

Work Session
January 10, 2005
S-6100 South Park Avenue
Hamburg, New York 14075

Supervisor Hoak calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:	Patrick H. Hoak	Supervisor
	D. Mark Cavalcoli	Councilman
	Kathleen Hochul	Councilwoman
	Joan A. Kesner	Councilwoman
	Thomas Quatroche, Jr.	Councilman

Also Present:	Barbara Allen	Deputy Town Clerk
	James Spute	Finance Director
	Richard Boehm	Deputy Town Attorney
	Gerard Kapsiak	Town Engineer

WORK SESSION SCHEDULE

6:00 p.m. - 6:10 p.m. Resolutions

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Hamburg Library Board

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Executive Session
Legal & Personnel Matters

I.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the membership of the following into the Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.

David P. Zimmer, Jr.
4605 Chapman Pkwy.
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

Kevin J. Meek
4973 Mt. Vernon Blvd.
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

Moved: Kesner

Seconded: Cavalcoli

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

II.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the advertisement for bids for the demolition of the obsolete Digester and Sludge Control Building.

Moved: Quatroche

Seconded: Hochul

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

III.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Building and Grounds Department is authorized to advertise for bids on the sale of one used sewer jet.

Moved: Quatroche

Seconded: Kesner

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

IV.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the Travel Request of Deanna Filighera to travel to various locations for the Tax Receivers Meetings throughout 2005 at an estimated cost of \$550.00.

Moved: Hoak

Seconded: Quatroche

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

V.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the Travel request for Kurt Allen, Walter Bratek, James Eberhardt, Roger Gibson, Don Sickau & Tim Willard to travel to monthly meetings/training sessions held in Western New York on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. The estimated cost is \$10.00/ attendee per session. Training sessions credited toward mandated Department of State in-service training requirement.

Moved: Hoak

Seconded: Kesner

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

VI.

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hamburg, in the County of Erie, New York, held at Town Hall, in said Town, on the 10th day of January, 2005.

PRESENT:

Hon. Patrick H. Hoak, Supervisor
D. Mark Cavalcoli, Councilperson
Kathleen Hochul, Councilperson
Joan A. Kesner, Councilperson
Thomas J. Quatroche, Jr., Councilperson

In the Matter :
of the

Construction of a Sewer Improvement :
in the Town of Hamburg, in the
County of Erie, New York pursuant :
to Article 12-C of the Town Law

ORDER CALLING FOR A PUBLIC
HEARING TO BE HELD ON
JANUARY 24, 2005

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Hamburg (herein called the “Town Board” and “Town” respectively), in the County of Erie, New York, has caused R&D Engineering, competent engineers duly licensed by the State of New York, to prepare a map, plan and report for the proposed construction of sewer improvements, consisting of the installation and replacement of sewer pipe, root cutting and grouting, cleaning and removal of build-ups, wye replacement, manhole replacement and other related work and any original furnishings, equipment, machinery, and apparatus required therefor (the “Sewer Improvement”), all within an unincorporated area of the Town outside of any villages, pursuant to Article 12-C of the Town Law, which map, plan and report has been heretofore duly filed in the office of the Town Clerk for public examination;

WHEREAS, the Town Board has given due consideration to the impact that the Sewer Improvement may have on the environment and, on the basis of such consideration, the Town Board had found that no substantial adverse environmental impact will be caused by the Sewer Improvement;

WHEREAS, the Town Board and the Town have complied in every respect with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding environmental matters, including compliance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, comprising Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed area within the Town to be benefitted by the proposed

Sewer Improvement (herein designated and called the “Benefitted Area” or the “Hamburg Sewer Improvement Area”), is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR HAMBURG

SEWER IMPROVEMENT AREA

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Town of Hamburg, County of Erie, and State of New York, being part of Township 9, Ranges 7 and 8, and Township 10, Ranges 7 and 8 of the Holland Land Company's Survey, with the benefitted area of the sewer improvements proposed to be undertaken more particularly bounded and described as being coterminous with the boundaries of the following existing Town of Hamburg sanitary sewer districts, the legal descriptions for which have previously been recorded in the Erie County

