

May 10th, 2007

The regular meeting of the Town of Greenfield was held at the Town Hall on Thursday, May 10th, 2007 with the following members present: Albert Janik, Supervisor; Carol Osborne, Daniel Pemrick, Peter Coseo and Thomas Kinsella, Councilman. Also present were Town Counsel Mark Schachner, Highway Supt. Walter Barss and approximately 12 residents.

At 7:20 PM Opening of Bids were held for the Surplus 1990 Ford Cab & Chasis. Clerk presented proof of legal publication. The following bids were received:

James Reynolds	-	\$565.00
Butch Duffney & Son	-	356.00
Gaba Brothers	-	333.00
Paul Luskin	-	160.00
Jim VanDyk	-	125.07

At 7:25 PM Opening of Bids were held for the Surplus Towable Brush Chipper. Clerk presented proof of legal publication. The following bids were received:

Paul Luskin	-	\$5,250.00
Jim VanDyk	-	5,125.07
Curt Stancliffe	-	5,111.00

The regular meeting was called to order by the Supervisor at 7:30 PM and opened with the pledge to the flag. On motion of Coseo, C. and seconded by Pemrick, C. the minutes of 4/12/07 were approved as submitted by all board members present with the exception of Osborne, C. who abstained.

Letter from Saratoga Bridges of their intent to establish a Community Residential Home for five developmentally disabled individuals at 919 Locust Grove Road in the Town of Greenfield.

Notice from the Saratoga County Treasurer indicating that the Sales Tax Revenue is down approximately 14% from April to April. Supervisor Janik stated that the Town did not budget for the total projection that was originally recommended. The impact on the Town revenue will be significant, however not as bad as it would have been if they had budgeted the full amount.

Notice from the Town of Corinth advises that they were amending their Town Code relating to Waste Disposal. A copy of their resolution was enclosed for the Board's review. Supervisor Janik stated that they are prohibiting the operation of any dumps other than by the Town of Corinth and are barring any material from being brought in for dumping in the Town.

Information from Saratoga County Emergency Services regarding the Reverse 9-1-1 Policy and Procedures. Supervisor Janik explained that this program is being set up by the County, however the Town will have the ability to notify residents in an emergency situation or for the dissemination of important public information to the residents relating to their safety. Supervisor Janik stated that this will be included in the Town Emergency Procedures Handbook.

Received a check for Parks & Rec. – Open Space Fees from Edward Waite in the amount of \$500.

May 10th, 2007 continued

RESOLUTION # 90 – Award Bid – 1990 Ford Cab & Chasis

Motion: Pemrick, C.

Seconded: Osborne, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby awards the bid for the Surplus 1990 Ford Cab & Chasis to James L. Reynolds Jr. for the amount of \$565.00

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

RESOLUTION # 91 – Award Bid – Towable Brush Chipper

Motion: Osborne, C.

Seconded: Pemrick,

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby awards the bid for the Surplus 1995 Towable Woodchipper to Paul Luskin for the amount of \$5,250.00

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

Town Hall Renovation – Supervisor Janik put together and provided the Board with an analysis of the bids received from the low bidder, Peterson Construction and the next higher bidder, Catalfamo Construction. He spoke with both parties to have them clarify some of the items in their proposals in an attempt to get the scope of services to match. By doing so, some changes were made to their proposals. They eliminated the item related to the electrical mask and also the removal and disposal of the old carpet from Peterson's bid. Catalfamo did not include these 2 items in his bid. Peterson is proposing to provide oak trim. Catalfamo proposed pine trim and if we wanted to upgrade to oak trim he would charge an additional \$500. Peterson was also proposing to provide a new oak door. With the Catalfamo bid, the Town would provide our own door. Supervisor Janik advised that an oak door would cost approximately \$1,800. By making these adjustments, the bids would be \$39,209. for Peterson and \$42,710. for Catalfamo. Supervisor Janik stated that another difference was that Peterson did not provide carpeting. He spoke with a carpeting company and received a rough estimate for carpet and installation which would be approximately \$1,400. He subtracted \$1,486. from Catalfamo's bid, the approximate cost of carpeting and removal. This brought the Catalfamo bid down to \$41,224. Supervisor Janik stated that by making the few changes to the Peterson bid, the bid amount would really be \$35,609. However, when they were reviewing the proposal they determined that the original bid did not include prevailing wages. Osborne, C. asked if the bid amount could be changed to prevailing rate without putting this back out to bid. Town Counsel Schachner felt that there appeared to be too much activity post bid and suggested that the best thing to do would be to reject all the bids and rebid, making clear in the bid specification that this is a prevailing wage project. Coseo, C. agreed and stated that the bids specifications should also be clear that we were looking for oak trim and door, carpeting, etc. Supervisor Janik also felt that this was the right course of action given the circumstances. Supervisor Janik noted that there was some confusion early on in the bid process as to whether or not prevailing wage would apply since the cost was estimated to be under \$50,000. Coseo, C. asked if the Supervisor had discussed this with any of the other bidders and questioned if any of them

