

PRE-BOARD MEETING – JUNE 8, 2005

A Pre-Board Meeting was held on June 8, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties with the following members present:

Supervisor Greg Helsmoortel
Councilman Tom Macarille
Councilwoman Leeanne Thornton
Councilman Fred Costello, Jr.
Councilman Phil Tucker

Robert Bannen, Attorney of Indian Law – spoke to Town Board about tribe/casino coming to Saugerties. There would have to be a reservation in the Town of Saugerties to allow them to have a casino. They could place the land in trust for the benefit of the tribe. There is federal law that any land that is acquired after the effective date of a regulatory act in 1988, in order for gaming to open on that land the Secretary of State has to determine that it would be in the best interest of the tribe and not detrimental to the community. The process could take a couple of years.

Ralph Mayone – water problem still evident. How can board approve any more growth when this water problem has not been resolved. Three engineers are involved in this situation already.

Greg Chorvas – recommending Lisa Dederick as Medical Director for Summer Day Camp at \$16.00 per hour. Also, received notice from state about lightning mandate – cost would be \$900.00/summer or \$1,200.00/year to alert nine people; state reimbursement is available. American Legion donating \$3,000.00 and re-doing home dug-out. Al Riozzi is donating his time along with Mike Abate and Jack Warrens donating carpentry skills to finish. Would like \$6,800.00 from Recreation Fund for materials to be able to do other dug-out. Jan Welton, Architect, is meeting with Building Inspector's Office about new office space in warehouse.

Councilwoman Thornton questioned if weather antenna for Cable Access can be re-installed. Greg Chorvas will be contacted by Tony Bruno, Public Access Committee person to discuss this matter.

Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING JUNE 8, 2005

A Town Board Meeting was held on June 8, 2005 at 7:15 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

Supervisor Greg Helmsmoortel
Councilman Tom Macarille
Councilwoman Leeanne Thornton
Councilman Fred Costello, Jr.
Councilman Phil Tucker

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Gary Bischoff – congratulates Supervisor and Mayor for taking active role against the casino along with local leaders; several surrounding towns also against issue.

Don Tucker – couple of weeks ago came before board and wanted to thank Councilman Costello and Supervisor Helmsmoortel for meeting with him

Steve Dirnfeld – against casino; gave idea of concert area that would work for entire community.

Naomi Rothberg – met with Senator Bonacic; host town is a sacrifice zone.

Susan Poretz – received letter from Senator Bonacic stating he is in favor of home rule and will not put casino where residents don't want it.

Janet Ricketson Felton – lives on Hommelville Road and is against casino; submitted petitions with 1000 signatures and more to come.

Mike Harkavy – went with bus trip to Albany and very pleased. This must be a bi-partisan issue; should include Ulster County.

Inyo Charbonneau – worried about children with casino being in community.

Matt Ostoyich – resident since 1968, previously sent packets to Town Board and Saugerties Legislators describing serious negative impact from casinos in Connecticut.

Doug Engel – member of Comprehensive Planning Committee, casino is not in keeping with that plan – it calls for controlled growth. This town has done some fantastic things, most of which is family focused.

Patti Kelly – also was in Albany yesterday. There have been a few circumstances where everyone has come together to work for the town, tonight is another time this needs to happen.

Chris Schackne – reflect on past strength and form an alliance against this casino.

Josh Randall – Winston Farm alternative could be a “working farm museum” with different eras represented.

Lanny Walters – pled board to go against casino with a united front. Has raised some money, will raise more if need be to fight this issue.

Sam Lazarus – we have a beautiful land between Hudson River and Catskill Mountains, why would we want to change that.

Andrea Cunclef – please vote unanimously.

Sara Stern – lived here a little over a year and is against casino, unanimous opposition needs to happen.

Joanne Lantz – will create problems and more problems with school buildings, urge unanimous vote.

Sue Rosenberg – resident over 20 years and raised two sons; also a social worker. Casino in the county will raise risk considerably.