Clerk's Office:

District No.	Sewer District Name
SS-4	Cloverbank
SS-5	Locksley Park
SS-6	Osborne Sagamore
SS-7	Osborne Sagamore Extension No.1
SS-8	Osborne Sagamore Extension No.2
SS-9	Osborne Sagamore Extension No.3
SS-10	Amsdell Heights
SS-11	Taylor Road
SS-12	Bethford
SS-13	South Lyth
SS-15	East Frontier
SS-16	Stiefler
SS-17	Salem Drive
SS-18	Benz
SS-19	Sheldon Acres
SS-20	Linwood/Yovienne
SS-21	Hamburg Master
SS-22	Allen/James
SS-23	Elmwood/Oakwood
SS-24	Beacon Hill
SS-25	Northeast
SS-27	Ravenwood North

WHEREAS, the maximum amount proposed to be expended for the construction of such Sewer Improvement is estimated to be \$700,000, which is planned to be financed by the issuance of serial bonds of the Town and the levy and collection of assessments upon the several lots and parcels of land within the Hamburg Sewer Improvement Area which the Town Board shall determine to be especially benefitted by the Sewer Improvement, so much upon and from each as shall be in just proportion to the amount of benefit which the Sewer Improvement shall confer upon the same, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost of operation and maintenance of said Sewer

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : ss.:
COUNTY OF ERIE)

Barbara S. Allen, Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Hamburg in the County of Erie,
State of New York, DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that she has compared the preceding Order Calling
Public Hearing with the original thereof filed in her office on the 10th day of January, 2005, and that
same is a true and correct copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate
seal of said Town this _____ day of January,
2005.

(SEAL)

Town Clerk

as follows:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Kuhrt, Timothy | B7310(320)
Rec. Attendant | 01/02/2005 | \$9.25 P/T |
| 2. Polisenno, Jessica | B7310(320)
Rec. Attendant | 01/03/2005 | \$6.50 P/T |

Moved: Quatroche Seconded: Hochul
Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche
 Noes: None
 Carried

XVI.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the Audit of Cash Disbursements as follows:

		VOUCHER #'S
OPERATING FUND:		
BATCH #164	\$425,000.00	919183
BATCH #1	\$385,662.87	1 - 75
BATCH #2	\$570,919.25	80 - 82
BATCH #3	\$ 45,518.47	84 - 177
BATCH #4	\$156,506.49	UNPROCESSED
TOTAL OPERATING FUND DISBURSEMENTS:		\$1,583,607.08
TRUST & AGENCY:		
TOTAL TRUST & AGENCY DISBURSEMENTS:		\$ 0.00
CAPITAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS:		
BATCH #1	\$ 15,503.00	76 - 79
BATCH #2	\$520,000.00	83
BATCH #3	\$ 20,185.96	UNPROCESSED
TOTAL CAPITAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS:		\$ 555,688.96
PAYROLL:		
TOTAL PAYROLL DISBURSEMENTS:		\$ 0.00
PETTY CASH:		
TOTAL PETTY CASH DISBURSEMENTS:		\$ 0.00
TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS SUBMITTED FOR AUDIT:		\$2,139,296.04

Moved: Hoak Seconded: Quatroche
Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche
 Noes: None
 Carried

Karen Sherwood, President Hamburg Library Board, introduces the Board members that are present.