May 10th, 2007 continued

wanted to come in. Supervisor Janik stated that he will send a letter out to all of the bidders explaining what had happened and invite them to rebid the job.

RESOLUTION # 92 – Reject All Bids for Town Hall Renovation and Schedule Opening Date for New Bids

Motion: Osborne, C.

Seconded: Coseo, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby rejects all bids received for the proposed renovations to the Town Hall, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that revised bid specifications shall be prepared by the Town Supervisor and Opening of Bids for the revised bid specifications will be held on Thursday, June 14th, 2007 at 7:20 PM.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

Outdoor Town Hall Sign – Pemrick C. stated that he has received estimates from 4 companies for a 4 x 6 sign. Barney Sign Company came back with the lowest estimate which is about \$1,000. less than the other companies. The Town has had several signs made by Barney Sign over the past 15 or 20 years. Pemrick, C. noted that the major difference was that in a couple of the quotes the 6x6 posts were wrapped in aluminum. Barney Sign has stated that they could also do that and the cost would not be substantially different from the \$2,475. that was quoted. They would charge an additional \$300. for installation if we required it. The AJ Sign for \$4,500. was the only price that included installation. The tops of the signs are all carved, with the exception of AJ Sign, which is a heavy duty vinyl lettering. The bottom of the signs are pretty much all the same with 4 inch letters inside an aluminum shell with plastic casing. Kinsella, C. asked if they were externally lit and asked if the price included running power. Pemrick, C. stated that they were externally lit and did not include running power. Coseo, C. noted that they had talked about the possibility of taking down the existing sign and putting the new sign in its place and there is already power there. Pemrick, C. suggested that he meet with a representative from Barney Sign Company and have them provide a more detailed description of what they are going to provide for the price quoted.

Caboose Committee – Vince Walsh stated that the Town Board members should have received a copy of the minutes for the first meeting of the Caboose Committee meeting. The committee is thinking about handling this in different phases. They feel that that first thing to do would be to stabilize it by fixing the roof to keep the rain from getting in and making it worse. They would also look at putting in a new gutter system to get the water away from the building. There is an old Cedar Tree on the north side which should be taken down. They should have more formalized information as to costs, etc. for the next Town Board meeting so that they can get started on this work as soon as possible. Other phases will be dependent upon what is decided to do with the caboose, i.e. whether it is going to be used by the public or just more of a monument/historical site. Another meeting of the committee has been scheduled for May 15th.

May 10th, 2007 continued

Stan Weeks, Ashlor Drive - Mr. Weeks stated that he would like to see public comments back at the beginning of Old Business as it has been for the last couple of meetings. He would like to be able to speak about an issue that was going to be voted on under Old Business before the Board has acted. Supervisor Janik stated that the Board has tried it at the beginning for a couple of months and people have asked that we put it back at the end.

