

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 1**

Supervisor Louis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending: Councilwoman McKeon, Councilmen Kuenster, Norris, and Byas, Attorney for the Town Wukitsch, Highway Superintendent Jordan, Town Clerk Brooks, and 30 members of the public. Absent: Tax Collector Stuart.

Supervisor Louis welcomed all attending,

MINUTES

The minutes of the **April 28, 2008 Town Board Work Meeting** were presented for approval.

Supervisor asked, in the 2nd paragraph under Agenda, 5th line, change *maintain* to *sustain*; 2nd to last paragraph, *borne* with an *e*. With no further changes, Supervisor Louis moved, seconded by Councilman McKeon.

Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris, Byas**
 Nays-0

The minutes of the **May 12, 2008 Hearing on Zoning Violation** were presented for approval.

With no changes, Councilwoman McKeon moved, seconded by Councilman Norris.

Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris, Byas**
 Nays-0

The minutes of the **May 12, 2008 Regular Town Board Meeting** were presented for approval.

With no changes, Councilwoman McKeon moved, seconded by Councilman Kuenster.

Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris, Byas**
 Nays-0

CORRESPONDENCE

From **New Baltimore Reformed Church**, an invitation to celebrate the original laying of the its cornerstone on July 4, 1833, beginning with a parade on July 4, a gala banquet at Pegasus Restaurant on July 5, and Sunday morning worship on July 6, honouring those Christians of 175 years ago as well as volunteers in our community today.

From Greene County, a notice of a **household hazardous waste day** on July 14 at 67 Scott Lane in Athens. Hours are 8 am to 4 pm.

From NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, a notice of an annual **free fishing weekend** June 28 and 29, 2008.

From Greene County Council on the Arts, an invitation to the June 25 **Greene County Council on the Arts** reception for 2008 County Initiative and Decentralization NYSCA regrant award recipients, to be held at the Bronck House Museum.

From New York State Department of Transportation, a response to the Town request for a cut in the **State Route 144 guiderail**, at the Hannacroix Preserve boardwalk; the request is being evaluated.

From the NYS Department of Transportation, the signs on **Route 144** just north of Boehlke's and the Shady Harbor entrance indicate that work has been resumed.

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 2**

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor stated that, held hearing on **Notice of Zoning Violation**, by consensus of Board to consider many different options, it was tabled for tonight. Supervisor offered that the Board's responsibility is a determination as to whether use complies with zoning or not based on information provided by a **Building Inspector**. Whether permission was given 21 years ago or not, it is not binding in terms of enforcement actions. The Town Board received a lot of information, the type and volume that would be expected of a matter before the Zoning Board of Appeals. ZBA would determine whether a variance would be appropriate. It is difficult for the Board to speak to an outcome of a ZBA proceeding, an avenue that would afford the fullest amount of due process. Supervisor supports a finding of the Town Board to sustain the violation; that would give the property owner the opportunity to go before the ZBA for a use variance. If ZBA denies the use variance, the Town Board would establish a reasonable compliance date to remedy the violation. Councilwoman McKeon agrees, as this provides an opportunity to go before another Board to seek approval, and Town Board can take that determination into account. Norris agrees, as it provides due process. Kuenster concurred. Supervisor stated that, if taken to ZBA, the Board would like to see it on their agenda for July, giving 10 days to file application.

**RESOLUTION
JUNE 9, 2008**

**RESOLUTION SUSTAINING NOTICE OF VIOLATION,
HOLDING ENFORCEMENT IN ABEYANCE AND
AUTHORIZING REFERRAL TO ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TO CONSIDER VARIANCE APPLICATION.**

WHEREAS, Rose and Bruce Ubrich are the owners of property located on Route 9W in the Town's commercial zone, Property ID# 29.01-2-14 (hereinafter "the property"), and

WHEREAS, a complaint was filed with the Building Inspector alleging that farming/agricultural activities were being conducted on this property in violation of the Code of the Town of New Baltimore, and

WHEREAS, said farming activities constitute an agricultural use which is not permitted in the Commercial District under New Baltimore Code §112-8, and

WHEREAS, following an investigation of the matter, the Town Building Inspector has determined that there appears to be a violation of the Town Zoning Code relating to the property by virtue of the fact that the Ubrichs are conducting farming activities on the commercially zoned property; and

WHEREAS, the Town Building Inspector has met with the person or persons involved for the purpose of obtaining voluntary compliance with the Town Code, and

WHEREAS, compliance with applicable provisions of the Town Code has not been obtained in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Town Code §112-23(B), and the Building Inspector has submitted an appropriate report in writing of the proceedings to the Town Board, with a copy to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and

