

**WALWORTH TOWN BOARD – SPECIAL MEETING  
16 NOVEMBER 2006**

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Presiding Supervisor Plant called the Special Town Board meeting, held at the Walworth Town Hall, 3600 Lorraine Drive, to order at 7:00 P.M.

Council Members present:	Daniel Keyes	Councilman
	Patti Marini	Councilwoman
	Suzi Hawkins-Mance	Councilwoman
Necessarily Absent	Thomas Yale	Councilman
Town Employees present:	Susie Jacobs	Town Clerk
	Deb Germain	Parks & Recreation Department
	George Schaller	Sewer Department
Library Board Trustees present:	Becky Appleman	President
	Dorothy French	Secretary
	Richard Crooks	Trustee
	Ellen Dietterick	Trustee
Library Employees present:	Mary Zingerella	Librarian Director
	Liz O'Toole	Youth Services Specialist
	Melanie Hamel	Clerk
	Adrian VonHorn	Clerk
	Allison Hosier	Clerk

**ROLL CALL:**

Trustee Appleman questioned if “The Town” has any plans for their shortage of space at the Town Hall Building with regards to an addition, or a separate library building. Trustee Appleman asked Council Members for their help and guidance, because the Library space available to them now is cramped and dangerous. Supervisor Plant stated that he researched grants available to the Library and has not been successful. The only grant money that anyone has said could possibly be available has been “matching funds out of member items”, where if the Library starts raising funds in hopes that a Congressman or whoever would match the amount and help some. Supervisor Plant stated that other than that, there doesn’t appear to be any specific grant money for this purpose that we can apply for. Trustee Appleman asked if the Town has any plans for additional space. Supervisor Plant stated that yes we are out of space, this building was built in 1992 and no one had anticipated that the Town Offices would be out of space. The Town Council are in the very preliminary stages of discussion with regards to space. Trustee Appleman inquired if the Library needed more space, what would they have to do to accomplish this. Supervisor Plant stated that other buildings that needed additional space have been saving up money for this purpose. He explained the Parks Department has the “Parks Capital Reserve Fund”, which is built up every time a new house is built in town. The growth of the town back in the 80’s early 90’s grew quite rapidly (approximately 100 new homes each year) allowed this fund to build up every time a new home was built. For 2006 we have built 17 new homes with hopes to increase that to 40 for 2007. The Highway Department has been accumulating funds for projects like this. Supervisor Plant stated that if the Town Offices need additional space, saving for this project or perhaps going for a Bond would have to be looked at. Trustee Appleman stated that we do agree that the Town has grown and keeps growing. Library circulation has increased to over 100,000 items without space to put things. Programs can’t be offered due to lack of space to hold events the Town is growing but the Library is stagnant. Supervisor Plant admitted that the Town Offices are cramped for space as well. Monies would have to be put aside to perform a study as to the best way to accommodate all needs. Unofficial discussions have taken place with the Supervisor and other Town Hall employees and Council Members on the possibility of putting an upper level in to create a couple of offices as well as other options. But in order to spend money to do a project would require first spending money for a study to be done. Mary Zingerella stated that the library has access to an architect through the POS that they could have come look at the building and do not charge for their service but they don’t want to do that if it looks like something that won’t happen. They would come and assess what could be done, give suggestions and ballpark figures on what some of the additions / changes could cost. Supervisor Plant said that we have to start somewhere, and

the architects that he knows would charge for a consult service. Trustee Appleman commented that there is a NY State standard for space in the library, which they are below,

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but the architect would come in and look at the whole building and give some ideas. Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance commented that she knew that the library has started working on some of the fund raising ideas based on the statement made by Senator Nozzolio. Trustee Appleman also commented that the Friends Groups could also get their 5013C so that people can make tax-deductible donations. Supervisor Plant advised the library to contact their engineering firm to do a study. Trustee Appleman asked if there were certain space requirements for Town Offices. Supervisor Plant stated that he was not aware of any restrictions. The Friends group has been meeting with various groups to see what they would like to see in a new library, and will be continuing with other communities. Library space is now working some of the employee work requirements. They cannot put all items back to where they belong. Some are remaining in aisles and creating a fire / safety hazard and they are not able to serve the community to the best of their ability. Supervisor Plant stated that the library is currently 3200 square feet and they are looking to triple this amount. Mary Zingarella commented that the configuration of the new library is crucial so that a “tunnel” effect is not designed but a more open appearance. The library asked if the Town would borrow money for a new library and Supervisor Plant stated that it would have to go up for referendum and would raise resident taxes and was not sure this would be feasible. He does not know how to get money other than being given money, fund raising, or bond. Patti Marini advised that there are no provisions for the Town Hall space availability. Susie Jacobs asked the Town Board at what point would the Library Board of Trustees have to get back together to determine the possibility of a bond or referendum. Patti Marini commented that the Town would have to meet with the Town Attorney to see what steps are required to proceed to a bond. Supervisor Plant stated that in order to go to a bond exact cost and plans need to be submitted. Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance asked how to go about getting a grant and was told the Town would have to get a grant writer and do the study. Supervisor Plant ended the conversation with once again advising the library to get an architect in to do a preliminary study and see what is possible, whether to add on or to build a new building. He also advised that the current building plans would be available for the architects review if needed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Supervisor Plant made comment that the regular schedule Town Board Meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.