Cliff Older, Lake Desolation Road – Mr. Older stated that he and his wife would like to subdivide a few lots for their children. They are in the Kayderosseras Ridge Overlay District . He understood that there was something missing from the new Zoning Law concerning being able to do that. Supervisor Janik stated that he spoke with the Code Enforcement Officer. There is one sentence lacking, however it was never the intention of the Town to prevent anyone from building within that zone. The property is located with the LDR Zone and initially the rules for that zone would govern what happens there. The overlay district affords some additional protection to that specific area. Supervisor Janik added that there are a number of items in the new Zoning Law that need to be “tweaked”, such as this additional language that needs to be added, typo’s that need to be corrected, etc. Every time something is changed in the Code it requires a public hearing, legal publication and updates to the new Code Book which is very costly. The Board intends to put a list together of these changes and corrections and take care of them all at once. Supervisor Janik stated that this would not prevent Mr. Older from applying for his subdivision. He felt that by the time he was ready to apply for a building permit, the Board should have acted on the changes. Coseo, C. suggested that they speak with the Code Enforcement Officer to determine the correct amount of acreage and frontage that is required in that area before they have the property surveyed.

Paul Gordon, 5 Kilmer Roadway – Mr. Gordon stated that he had an old existing deck that was getting dangerous and needed to be replaced. They tore it down and when they came in to get a building permit they found out that they can not get one because of the new regulations concerning septic systems. He had a septic system company come out and look at their system and they sent a letter stating that it was a working septic system. They still can not get a building permit. He asked if he could apply for a variance. Supervisor Janik asked if he spoke with the Code Enforcement Officer to see what was required. Mr. Gordon stated that he told them they needed an engineer to look at the system and see if it met the State requirements and to do that they would have to dig up the whole system. Supervisor Janik stated that in the Lake Desolation Overlay District it requires that you have a NYS Health Department approved septic system in order to obtain a building permit for new construction, renovation, etc. Pemrick, C. stated that everyone in that area was going to have to comply with the new ordinance. He realized that it may be difficult, however this was something that the Town needed to do in order to protect Lake Desolation. By protecting the Lake, they are also protecting the value of the property in that area. The cleaner that Lake is, the more valuable the land surrounding it will be. He added that this area has been overlooked for a long time. He realized that it was going to be inconvenient for some people because they are going to have to provide certification that the septic system is safe and in good working condition. Mr. Gordon stated that he was not sure who to get to do it. He

May 10th, 2007 continued

contacted the septic company and they stated that they did not know what the Town wanted unless they dug up the entire system. Pemrick, C. suggested that he speak with the Code Enforcement Officer. He would be able to tell him exactly what information needed to be provided to the Town. Supervisor Janik felt that they were going to have to have some information as far as the type of septic system, how old it was, the size of the tank and leachfields, etc.

RESOLUTION # 93 – Schedule Public Hearing – 2006 Stormwater Management Report (MS4)

Motion: Osborne, C.

Seconded: Kinsella, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby schedules a public hearing to receive comments on the 2006 Storm Water Management Program Report, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that said hearing shall be held on Tuesday, May 29th, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

Update on School Tax Impact – Town Assessor John Bonanno was present. Mr. Bonanno gave an overview of the Reassessment Project, explaining the process he has gone through to date, i.e. data mailers, analysis of sales and market factors, validate new values, impact notices and hearings. The tentative roll has now been prepared and the change of assessment of notices have been sent out. The next step is Grievance Day, which will be held on May 22nd. Mr. Bonanno stated that the purpose for local equalization is to make sure that every parcel in the Town is assessed as fairly as possible. Through this reassessment, he feels that this has been accomplished. The State Equalization and County Equalization are much more complex. For the County, they come up with a value for each of the Towns and apportion the amount of money it takes to operate the County back to the individual Towns. The State Equalization Rate is used in determining school taxes. The amount of money that each municipality has to pay to the school district is largely impacted by the school budget and the amount of State Aide or other income that they receive. If the Aid Package from the State does not rise as quickly as the budget increase, than the amount each municipality has to pick up, the Town levy, will actually be higher. Even though the proposed Saratoga School budget is only going up 6%, the Town levy is going up 9%. Mr. Bonanno noted that without any changes in the assessments on the property, there would be roughly a 9% increase in the school taxes. The school budget is apportioned between the 6 municipalities by using the State Equalization Rate. NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services determines the level of assessment for each municipality and determines what percentage of full market value each one is at. Mr. Bonanno stated that in speaking with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the School District he indicated that the Town was going to see a potentially large increase in school taxes. A meeting was arranged with all the municipalities and everyone attended except the City of Saratoga Springs. Mr. Bonanno then filed several FOIL requests for information from the State and has completed an analysis to try to determine if the projected school district numbers were correct. An additional meeting was held with the New York State Office of Real Property. Supervisor Janik, John Bonanno, Town of

