

PRE-BOARD MEETING MARCH 23, 2005

The Pre-Board Meeting was held on March 23, 2005 at 6:30 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

The following topics were discussed:

- requests received for lighting along highways
- Woodstock Day School – should county put up requested signs
- Solite – can board dictate what roads trucks travel; Solite wants to load barges going through Glasco Little League road/Glasco Firehouse and leave through Mini Park. Concerned what this will do to the Mini Park. Need to set up meeting with Solite and board.

Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING MARCH 23, 2005

The Town Board Meeting was held on March 23, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

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

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR: None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Brian Donoghue – expressed concern about letter John Greco, Esq. wrote and threatened citizen for expressing his opinion. Citizens have a lot to give this community. Town Board should issue an apology to Steve Haun. Town should terminate working with John Greco.

Tom Melville – on record to say he did not attempt to attack assessor but town board should help the assessor, wanted to clarify this from speaking at the last town board meeting.

Herve Senequier – member of SAGA and town board has failed to respond to certified letter from six months ago. The law has been broken – the assessor is abusing his power. Has been denied the Preliminary Assessment Roll by Town Assessor's Office but did receive it on disk from the county.

Steve Haun – gave town board copies of the United States Constitution. He is not a slanderer, he got his information from records. Cited examples of different assessments, public will be informed.

David Radovanovic – no personal grievance against assessor but does not feel he is qualified. As well as town attorneys, should not be political appointments.

Josepha Guteluis – no one answers the phone in the Assessor's Office, cannot leave message and no more appointments can be made before May 1st. Town Board should look into tax reform.

Marjorie Greenberg-Vaughn – when market stops booming – will we get reduction in taxes. Also, spoke of letter from John Greco threatening citizen. Wants to know how many tax dollars were spent to pay John Greco to write letter.

Joe Ferraro – also expressed concern with not receiving return call from Assessor's Office.

Bill Buck – was at a Town Board meeting a few weeks ago and wants dialog between citizens and board; would like questions answered. House was compared to homes in Bishop's Gate, but he has no water/sewer, no paved road – his house sits in the middle of 80 acres; assessment was dropped from \$750,000.00 down to \$500,000.00 and he feels it is still too high.

Timothy Morgan – taxes went down from \$13,000.00 to \$10,000.00, but what about last five years where he paid \$13,000.00 – refund check?

Supervisor Helsmoortel stated that they do not respond to inquiries at the town board meetings because it would take a very long time and may not be productive. The Town Board is addressing the problems and they do care. Councilwoman Thornton noted that there are additional motions on the table tonight regarding the Assessor's Office.

Councilman Macarille stated that at the last meeting he said if anyone needed to speak to a Town Board member they could call him at home and he received one phone call regarding the assessment.

A moment of silence was observed to remember Shane Geisler who passed away suddenly on March 13, 2005. Shane worked summers for the town from 1995 to 1999 and in 2000 became Sports Director.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:

Town Hall Offices will be closed on Friday, March 25, 2005 in observance of Good Friday. The Transfer Station will be closed on Friday, but will be open on Saturday. Highway Department reported that they have already had 19 storms since January and tonight will make storm #20. Our Highway Department was also featured in March/April issue of Rural Ages which promotes the efforts of NYS Towns. Bernie was featured for Inter-Municipal Cooperation with shared highway services. Congressman Maurice Hinchey is requesting \$2.5 million for Kings Highway infrastructure.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to approve the minutes of Public Hearing on March 2, 2005 regarding rezoning for HITS; Pre-Board Meeting of March 9, 2005 and Town Board Meeting of March 9, 2005.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

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|-------------------------|-------------|
| General | \$76,099.45 |
| General Outside Village | 24,604.92 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 1,874.84 |
| Highway Townwide | 38,290.85 |
| Highway Outside Village | 28,830.10 |
| Lighting District | 3,745.60 |
| Barclay Heights Sewer | 42,957.65 |
| Glasco Sewer | 11,237.44 |
| Malden Sewer | 2,975.90 |
| Glasco Water | 63,297.04 |
| Malden Water | 7,031.46 |

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Macarille – nothing to report

Councilwoman Thornton – May 19th Public Meeting regarding Aqua-fir study at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Councilman Costello – Police Department hosted simulation of shooter scenario at SHS with 70 police officers and it was very impressive and well done.

Councilman Tucker – speaking of training that was done at the high school today, it was a great effort by everyone involved and very impressive.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Macarille to authorize the Supervisor to notify the Property and Tax Reform Task Force for the Town of Saugerties to join the non-partisan task force in their efforts to bring an equitable tax reform at the county and state level.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Helsmoortel to authorize the expansion of the membership on the Town Grievance Committee from three to five effective immediately.

Discussion: Councilman Macarille and Councilwoman Thornton discussed that this will be done as soon as possible.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to direct Police Chief Hulbert to rescind his order prohibiting officers from switching blocks of shifts which is in direct violation of Article IV Past Practice of the police department's collective bargaining agreement and furthermore that Chief Hulbert is directed to meet with the union only as proscribed in Article V Grievance Procedure Step One.

