

**TOWN OF WALWORTH – “SIT WITH THE SUPERVISOR” SESSION
9 FEBRUARY 2008**

An informal round table discussion with Supervisor Robert Plant, Councilman Thomas Yale, Councilwoman Suzi Hawkins-Mance and Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, was held at the West Walworth Fire Department, 3870 West Walworth Road, on February 9, 2008, at 9:00 AM.

Also present were 6 residents from the West Walworth Road, Cream Ridge Road and County Line Road areas.

A resident asked about the old school in Walworth being up for sale and mentioned that she thought it was supposed to be a Recreation Center. Supervisor Plant informed her that “No, that vote got turned down three years ago.” The Supervisor explained that after that it is sold, the people who buy it get into it and find out that there is a lot more damage inside than they had anticipated and then they try to sell it again; we have a big building that no one does anything with.

Another resident asked about a rumor that West Walworth Road was going to be rebuilt. The Supervisor advised him that it is scheduled for next year. But they will be doing the engineering for it this year. They have done some surveying. The road will be torn up and a new drainage system put in, all buried. The Supervisor explained that the County does not do sidewalks, even on County roads. The Town is planning on replacing all of the sidewalks at that time. He stated that the cost for sidewalks, today is \$50,000.00; so money is being put aside now so that when they do the road next year, the sidewalks will be done then also. This resident asked if underground storm drains were going to be put in, where would they empty out? The Supervisor stated that it would go into the stream down on the West side. Supervisor Plant stated that he did not have all of the engineering but that they were anticipating two pipes going down that way. Councilman Yale stated that it would not really change where the water was going; the water was already going there, it would just move it more efficiently underground. The resident asked if they would have to do an environmental study on this. The Supervisor commented that he honestly didn't know, that would be up to the County because it's a County road. The same resident posed a question regarding safety concerns at the intersection of West Walworth Road and Route 441, asking if anything was going to be done about this. The Supervisor explained that he did not believe so and that this was a State intersection. The resident asked, “For safety purposes, why don't they have a T-intersection instead of that one straight line going down where the Yield is?” The Supervisor stated that it used to be that way but they figured this was safer. Discussion ensued with safety concerns, prior history of fatalities, and changes that could be made. Supervisor Plant took some notes for follow-up.

The same resident had another safety issue regarding intersection streetlights. Councilman Yale stated that the Town had an existing list that was prioritized years ago in which the Town had budgeted two intersection streetlights per year. Supervisor Plant stated the cost was \$2,000.00 per intersection streetlight and then utility bills forever. Discussion ensued with regards to the procedure used to determine when there should be a recommendation to adjust the priority of this list. Councilman Yale stated that the prioritization had to do with traffic volume, or at least perception thereof, and that changes so we should adjust the priority list accordingly as time goes on. Supervisor Plant gave an example using Stalker Road and the recommendation from the Highway Superintendent, due to children gathering at the bus stop.

Another resident asked if a trunk line for sewers would be installed prior to the new road coming in. “And when are we going to get sewers?” Supervisor Plant stated, “That's what we're working on. We don't know. When we did the survey, no one answered the survey, so that eliminated us from the Small Cities Grant.” Discussion ensued regarding the survey information and questions answered. The same resident continued with the topics of septic systems and the increase of significant traffic of trucks; there had been some significant changes in their “hump” where lots

**TOWN OF WALWORTH – “SIT WITH THE SUPERVISOR” SESSION
CONTINUED
9 FEBRUARY 2008**

of people were having cracks in their foundations and she had two walls that were caving in because of this. The resident stated that she had a concern with the traffic on the road but they also needed sewers. Councilman Yale inquired if they were still seeing significant Dolomite traffic. The resident stated “definitely, yes.” Councilman Yale and Supervisor Plant explained some of the steps that the Town had taken to eliminate heavy truck traffic on West Walworth Road. A resident suggested that since West Walworth Road was a County road, to approach the County and ask them to put a weight limit on the road. Supervisor Plant answered that unfortunately they won’t put a weight restriction on it, especially after they rebuild it, because they have to build the road to a heavier specification according to the State. Councilman Yale stated that the Town could continue to work with Dolomite; they have been a very good neighbor.

Discussion continued concerning the cost and routing of sewers in the West Walworth area. Supervisor Plant stated that the Town was looking for “Congressman” to give us 1.4 million dollars, which was a large amount. A resident asked “What is the time frame for this?” Supervisor Plant said that the grant request was “before March 1, 2008.” He commented that we didn’t know when we would hear, probably sometime by the end of the year. And then if we got it, we would have to move very quickly to have engineering done so we could get the project started before the road got rebuilt next year. Then the resident commented, “So in line with that, the engineering could almost be done now.” Supervisor Plant stated “If we had money...we need over \$100,000.00 just for the engineer.” Councilman Yale stated that engineering is generally 12% of any project.

Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance exited the meeting at 9:30 AM.

The residents who were present continued their discussion with Supervisor Plant and Councilman Yale, but the official meeting adjourned due to no quorum being present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie C. Jacobs
Town Clerk