WHEREAS, a hearing was held before this Board on May 12, 2008 at which the Ubrichs presented statements and other evidence as to why they should not or are unable to comply with the Zoning Chapter of the Town Code,

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 3**

NOW, after due deliberation and the review of all prior proceedings,

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The Town Board based on all the evidence presented finds that
 - (a) the Ubrichs are currently conducting agricultural activities on the property in the Town's commercial zone by harboring and selling livestock in violation of the Town Zoning Code;
 - (b) there is no prior non-conforming use applicable to the property;
 - (c) the notice of violation is sustained at this time with any enforcement/remedy held in abeyance until (d) below is completed;
 - (d) in order to remedy the violation, the Ubrichs shall be permitted to apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance under Town Code §112-30(B);
 - (e) in the event the Ubrichs fail to apply for a variance within ten (10) days of the date of this resolution, or the variance is ultimately denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals, then the Town Board will place this matter on its agenda for consideration of enforcement and remediation;
 - (f) in the event the Ubrichs obtain a variance then the Notice of Violation will be reconsidered and dismissed and the terms of the variance will control.

Councilman McKeon moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Kuenster. No other discussion.

Roll Call Vote	Kuenster- Aye	McKeon- Aye	Louis- Aye
Adopted	Norris- Aye	Byas- Aye	

Public Meetings Scheduled for Proposed Zoning and Subdivision Code Revisions

Supervisor reminded those attending that the Meeting 1 will be held at Cornell Hook and Ladder on Tuesday night and Wednesday night at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse. Meeting 2 will be held on July 16 and 17, Medway and Cornell Hook and Ladder respectively. There will be at least 3 sets of public meetings before put in to law.

NEW BUSINESS

Highway Department has replaced equipment and wishes to sell the old attachment.

**RESOLUTION
JUNE 9, 2008**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS ON SALE OF
USED BOOM MOWER ATTACHMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for bids on the sale of the Town Highway Department's used boom mower attachment, said bids to be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 14, 2008 and to be publicly opened at 7:15 p.m. on July 14, 2008.

Councilwoman McKeon moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Norris. No discussion.

Adopted	Ayes-5	Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris
	Nays-0	

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 4**

When the 2008 Budget was put together, a need was foreseen for a Capital Reserve Fund for equipment, the replacement for the **boom mower** and a 20-year old **asphalt roller**. An opportunity arose to buy a used piece of equipment but must be put out to bid as it exceeds General Municipal Law price.

**RESOLUTION
JUNE 9, 2008**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR
PURCHASE OF USED ASPHALT ROLLER FOR TOWN HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for bids for the purchase of a used asphalt roller to be used by the Town Highway Department, in accordance with specifications to be prepared by the Town Superintendent of Highways, said bids to be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 14, 2008 and to be publicly opened at 7:15 p.m. on July 14, 2008.

Councilwoman McKeon moved, seconded by Councilman Norris.
Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris**
 Nays-0

Supervisor stated there is a long standing dispute, including allegations, does not seem to be able to resolve itself, been advised by counsel the best way to protect Town from litigation is to engage services of licensed surveyor, to establish a center line of the road, Jennings Road. Mr. Pilatich and the Town have attempted discussions; but we can't know without a professional surveyor. Said Town resident does not have an interest.

**RESOLUTION
JUNE 9, 2008**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO RETAIN SURVEYOR TO
ESTABLISH HISTORICAL CENTER LINE ON JENNINGS ROAD**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to pay a retainer of \$1,000 to Philip J. Massaro & Son, Professional Land Surveyors, in accordance with their proposal dated May 9, 2008, to establish, via survey and record information, the historic centerline of Jennings Road, in the area fronting the property of Mr. Stephen Pilatich, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to accept the terms of the above referenced proposal, which provides for the above referenced work to be completed, at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.

Councilman Kuenster moved, seconded by Councilman Byas. No discussion.
Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris**
 Nays-0

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Proposed Open
Burning Regulations**

Supervisor clarified that NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has a provision in their regulation pertaining to **open burning** to which they are proposing changes. Many current restrictions do not apply to Towns with populations under 20,000. Supervisor summarized the exceptions to the open burning restrictions:

- 1) barbeque grill, maple sugar arches and similar outdoor cooking devices,
- 2) small fires used for cooking that are not left unattended until extinguished provided that charcoal and natural untreated wood is used for fuel,