May 10th, 2007 continued

Wilton Supervisor and Assessor, along with Carol Holley, the Saratoga County Director of Real Property attended that meeting. Mr. Bonanno felt that based on his analysis, the City of Saratoga was substantially under assessing their commercial properties. The commercial value for the City is more than the assessed value of the entire Town of Greenfield. When they under assess and the State validates them, it causes a significant shift away from the City and puts in on the Town. There have been articles in the paper that have projected the Town's school tax rate at as much as \$14.78. The most recent projection is \$10.45 which is pretty close to the number that was used when the impact statements were sent out. Mr. Bonanno stated that until the State validates the final assessed value for each of the municipalities within the school district, we will not really know the exact rate. Mr. Bonanno stated that by law, the Town can not complain about the City of Saratoga equalization rate. The State would not accept the analysis that Mr. Bonanno completed. Coseo, C. asked if the State was going to accept that we were at 100% and asked if we could ask to be at 105%. Mr. Bonanno stated that at one time they did allow municipalities, if they did a reassessment, to go over 100%, but they do not do that anymore. He felt strongly that the State will give us 100%. Coseo, C. asked if there was any type of an Article 78 proceeding that the Town could bring against the State. Town Counsel Schachner stated that he has heard of some other municipalities bringing such action. Coseo, C. added that at one time a group of private citizens brought a suit against a group of people, however he was not sure if they actually brought a proceeding against the State. Pemrick, C. asked what the school tax rate would be if the Town had not completed the full reassessment. Mr. Bonanno stated that in the analysis the school completed when they came up with the \$14.78 rate, they used the equalization rate that the State had come up with as our tentative 2007 Equalization Rate, which was 73%. It would have actually been higher than where we are now at 100%. Supervisor Janik stated that the State claims that the overall values in the Town of Greenfield, as evidenced by sales, went up 12% while the City of Saratoga Springs values only went up 8%. Mr. Bonanno stated that the data he had shows that the commercials in Saratoga are assessed at about 60% of what they sell for. Mr. Bonanno added that if the Town had not done anything and we ended up with an equalization rate of 73% we would have been in a worse situation. Supervisor Janik put together an analysis of what the taxes would be based on a home valued at \$100,000. last year. The average increase in assessment from last year to this year was 33%, which would make the assessment on the home now \$133,000. The increase in taxes, based on the projected rate of \$10.45 would be an increase of \$81.00. This would be a 6.2% increase over 2006, which is less than the 9% tax levy increase.

Recognition of Veterans – Supervisor Janik stated that he received a letter from the Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency regarding a special WWII deceased veterans program in August 2007. They are accepting one name from each municipality to be honored. If anyone knows of a WWII Veteran that should be considered for such an honor, please contact the Supervisor to fill out the profile information that needs to be completed. The Board will then select one individual to be honored in August.

UDAG - James Lee, UDAG Administrator, was present. He was not able to complete the monthly report, however every loan is current at this time. Mr. Lee

May 10th, 2007 continued

stated that the loan by Putnam Brook is due. They have requested an extension of the loan. The UDAG Committee met to review the application for refinance, however they felt that they needed a third party review of all the financial information in order to make a sound decision. Saratoga Economic Development Corp. was asked to perform a review of the application, which they have done. They submitted a recommendation to the UDAG Committee to approve the refinancing of the loan. The committee met this evening and reviewed the application along with the third party comments and has recommended by a 4 to 0 vote to approve the application for a refinance of the existing loan. He will put in writing the details of the recommendation for the next Town Board meeting for the Board to act on.

