because the next agenda is full.

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**Amended Motion to Seek Bids Advertised in the Times Herald Record of 29 Upper Brook/1514 Route 209 Properties**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Schock to seek bids advertised in the Times Herald Records for demolition of both 29 Upper Brook and 1514 Route 209 properties for two days.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councilman Dean asked Ms. Blair what speed she would recommend for County Route 80 and she replied 45 mph. Supervisor Spears said that in 2003, the Board passed a Resolution but it was rather vague and things have changed since then. They will petition the county to lower it to 45 mph. They will probably study it and it would need to be sent to the state, but they can get the ball rolling with a Resolution. They will authorize their Town Attorney to review the ones that have gone in and write a new one that will be sent to the county. It is not their decision, just their decision to apply to them to do it.

**Motion to Apply to the County to Reduce the Speed Limit on County Route 80 (Neversink Drive)**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Dean to apply to the County to reduce the speed limit on County Route 80 (Neversink Drive).

Discussion: Councilman Dean asked how many times it has been done an Supervisor Spears has proof of once, but was told it was the third time and the last time was March 25, 2003. He also said they will submit their traffic count and they'll do it and then have their engineers come out and make recommendations. Whatever decision the county makes, it then has to go to the state. This board's decision is only to decide to submit the application for them to look at it. He read the resolution passed in 2003. Councilman Schock thought there were people who didn't want the speed limit changed and that this was going on and they don't know about it. Supervisor Spears said he will find out the process for all people to be heard and if they need a public hearing. Councilman Trovei said they could do a petition as well. Everybody should have a right to say what they think about it. Supervisor Spears suggested the best action for them might be for him to find out what the county process is and table the vote until the next meeting in two weeks. Discussion followed.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION TABLED**

**Motion to Move Town Board Meeting from November 2 to November 4, 2015**

Motion by Gary Spears, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Dean to move the Town Board Meeting from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to November 4<sup>th</sup> to accommodate two public hearings.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Town Clerk Florence Santini agreed to post this change.

*Highway Superintendent Ed Hughson* reported on the Shinhollow Bridge. The bridge repair on Shinhollow Road was a concern to residents and he wanted to give an update on where they were at. He mentioned Gristmill Road from the Neversink to Shinhollow was blocked off. He and the Town Engineer were working on a sign to put over the bridge and they have three options. *Town Engineer Al Fusco* said the options for a temporary fix were to use metal or plate steel which would be about \$10,000 for the steel and \$5,000 for the installation including a ramp and grading, which would have a weight limit; 12 inch concrete structure over the span of two pieces and then ramp it with blacktop for \$20,000; and finally to build a bridge with precast concrete structures that could be used over again on the bridge for about \$30,000. He didn't know if they would get reimbursed for that option under the grant. It will depend on which grants they get. Currently, they were almost a shoe-in for the Community Development Block Grant money but would not be available until October of 2016. The work would be done in the spring, unless the government releases money earlier and they could do it next summer. Another program through the State DOT through the Orange County Transportation Council and he thought they should submit it. He recommended submitting to a Bridge Program as a backup. Councilman Dean asked when that would come through and Mr. Fusco said about four years. Supervisor Spears asked what the time frame on the three temporary repair options was. Mr. Fusco estimated 30 days, once authorized for the steel. The concrete would need 28 days to cure. He recommended that in any three of the events, they were teetering on the procurement aspect. Mr. Hughson said he would prefer going with the steel. They were talking about paving up to them. Black top plants will be closing in a month or so and winter is fast approaching. Mr. Fusco concurred with going with steel.

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**Motion to Authorize the Town Engineer/Highway Superintendent/Supervisor– Emergency Temporary Repair of Shinhollow Bridge**

Motion by Gary Spears, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Smith to Authorize the Town Engineer, Highway Superintendent and Supervisor to work on the emergency temporary repair of the Shinhollow Bridge for a cost under \$20,000 and weight limit placed on structure to be determined by their Engineer.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Appropriations, Budget, and Payment of Bills – Budget Officer’s Report

**Motion to Pay Bills**

Motion by Arthur Trovei, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Smith to pay bills that have been signed by three council members and may be viewed in the Town Clerk’s Office:

General Fund Abstract #19 of 2015 in the amount of \$68,275.46

Highway Fund Abstract #19 of 2015 in the amount of \$38,346.47

Deerpark Manor Street Lighting Fund Abstract #10 of 2015 in the amount of \$516.05

Special Revenue Reserve Fund Abstract #12 of 2015 in the amount of \$278.50

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Supervisor Spears said they needed to wait for the State Comptroller’s Office to finalize their recommendations and they need to set a Public Hearing for the 2016 Budget at their meeting on November 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Town Clerk Florence Santini will advertise the Public Hearing.

Town Clerk Florence Santini announced that November 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. they will be having the Seniors Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner and they will be prepping that Friday night. She invited everyone to join them. Kathy Shortell of Port Jervis has agreed to take care of Waters Edge and Machackemach Village Seniors and the Deerpark group will take care of the ‘sit downs’. They have close to 60 reservations. It is a free Thanksgiving dinner and the Senior Council is putting that on in the new Senior Center.

Closing Board Comments

Councilman Trovei – He was grateful for all the board did and the tax decrease for their tax payers. He hopes they can continue to do that. He hopes it goes well with the upcoming events.

Councilman Dean – He applauds the efforts on the D & H Canal and thought everybody should have some realistic expectations. He doesn’t think it is impossible, but it will take a lot of perseverance and some extra work. The DEC will have some serious input and along with the Army Corps of Engineers. It will be very, very, very expensive. He was glad to see that the two houses will be torn down and he appreciated Al’s work on that. He was sure the neighbors will be appreciated. Most importantly, he was very encouraged that they will finally get the Shinhollow Bridge fixed. They have been waiting for grants, but in the meantime they need to take care of the residents. He’s excited about that.

Councilman Smith - With elections just two weeks away, he wanted to encourage all the residents to get out and vote. He was very happy for the Shinhollow Bridge to be fixed.

Supervisor Spears – He thanked everybody who came to the meeting and participated. He was glad to get the history of the D & H Canal. He was also appreciative of the comments from those who live on County Route 80 regarding the speed limit. It was a good meeting. He thanked Al and Glen for their work in securing the grants and bridge repair letters that had to go out.

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**Motion to Adjourn at 8:58 p.m.**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Arthur Trovei to adjourn at 8:58 as they did not have an executive session.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Florence T. Santini  
Town Clerk