Karen comments that overall the Library system was cut 11%, but they were cut 24%. This is because some of the smaller Towns had only one branch and some of them were already at their minimum required State hours and to cut them would have put them out of business, they would have lost their charter. So, they took a substantial hit. They would have had to lay off the equivalent of 4.5 full time people. However, three of their librarians retired and they are the higher paid of the staff. They did have to cut a regular part-time worker but they did not have to lay off any full-time people. Hopefully they will be able to hold the line, they are under staffed. They closed Thursday in Hamburg Village and they closed Tuesday in Lake Shore. They were always closed on Wednesday in Blasdell and now they are closed on Friday and half of Monday. They have lost the Sunday hours at Hamburg Village as well. They are concerned about it and where it is going forward next year.

Councilwoman Hochul comments that she was at the meeting last week and the cut of 24% is substantial. She wanted the Town Board and everyone they represent to understand that they understand why they did this. Going forward, as a Board that cares about the Libraries and would like to see as many hours available as possible, she wanted the Town Board to give some thought as to how they can be supportive. This year they can't give financial support other than maintaining the three buildings. There have been improvements and she credits Jim Connolly for seeing to that

Karen responds that they are most appreciative, the Board has been very supportive. Their director has left and she worked very hard to leave it in good hands for her successor and that is all on hold. Jack, who has been the Librarian in Hamburg for 18 years is the acting director and they are not in a position to fill positions because they are still paying out for retirements.

Councilwoman Hochul questions how much they saved by closing Hamburg Village on Thursdays.

Karen responds that Hamburg is their biggest building and it is over \$1,200,000.

Don Cummings comments that the County cut their budget \$173,000.00. The Board and Jack, as the acting director, put together a package that would meet that loss of \$173,000. They tried to share that amongst the three libraries as best they can. He is very concerned, as an individual, he has been on the Board for over 30 years. He is concerned more for the future of the library system than the Town of Hamburg. He thinks they will get by with this, but there must be a lot of give and take. The staff will have to bear a terrible burden because the librarian shift that retired isn't going to be there and a part-time clerk isn't the same. The hit of 24% is a tremendous hit. Downtown said "ok - you did it, now do it next year". He is very concerned about that. He doesn't mean to pick on the small libraries, but thank goodness Legislator Kuwik came along and gave them \$5,000 and he thanks him for that. The City of Lackawanna, with the small hit, is operating almost the same as last year. The Town of Hamburg is almost a quarter less, his concern is that they watch this very carefully.

Councilman Cavalcoli comments that another concern is that they didn't close any libraries and it could have been a lot of pressure to reduce from three to two libraries so he is very appreciative that we still have the three sites available to serve the broad expanse of people we have geographically. He too is concerned about the economic impacts that the entire region is feeling, that this may be a 25% budget cut this year and maybe next year they have to cut one library and each year another cut. His alarm bell is very fair and should be listened to.

Councilman Quatroche comments that we are larger geographically than Buffalo, so we are really spread out and people forget about that. He questions, in case anyone asks, if the hours were based on circulation.

Jack responds, partially but not entirely. They started off closing one place per day and then worked from there. Then added some more back on, that is how Blasdell got another half day. To do it by circulation, Hamburg would be open all the time and they would close up the other places.

Karen comments that rule of thumb is that Lakeshore is twice the circulation of Blasdell and Hamburg is twice the circulation of Lakeshore.

Don comments that the book collection is not the same when you compare Blasdell to Lakeshore

to Hamburg.

Karen comments that they are like a regional library and so they were one of a handful of libraries that had Sunday hours. They originally paid for it. They are still functioning that way. On the weekend when they were doing petitions they had people from Angola, Springville and Orchard Park who came in to use the Hamburg library because it is a better library. They need to do a study of the library and they asked the library to do a study of walk-ins and hours. So they did try to be open more in the evening, with these new hours and they are going to keep track of who walks in and their peak hours. They hope to tweak their figures. By being closed, they can bring employees over from Lakeshore to Hamburg and vice versa because they are down three librarians.

Councilwoman Hochul comments that at the meeting they discussed the survey and finding the age of the people using the library. If they found that after school it is predominantly kids coming over doing homework then they could have a dialog with the schools and having them extend their library hours to accommodate the kids. If it involves our seniors then possibly asking our senior center to help out. It would be good to have those numbers. So they can make adjustments so that people are still getting service, but not with the same delivery it has always been.