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 5**

- 3) campfires that are less than 3 feet in height, length, width and diameter until they are extinguished,
- 4) onsite burning of waste from naturally grown products such as vines, trees, branches, leaves and stubble that is part of a valid agricultural operation on land that is over 5 acres in size that contributes to the production, preparation and marketing of crops, livestock products as a commercial enterprise which includes horse boarding and timber products provided that such waste is actually grown on those lands and such waste is capable of being fully burned within a 24-hour period,
- 5) liquid petroleum smudge pot to prevent frost damage to crops,
- 6) ceremonial or celebratory bonfires not otherwise prohibited by law provided that only natural untreated wood or agricultural products are used as fuel and the fire is not left unattended until extinguished,
- 7) small fires used to dispose of flags or religious items or small fires and other smoke producing processes used in connection with religious ceremony,
- 8) burning of explosive or other dangerous contraband by police or other public safety organizations,
- 9) fire training exercises provided that toxic materials or materials likely to produce toxic smoke are removed from structures burned in the fire training exercise,
- 10) individual open fires that may be required in response to animal disease upon request by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets,
- 11) individual open fires otherwise authorized under environmental conservation law or by rule or regulation of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and
- 12) prescribed burns under NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for forest practices.

Supervisor pointed out that, by law, the NYSDEC cannot adopt changes to its regulation without offering the public the opportunity to comment, which can be done in writing or at one of a number of public hearings. (The notice is available, as is the hearing notice.) Hearings are being held on **June 25, at NYSDEC on Broadway in Albany, 9:30am and 5:30pm.** Also, in Staatsburg, NY on June 26. The notices are on the website; there is an opportunity to be heard. Councilman Kuenster asked if the Board was considering making a statement. Supervisor said it would be something to consider. Supervisor has been contacted by a number of people, when the Town is going through a visioning process at the time of considering the Comprehensive Plan, and a survey revealed a split right down the middle. Perhaps the Board can find consensus regarding the brush burning, with larger tracts of land, not just farmers who are exempt. There is a provision in Uniform Fire Code when someone calls and has a problem, **307.3 of NYS Uniform Fire Code**, offensive smoke or odor when atmospheric conditions exist. A wholesale ban may be extreme.

Cless Bush asked if comments made tonight would be on the record? Answer: no.

Bob Ross asked if residents bring brush to Highway Garage, is that exempt? A: Town is not exempt; if adopted the Town will no longer be able to burn. What will be alternative with some 90 miles of roads.

Joan Ross had no opinion about agricultural areas; the hamlet is almost a separate situation because of population density, and children breathing toxins. People need to change old habits and not burn plastic containers.

Ted Hilscher acknowledged opportunity to complain to DEC, and asked Town Board to take position as a municipality in upstate NY. He thinks there are 2 issues: burn barrel and brush. In defense of barrels, restrictions should address location; must not be in direct proximity to a neighbor. Much greater problem is the brush; anyone who has more than ½ acre must get rid of brush to maintain his property. Whoever drafted this has no appreciation of 57 upstate counties of folks who have to do something with the brush. If it can't be burnt responsibly, there will be big piles along the road. Another mandate from government, another burden on the backs of small towns will be to buy a chipper, and

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 6**

hire men all year long to chip over 90 miles of town roads. The best example that there is no appreciation for those who maintain their land is that the regulations would go in to effect in the summer; there's going to be burning at the wrong time of the year. Mr. Hilscher asked the Town to adopt a resolution opposing the regulations and send it to NYSDEC, and voice objections to state senator and assemblyman, who are accumulating voices from all of their districts.

Councilman Kuenster said people don't always do the right thing, separating the plastic before burning. [If the country was completely] against regulation, [it] would look like the Soviet Union.

Rich Guthrie commented that for population density, prevailing winds and elevation, the hamlet is downwind from most of Town and Albany County, receiving a mixed bag, a blue cloud. There are people who are sensitive; Mr. Guthrie is fully in favour of opposing their "blanket ban". He does not want unrestricted burning by those who don't think of the consequences of their actions.

Charlie Hudson stated that to enact a burn ban law is overreactive, just because some do burn plastic. Councilman Kuenster said everything burned produces a byproduct, except but plain untreated paper.

Charlie Hudson asked what can be done with junk mail. Councilman Kuenster responded recycling. Mr. Hudson answered that it is unwanted and unsolicited.

Barbara Tanner offered that she puts it back in the return envelope and sends it back. Councilwoman McKeon said there was a "no junk mail" form at the post office; she is against the proposals by the DEC, and offered Town incidents where homes are close, and garbage is being dumped, adding that she also opposes burning barrels, plastics, roof tiles, and the resulting noxious smoke.

Greene County Legislator Jim Van Slyke had discussed the burning ban public comment period during Public Safety Committee's meeting, and how much it will cost the Towns and County to pick up the difference.