Resolution made by Supervisor Helmoortel, seconded by Councilwoman Thornton the following:

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CASINO GAMBLING

WHEREAS, the New York State Constitution prohibits casino gambling; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Saugerties is a Greenway community dedicated to protecting its rich environmental assets and protecting and preserving its quality of life for its inhabitants and visitors; and

WHEREAS the People of Saugerties are committed to allowing their Town to Grow Gracefully; and

WHEREAS Saugerties is being proposed as the site for a gambling casino on the Winston Farm of huge proportions that will change the nature of our community and have a tremendous impact upon our environment including demands placed upon our water resources, pollution of our streams, use of our infrastructure, causing traffic congestion, blocking our view of the Catskill Mountains, illuminating our night sky, and other negative impacts; and

WHEREAS the financial impact upon our community and its property owners far outweighs whatever moneys the Town may realize from the casino, and

WHEREAS the Governor and Legislators need to know that Saugerties does not welcome the sighting of a gambling casino within its borders; it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Saugerties opposes the sighting of a gambling casino within its borders and asks the Governor to decline to enter any agreement that would allow a casino proponent to acquire property in this Town for the purpose of building a gambling casino; and it is further

RESOLVED that this Resolution be forwarded immediately by the Town Clerk to the Governor of the State of New York and to all Legislative leaders considering the expansion of casino gambling into the Town of Saugerties and to our elected representatives on the federal, state, county and local levels.

Discussion: *Councilman Macarille* stated that three weeks ago he had not received enough information but now has read literature and talked to several business owners. *Councilwoman Thornton* stated that after listening to Steve Winkley regarding water shed issues with Town and Village, there is no doubt water resources could not handle a casino. *Councilman Costello* felt obligation that if casino landed in neighboring community, needed to know what would happen to our town. *Councilman Tucker* received different information last night and it was a great idea to have the attorney come down from Albany tonight; will make this a unanimous vote. *Supervisor Helsmoortel* stated he was glad the board has come together.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Tom Macarille	voting	Yes
Councilwoman Leeanne Thornton	voting	Yes
Councilman Fred Costello	voting	Yes
Councilman Phil Tucker	voting	Yes
Supervisor Greg Helsmoortel	voting	Yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to approve the following minutes as presented, Town Board Workshop Meeting May 17, 2005; Pre-Board Meeting May 18, 2005; Town Board Meeting May 18, 2005; Bid Opening May 18, 2005; and Bid Opening June 3, 2005.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to approve the bills as presented, carried.

General	\$204,704.63
General Outside Village	41,323.35
Highway Townwide	3,967.93
Highway Outside Village	31,004.83
Lighting District	3,348.18
Barclay Heights Sewer	2,621.50
Glasco Sewer	12,810.66
Malden Sewer	6,039.87
Glasco Water	790.54
Malden Water	176.09

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Greg Hulbert – complete report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office. Resident Marti Randall asked Chief about signs for height restrictions for tractor trailers on Route 9W, trucks are getting stuck.

Greg Chorvas – Malden boat ramp is on hold until DEC gives okay and permit to fix; summer camp is ready to go. Recently attended a meeting regarding traffic with Garlic Festival.

Wayne Debrosky – water bills should go out around July 4th. Minor safety violations have been resolved at the water treatment plant. Extra copies of water study available at Town Hall.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Macarille gave the Building Inspector’s report, which is on file at the Town Clerk’s Office. Also, read portions of letter received from Jim LaPlante of the Office of Real Property Services on our Assessment Office doing a great job on the reassessment. Because of this, our town is eligible for the Excellence in Equity Award.

Councilwoman Thornton – Public Access filmed the forum regarding the casino in their studio, which went well. SVBA website is linked to town website. A wheelchair has been donated for use at Town Hall, which is located in the HUD department. Esopus Creek Conservancy will have their Open House, Saturday, June 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Councilman Costello – Summer Day Camp is ready to start; we have had the new Zamboni delivered. Congratulations to Heather Plonchak as the new Editor of the Post Star.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilman Tucker, seconded by Councilman Costello to approve a Certificate of Registration for Shader Septic Service of Saugerties, New York to install water and sewer hook-ups in the Town of Saugerties.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Helmsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to authorize the expenditure of \$300.00, which represents a third of the total cost, to place the new “Explore Saugerties” brochures at NYS Thruway Rest Area Stops.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilman Costello, seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve Lisa Dedrick as on-site Medical Director of the Summer Day Camp at a rate of \$16.00 per hour.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilman Costello, seconded by Councilman Macarille to authorize an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$6,800.00 out of the Recreation Trust Fund for the renovation and improvements in conjunction with the American Legion at Cantine’s Field.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Helmsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Macarille to enter into Executive Session to discuss medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion made by Supervisor Helmsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Macarille to exit Executive Session and adjourn Town Board Meeting.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Pre-Board Meeting

6:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Town Clerk