Councilman Cavalcoli questions if there is the possibility, within the library system, of having volunteers or docents to pick up some of the work that is non-technical to help with the budget costs.

Karen comments that in Hamburg the volunteers are elderly and they travel a lot. The staff and or directors have not felt confident in training a volunteer or docent because they are not reliable. Then you spend a lot of time training the people and they are cycling through. The volunteers certainly do a lot, they do the book sale and do a census every so often. In terms of volunteers replacing paid staff, that would be something they would have to think hard about.

Don responds that they use a lot of part-time help, but that is at the low end of the wage scale, so while they are not volunteers, they are not librarians.

Councilman Cavalcoli responds that he knows that there is a critical difference in service and function between those levels, he just thought that if the budget gets tight and they were hurting for the people with the skilled backgrounds to help their clients, as long as they are looking into it, they can keep the doors open to any of those possibilities.

Supervisor Hoak comments, that one thing they can all agree on, the Library Board has been outstanding throughout all their terms. This is a labor of love, they make no money and their motives are pure and it is an outstanding service that they provide. This is a concern. What they did is probably one of the hardest tasks in the history of the library. He asks if there is any type of formula that would benefit the Board in presentations to the County that there should be x amount of employees per circulation.

Jack responds that it is based on population, this determines the number of staff and the level of staff. The usage follows. One supports the other. They have to be open 55 hours during the week. They have to come up with 55 different hours that the library is open. That is why they stagger the hours, morning and night, at the different libraries so they can come up with 55 consecutive hours.

Karen comments that is why they have been hit harder than a community that only has one library. If they have enough population that they have to be open 55 hours, they only have one building for the entire 55 hours. This is why Orchard Park is open on Sunday, they need those hours to meet their minimum. They are at 59 hours presently and could cut only four hours next year in order to keep their charter.

Councilwoman Hochul comments that the only trouble with cutting hours, like at Blasdell, is that it may affect circulation. If someone goes there and it is closed repeatedly then they will find somewhere else to go.

Karen responds that some people still think they can't take out books because they were told on December 8th that they couldn't take out anymore books. So, circulation is down.

Jack responds that when you hear the library is going to be closed, even though that didn't happen, the circulation does go down. But, eventually it follows a pattern and things get back to normal.

Supervisor Hoak questions if the library budget is set in stone or will the lawsuits against the County Budget have an impact.

Karen responds that she thinks it is set in stone as much as they understand it. They were on the verge of laying off or closing which was drastic. But, the library can afford to be open for 3 months even if disaster were to occur. They are just waiting to see if there is anything different down the road.

Supervisor Hoak questions if there has been any discussion with Union members of volunteers taking over their hours and whether they would grieve it or complain.

Don comments that they have been very cautious about it.

Councilwoman Kesner comments that this has been a rough couple of years for them. There was talk of closing down the libraries and opening up one central library. They battled that one down and now this happened. She sympathizes, they are like pawns in this budget process. It is a shame, they are very proud of the service they provide.

Karen responds that the Town Board have been a great support to them and that is one of the reasons they came in to talk. They have also worked hard to keep a good relationship with the downtown system.

Councilwoman Hochul comments that the library is in good hands and as the liaison she appreciates all the information.

Karen comments that if they want information just let them know and they will do what they can to get it.

Councilwoman Hochul comments that when the user survey is done they would be interested in seeing that. It would be interesting to note the ages of people at certain hours of the day. They need to get their letters out soon asking the Legislators for their member money.

XVII.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board adjourn to Executive Session at this time.

Moved: Hoak

Seconded: Kesner

Roll Call: Ayes: Hoak, Cavalcoli, Hochul, Kesner, Quatroche

Noes: None

Carried

Catherine Rybczynski, Town Clerk