Replacement Truck – Parks & Rec. – Highway Supt. Barss stated that he looked into the cost of trading in a pickup truck under State Contract. If you keep a truck for approximately 3 years and trade it in there would be a minimal cost in money to the Town. The Parks & Rec. truck is a little over 4 years old and is starting to lose its value faster. Under State Contract, the price on a 1 Ton pickup is cheaper than a ¾ Ton pickup. He looked into the option of plowing with the Parks dump truck. The visibility was not as good for backing in and out in the parking lots and you would have to purchase a plow. Highway Supt. Barss stated that if the Board decided to trade in the pickup, the cost to purchase a new 9 foot Fisher Plow would be \$3,879. The cost to the Town, with the trade in, would be \$9,359. for a new truck. Supervisor Janik explained that a few years ago the Town Board felt that it would be more cost effective to trade in the pickups every 2 or 3 years before they are used up completely. It was felt that if you could drive a relatively new truck for approximately \$3,000. per year, that would be really good. Kinsella, C. noted that you also have a warranty period in the beginning. Coseo, C. asked if there was money budgeted for this purchase or if the money would come out of UDAG. Supervisor Janik stated that he believed that this was an allowed purchase through UDAG, but that he would check to be sure.

RESOLUTION # 94 – Authorize Purchase of Pick-Up Truck for Parks
Dept. Under State Contract

Motion: Coseo, C.

Seconded: Osborne, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of a new One Ton Pickup Truck with Plow under State Contract for the Parks & Recreation Department, with Trade-In, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That provided it is allowed under the UDAG regulations, the cost of the vehicle shall be paid for out of the UDAG Fund.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

Highway Garage Engineering – Highway Supt. Barss stated that the Town has been putting money into a reserve fund to put towards the building of a new Town Garage. He suggested that they start getting together an estimate of what the cost might be for future budgeting purposes. He spoke with the Town Engineer and he gave him an estimate of \$8,000. to \$10,000. to put together plans. Kinsella, C. understood that a few other local municipalities had recently built garages and asked if we could get an estimate

May 10th, 2007 continued

of the dollar per square foot that they paid. Coseo, C. felt that all we needed at this time was an estimate of cost and not a full set of plans. Kinsella, C. asked what the Town Engineer was going to supply for that amount of money. Highway Supt. Barss stated that they would provide a conceptual design that would meet all the DEC Regulations, etc. Pemrick, C. asked Highway Supt. Barss to provide the Board with more information as to what the Town Engineer will provide for the estimate that was quoted. Supervisor Janik would like to see a layout of the property as to where a new building would be placed and how the buildings would be situated.

Veteran Recognition – Pemrick, C. stated that the Board had talked about trying to formalize a process to begin to find a different way to better recognize the veterans whose names are on the boards that are hung in the Court Room. There are about 400 names listed on the boards from the different conflicts. There were some suggestions of possibly selling the paving bricks and install them at the Veterans Park. Another option may be to purchase bronze plaques or some sort of boards that could be installed at Veterans Park. Supervisor Janik stated that people have been somewhat critical of the boards being downstairs for quite some time and felt that they do not get the attention that they deserve. There is very little wall space upstairs in the Town Hall where the boards could be displayed. You would either have to downsize the boards somehow or find a different way or place to honor the individuals. Pemrick, C. suggested that committee of volunteers be put together to provide the Board with different options and costs.

RESOLUTION # 95 – Advertise for Volunteers for Veterans
Memorial Committee

Motion: Pemrick, C.

Seconded: Osborne, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for volunteers to serve on a volunteer committee to develop a plan to better recognize the veterans of the Town, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that anyone interested should submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk by June 14th, 2007.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

William Bokus, Barney Road – Mr. Bokus stated that he read an article in the paper regarding the tax rates and he felt that Greenfield was going to get crucified. The Town provided the State will all our information, raised everybody's taxes and now there are saying our figures are wrong. Supervisor Janik stated that the based on the information that he has received from the County, the school tax levy is going up 9%. Based on that analysis, the increase in taxes is going to be approximately 6.2%. The rate is not going to be \$14.78 as originally projected. The County is projecting it to be \$10.45 per thousand. Mr. Bokus stated that 6 years ago the Town went to the 100% reval because the Board thought it was a good idea because the State would give the Town \$16,000. a year. Supervisor Janik stated that the reval did not change the amount that the we are paying. Mr. Bokus did not agree with that. He was part of a reval back in 1980 and there was no where near this kind of an impact. The assessor has raised everybody's