Discussion: Councilman Macarille said he was informed tonight that this is not based on negotiations going on now. However, letter that was previously sent by three board members, he was not consulted and he does not agree with it. Supervisor Helsmoortel stated it would be voted on next board meeting, which is tonight, it saved a grievance and possibly IP. Councilman Tucker also not comfortable with way meeting happened. Supervisor Helsmoortel said it was a legal meeting – no laws were broken.

Supervisor Helsmoortel said it was a legal meeting – no laws were broken.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

The following Resolution was offered by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Macarille:

**TOWN BOARD CONSENT TO DEDICATION OF TRIANGLE ROAD SITUATE IN
GLASCO, ULSTER COUNTY, NEW YORK FROM WESLEY A. BULEY AND
GLORIA M. BULEY**

Upon reading the Deed in the above-entitled matter, dated the 3rd day of February, 2005, wherein the owners of lands described therein have released the same to the Town of Saugerties for highway purposes:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that consent be, and the same hereby is given to the Town Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Saugerties to make an Order laying out the lands described in said dedication, dated the 3rd day of February, 2005, for highway purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Highway Law and other statutes applicable thereto.

Upon a roll call vote, the vote is as follows:

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|------------------------|--------|-----|
| Supervisor Helsmoortel | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Macarille | voting | Yes |
| Councilwoman Thornton | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Costello | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Tucker | voting | Yes |

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Macarille, seconded by Supervisor Helsmoortel :

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF REAL PROPERTY TAX
COLLECTION FOR PERSONS DEPLOYED BY THE MILITARY
MARCH 23, 2005**

WHEREAS, New York State Real Property Tax Law Section 925-d authorizes municipal corporations, which include towns, to defer real property tax collection or the imposition of penalties or interest for a late payment owed by persons who have been deployed by the military or by the spouse or domestic partner of a person deployed by the military, provided they meet certain eligibility requirements as part of a comprehensive "Patriot Plan" designed to offer benefits to New York's servicemen and women; and

WHEREAS, New York State Real Property Tax Law Section 925-d authorizes municipal corporations to offer this extension if approved by resolution by the municipal corporation; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully offer the benefit of the Patriot Plan to persons deployed by the military, all Ulster County towns, cities, villages and school districts should be encouraged to authorized this extension as well;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Saugerties Town Board hereby enacts the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law, Section 925-d and authorizes the 90 day extension, from the end of deployment, of real property tax collection for persons deployed by the military as defined therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Macarille, seconded by Councilman Costello:

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES TOWN BOARD
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR KING'S HIGHWAY
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Town of Saugerties Town Board proposes to create new water and sewer districts along King's Highway, the purpose of which is to provide necessary infrastructure to allow for planned economic development; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is a Type 1 action pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.4; and

WHEREAS, the Saugerties Town Board prepared Part 1 of a Long Form EAF and circulated it along with a Notice of Intent to Serve as Lead Agency to involved and interested agencies, those being the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, the Ulster County Economic Development Agency, the Ulster County Highway Department and the Ulster County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, no objections were received from any interested or involved agency to the Saugerties Town Board serving as Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2003 the Saugerties Town Board declared itself Lead Agency for the SEQRA review of the subject action; and

WHEREAS, the Saugerties Town Board subsequently prepared and carefully reviewed EAF Parts 2 and 3 and has identified no potentially significant adverse impacts associated with the project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617.7, the Saugerties Town Board hereby issues a Negative Declaration for the proposed action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Negative Declaration be filed as specified in 6 NYCRR Part 617.12.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion made by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Costello to appoint Susan Walker to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term of four years effective March 24, 2005.

Discussion: Councilman Thornton thanked Clay Trumpbour for his service to the commission. His term expired March 1, 2005.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Costello:

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ESOPUS CREEK CONSERVANCY
HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY GRANT APPLICATION 2005**

WHEREAS, the Esopus Creek Conservancy is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the 2005 Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley Annual Grant Program for a project entitled “Foot Bridge Construction on Esopus Bend Nature Preserve” to be located in the Town and Village of Saugerties, and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires the applicant, Esopus Creek Conservancy, to obtain the “approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality of Saugerties in which the project will be located”; so now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Town of Saugerties hereby does approve and endorse the application for the grant under the 2005 Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley Annual Grant Program, for the project known as Foot Bridges on Esopus Bend Nature Preserve, and located in this community.

Discussion: Supervisor Helsmoortel confirmed this will be of no cost to the town, just in support of the grant.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|-----|
| Supervisor Helsmoortel | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Macarille | voting | Yes |
| Councilwoman Thornton | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Costello | voting | Yes |
| Councilman Tucker | voting | Yes |

Motion made by Councilman Costello, seconded by Councilman Tucker to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement between the Town of Saugerties and the Town of Saugerties PBA regarding Town Police Officers participating in the Ulster County Emergency Response Team.

Discussion: Councilman Costello noted the officers are Dodig and Helsmoortel. Councilman Macarille stated if we are not able to get funding, the town should pick up the cost.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

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| Tuesday, March 29, 2005 | Public Hearing | 6:00 p.m. |
| | RE: Zoning Amendments/Fees | |
| Wednesday, April 6, 2005 | Pre-Board | 6:00 p.m. |
| | Town Board | 7:00 p.m. |

Town Clerk