

TOWN OF WALWORTH – “SIT WITH THE SUPERVISOR” SESSION 7 FEBRUARY 2009

An informational roundtable discussion with Supervisor Plant, Councilwoman Marini, Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance, and Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, was held at the West Walworth Fire Department, 3870 West Walworth Road, on February 7, 2009, at 9:00 AM.

Also present were 7 residents from the West Walworth and Gananda areas.

One resident asked Supervisor Plant to comment on the article in the paper that stated sewers would be coming to West Walworth in the near future. Supervisor Plant stated that he did not make this statement to the papers, but the correct statement was that sewers will be up Canandaigua Road; and even there the reporter was misquoted because it did not get the sewers all the way up to 441. Supervisor Plant stated that as the sewers expand, they will expand toward the West Walworth Hamlet to service the Business Zone in that direction. One resident stated that could be 15 to 20 years from now. Discussion ensued. He further stated that the construction on West Walworth Road would be completed in 2009.

Supervisor Plant stated he would be applying to the State for a Town-wide beaver permit again. It was noted that the permit expires at the start at beaver trapping season and must be renewed every year.

A resident recapped the discussion from the last time we met here:

1. West Walworth Road widening
2. West Walworth Gutters
3. Loss of the Century-old trees
4. Speed on West Walworth Road
5. Sewers to West Walworth

The resident asked what they got. Supervisor Plant stated that sewers were a “dead” issue; the residents in the area “did not want it,” he commented. He said that a survey was done twice, with no response. The Town needed more than an 80% response and of the 80%, 90% needed to be positive; we got 10%. The resident stated that maybe with the new road a different way to approach the residents for a survey would be a good thing. She said that on one of the first surveys it was asking for your income – and people took that as too personal and did not respond. She further stated that she understood that this information was needed, but maybe the first approach was wrong and should be done like the meetings that took place for the construction of West Walworth Road. It was a shame that the road was going to be ripped up and we were not getting sewers. Supervisor Plant stated that even if he was handed the money for the sewers right now, he could not get the sewers in this year; just the engineering alone and going out to bid for it would not be possible. The Town was trying to do the project with grant money - surveys were needed to prove we had financial need and that the residents could not actually afford it.

The resident stated that for the gutters West Walworth came together with a great response. The residents and the County had worked together to solve issues that were important to us. We did lose the century-old Trees. RG&E had come through and completed their work with little effect to us.

The other concern we all continue to mention is the traffic. How fast people go, including the “Snow Plow Guy” who almost took out my neighbor. She stated now is the time to see a plan in place for traffic. The only response we got from our work on the road meeting was the concern all the residents had for the heavy trucks, why were they using this road, how to alleviate this problem, why everyone goes too fast. Supervisor Plant stated that the County will address this by making sure the signs were up and visible; the other thing we will end up doing is placing the piece of equipment that states “your speed is...” - this will be here after the construction. Police will also set up radar here; they have done this a few times already and will continue to do so here and also on the surrounding roads. Supervisor Plant stated that he did not know what other plans can be worked on besides enforcement.

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He noted that in his latest Supervisor's column he suggested that people start to find alternative routes because of the construction. He went on to say that residents and people would be able to get into the business area, however all others would need alternative routes. He hoped this would quiet down traffic.

Councilwoman Marini mentioned contacting different groups regarding planters that could be used on West Walworth Road. A resident mentioned the planting of trees on West Walworth Road. Councilwoman Marini commented that we could see about getting some trees donated. Supervisor Plant said that he knew that he could do that; these would have to be planted outside of the right of way. Having a plan for the future would be a very good thing. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Plant commented that the benefit to RG&E changing everything would bring all new poles and wires.

The discussion flowed to the Eagle Scouts and the cleanup of trash from behind the cemetery. Councilwoman Marini mentioned that the Town had the Town-wide "clean-up" project in April, and she would contact the chair of the project and mention it to her.

The residents mentioned that there is trash from pots, containers, wreaths and items dumped from the cemetery, and there is quite a bit of stuff and it's on a hill. Discussion ensued with regards to the ownership of the West Walworth Cemetery and the other cemeteries in the Town. Councilwoman Marini commented that maybe the Town could sponsor a town clean-up with Town volunteers working in conjunction with the Cemetery Committee to help clean up the cemeteries over various Saturdays. Susie Jacobs commented on behalf of the Cemetery Committee: "We visited these cemeteries to plan a course of action for the Committee to restore the cemeteries by cleaning them up. We found that the poison ivy was something that we knew nothing about, so we have to research how to go about removing this from one of the cemeteries that was covered by it. Our Town cemeteries have a lot of history."

Supervisor Plant mentioned that a request for two (2) intersection lights for Bills Road was made last year; one (1) was put in, the cost to put the other one in was over \$2,000.00 and the Town was going to do it this year - however due to budget cuts (due to cost of fuel and stuff) we ended up removing the intersection light for 2009. It will remain number one on the list to be done, but not this year. The discussion moved onto the light at 441 and Gananda Parkway - perhaps road markings indicating where people should stop or road signs indicating that a light is "up ahead," or right turn on red onto Gananda Parkway. Supervisor Plant agreed he would make a call to the State on Monday regarding these issues. Discussion ensued.

Supervisor Plant mentioned the cuts at the County level. Discussion ensued.

Councilman Yale mentioned and invited anyone from the public that would be interested in joining the re-established Master Plan Committee and the Town Economic Development Committee. He will Chair these committees and will start the Economic Development Committee first because if they have issues of zoning they can bring them to the Master Plan Committee for action. Councilman Yale stated that someone had mentioned before we get any kind of development we have to get sewers; now that is going to be a possibility with opportunity on 441 and Canandaigua Road, now that the sewers are finally going to cross Black Creek, that is a huge, huge expense that the Town could not have come up with without this Senior Development.

Supervisor Plant mentioned Salvatore Pizza will be coming into the Walworth Hamlet. Feathered bye Friends will be expending in its current location to allow more seating, and in the far end of the plaza will be a kitchen designer with his show room. The designer is not a warehouse - it is a 'by-appointment office.'

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The Town Clerk did a recap of the items discussed today for everyone. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie C. Jacobs, Town Clerk