May 10th, 2007 continued

assessment and has given the State all of our information and now the taxes are going to go up. Supervisor Janik noted that the notices in the paper and the bulletin that the school sent out were premature. They were using incorrect data. Mr. Bokus stated that he would be going to the Board of Assessment Review and he felt that there were going to be many more than the 15 people that the assessor has estimated, unless most people do not understand that you can go there. Coseo, C. stated that every taxpayer received the letter that explained the process of going to the Board of Assessment Review. Pemrick, C. noted that 380 people came in to question their assessments. He added that the State did not say that our data was wrong. The Town has questioned the data that the State has provided us regarding the City of Saratoga Springs. Pemrick, C. felt that the question Mr. Bokus was asking was what would have been the impact if we did not do a reval. Pemrick, C. stated that it was his understanding that if the Town did not do anything the equalization rate would have dropped to 73% and the school taxes, based on the current available data, would have been higher than they will be with the full revaluation. Mr. Bokus did not feel that the Town needed to do the full revaluation at all. The Town should just tell the State that they are at 100% and there is no way that they can prove different. Coseo, C. stated that every time someone sells a piece of property and files a deed, they have to file an Equalization and Assessment form as well. A copy of this goes to the State of New York and that is some of the information that they are using to determine the equalization rate. He felt that the only way was to challenge the State figure. As far as the Town tax goes, if we are at 100% than everyone in the Town would be paying an equal share. The problem comes with the County tax and the School tax when we have to rely on the equalization rate. Mr. Bokus stated that he if did not sell anything then there would not be any increase and there would not be any form filed and his taxes wouldn't go up. Mr. Bokus did not feel that the Town had to continue to go through the torture of doing an annual revaluation. Coseo, C. asked Mr. Bokus if what he was saying was that the only time the Town should reassess a piece of property was when someone buys it and leave the assessment the same for someone that bought a piece of property 20 years ago. Mr. Bokus stated that if a person is looking to buy a piece of property, they know what the property is going to cost and they look into what they are going to pay in taxes and if they are satisfied with that amount they buy the property. Someone that is living on a fixed income does not have the money to pay higher taxes. Supervisor Janik explained that a person pays tax on the value of the property after the equalization. If you are at 70% equalization and you buy a home for \$200,000., it is going to be assessed at \$140,000. not at \$200,000. He added that what Mr. Bokus was suggesting was that the new people coming in to Town should pay the big tax bill and the people that have lived here pay a lower amount.

Stan Weeks, Ashlor Drive – Mr Weeks stated that he believed in full value assessment. He has lived in several places and he was very familiar with the “welcome newcomer” deal. He stated that the latest figures alleviate many of his concerns. He was concerned with an article that he read in the paper were the Saratoga Accounts Commissioner states that their assessments are at 83% of full value. Last year, they were at 84% and what they are saying is that the properties having only dropped 1% in the last year. He also had a problem with the fact that you could not obtain information from the

May 10th 2007 continued

NYS Office of Real Property Services. Supervisor Janik stated that you can get information from them, however you could not get the current year information until after the rolls are finalized.

William Bokus, Barney Road – Mr. Bokus asked if the Town had a surplus and if so, how much was it. Supervisor Janik stated that the surplus was approximately 2 million dollars. Coseo, C. noted that the Town has been using part of that surplus money each of the last two years to keep the tax rate lower. This past year almost \$400,000. was used to reduce the amount that had to be raised by taxes.

Vincent Walsh, Greene Road – Mr. Walsh complimented the Highway Department on the job they did on Locust Grove Road. He also wanted to thank the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and Planning /Zoning Clerk for all their help and hard work. Mr. Walsh stated that the Assessor provided him with a wealth of information this evening. He asked what Greenfield's burden was on the Saratoga School system. Supervisor Janik stated that the tax rate has nothing to do with how many kids are in Town or anything like that. Mr. Walsh asked what the MS4 Report was that was mentioned earlier. Kinsella, C. explained that it was a State mandate that controlled the runoff. Each year the Town has put in an annual report to explain to the State how we are complying with this regulation. A public hearing is required as part of the process. Mr. Walsh asked how many new homes have built in Town in the last couple of years and what effect did they have on taxes. Supervisor Janik advised that he could obtain that information from the Building Department and Assessor's Office. Mr. Walsh agreed that the Town should be able to get the information from the State so that they had a better idea of what was really going on. Supervisor Janik felt that sooner or later the residential property owners in the City of Saratoga are going to take notice of what is happening to them. The commercial property owners are riding on the backs of the residential property owners in the City.

James VanDyk, Daniels Road – Mr. VanDyk felt that the Town should be more proactive and not just sit back and wait for the residents of the City of Saratoga to do something. Supervisor Janik explained that the Town could not challenge the State level of assessment. Mr. VanDyk stated that his assessment increased by \$100,000. He came in and challenged the amount and was told that for every argument that could be made to reduce the raise in assessment, an argument could be made to increase it another \$100,000. He was concerned that he could keep going up \$100,000. each year. He felt that the constant reassessment was horrible. Coseo, C. suggested that Mr. VanDyk have an appraisal of his property done and challenge his assessment with the Board of Assessment Review.

Bob Hyndman, Denton Road – Mr. Hyndman felt that if an Article 78 could be done, it would be worth looking into. He added that maybe the Town could share the cost with the Town of Wilton. He stated that the Town brought in a very qualified, experienced person from the State. He brought along with him some new systems and ideas of doing a reval. Mr. Hyndman stated that he met with the Assessor and contested his new assessment. He came away with the feeling that this was a very aggressive revaluation. He added that the assessor also looked at 2 other parcels that he owns that he was not even contesting. Mr. Hyndman was concerned that next year he

May 10th, 2007 continued

was really going to take a hit on his vacant land. He suggested that the Town should rethink the approved lot concept. This really affects the smaller property owners. Supervisor Janik stated that the Town Board can not direct how the assessor performs his duties. The guidelines are established by State law. The Town Board can hire an assessor and appoint an assessor, but they have no control over the process.

Greg Wait – Mr. Wait stated that there seemed be a lot of concern about the assessor and asked if someone will be addressing these concerns with him and get back to the residents. Supervisor Janik stated that the comments from the individuals here this evening will be shared with the Assessor. The Board would not be responding personally to each comment.

Stan Weeks, Ashlor Drive – Mr. Weeks stated that 11 out of the 12 people on the caboose committee were able to attend the 1st meeting. They wanted to make sure that the insurance money had been set aside. Supervisor Janik stated that the money has been accounted for and was retrievable.

Bob Hyndman, Denton Road – Mr. Hyndman stated that he would like to be considered to serve on the Veterans Memorial Committee.

Vincent Walsh, Greene Road – Mr. Walsh asked when the new Town Hall sign would be going up. Pemrick, C. stated that he hoped that the Board would be able to act on it at the June meeting and that it could be installed within the next few months.

Monthly reports were submitted by Town Justice Hopkins (March), UDAG Revolving Loan Fund (March), Dog Control Officer, Highway Superintendent, Supervisor and Town Clerk.

RESOLUTION # 96 – Highway Bills

Motion: Osborne, C.

Seconded: Pemrick, C.

RESOLVED, That Highway Bills # 66 to # 94 in the amount of \$40,451.07 be paid, subject to audit.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

RESOLUTION # 97 – General Bills

Motion: Coseo, C.

Seconded: Pemrick, C.

RESOLVED, That General Bills # 252 to # 321 in the amount of \$33,459.85 be paid, subject to audit.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

RESOLUTION # 98 – UDAG Bills

Motion: Osborne, C.

Seconded: Pemrick, C.

RESOLVED, That UDAG Bill # 11 in the amount of \$1,946.63 be paid, subject to audit.

VOTE: Ayes: Janik, Osborne, Pemrick, Coseo, Kinsella

Noes: None

May 10th, 2007 continued

On motion of Pemrick, C. and seconded by Coseo, C. the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Town Clerk