Councilman Kuenster asked about the police role.

Supervisor said that, if established as a state regulation, local police would have authority to enforce it.

Councilman Byas stated that burning regulations have been on the table for years; he felt there was no one in the room who had done more burning, running round the clock dozers, with no problems. The burning can be reported to NYSDEC, a ranger comes and issues a ticket, fines around \$10,000 day for uncontrolled burns.

Supervisor can find no evidence on the books regulating burn barrels; Councilman Byas will dig up old information on hazardous smoke.

Councilman Norris said quality of life is the chief issue.

Manny Phillips, a Flatbush Road resident, has tried calling NYSDEC in the last 5 years for neighbours burning plastic. The local forest ranger said he could come but if he doesn't find plastic that he [Manny] could perform a citizens arrest. He has called everyone and asked who else to call.

Councilman Kuenster has called and was told that in a Town under 20,000 there was nothing to do about it.

Mr. Phillips said there are a lot of good people who burn, but also a lot of bad people who burn and it isn't fair to taxpayers.

Bill Morehouse has the same problem, neighbours who truck it in and bury it, and in a commercial zone burning is not allowed, in industrial or commercial activities.

Supervisor clarified that 15 years ago Flatbush was zoned residential.

W & W Transportation and Brockett are located on Route 9W.

Supervisor read: cannot burn for onsite disposal rubbish generated by commercial or industrial activities other than agricultural; it is governed by the nature of the operation doing the burning.

Legislator Jim Van Slyke asked if this covers outside furnaces; people burn anything in them and leave them smoldering.

Richard Guthrie suspects NYSDEC has overlooked that.

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 7**

Supervisor Louis addressed Mr. Hilscher's questions; one role Supervisor wishes to assume is to look for consensus, and has been successful over the years. There is a diversity of opinion. He reminded neighbors in hamlet that the Uniform Fire Code offers protection. Supervisor proposed weighing in on brush burning where there is consensus and proposed comments:

**COMMENTS TO NYSDEC REGARDING PROPOSED OPEN BURNING
REGULATIONS**

The Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore, Greene County, New York, has reviewed the proposed revisions to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Rules and Regulations relating to Open Burning, 6NYCRR Part 215. Based upon this review and discussion, the following comments are offered.

We are concerned that the open burning prohibitions that would be extended to towns with a population under 20,000 would include the prohibition against the burning of brush, such as tree limbs, vines and other vegetative matter.

In rural areas like the Town of New Baltimore, the majority of residents own property in excess of 2 acres; many of these parcels require constant attention for trimming of trees, vines and other vegetative matter. Most of our residents who choose to dispose of this material by burning do so in a responsible manner, without causing any inconvenience to neighboring properties. We note that under Section 307.3 of the New York State Uniform Fire Code, there is already a prohibition against "open burning that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous". We feel that these provisions can already be applied by enforcement officials when open burning of brush is conducted in an irresponsible manner.

The imposition of a ban on brush burning would require a significant investment in labor and equipment to provide town services to those local residents who would otherwise look to the Town to remove their brush through some kind of curbside pick up. Our Highway Department does not currently possess the necessary resources to institute this kind of service on a town-wide basis; this would require pickup over nearly 90 miles of roadways in our town. The cost of this kind of program would be significant. In the absence of curbside pickup, our residents may resort to large brush piles that could pose fire hazards in drought conditions and would reduce the aesthetic quality of our pristine rural environment.

On the basis of the concerns expressed above, we respectfully request that the Department of Environmental Conservation reconsider and appropriately revise the proposed regulations regarding Open Burning relative to the burning of brush to more reasonably reflect the unique circumstances facing small rural communities.

Charlie Hudson commented on the fire hazard of the potential brush piles.

Bob Ross asked about the NYS Uniform Fire Code, would regulation take care of the need? Supervisor responded that an individual would call Code Enforcement or local police, or Greene County Sheriff.

Supervisor proposed a resolution that the attached proposed comments to NYSDEC be submitted on behalf of Town Board as the Town Board's public comment.

Supervisor Louis moved, seconded by Councilwoman McKeon.

Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris**
 Nays-0

Ted Hilscher asked that Senator Jim Seward and Assemblyman Tim Gordon be copied on this submission.

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 8**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Kent stated that Town's Recycling Center cannot accept any bottles that once contained oil, and no caps. Answer: Use the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling day. Mr. Kent felt badly that one individual should cause the Town to incur the cost of surveying of Jennings Road.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Supervisor Louis reported that June 2008 abstracts had been prepared for this meeting and the Town Board was approving those vouchers for payment.

County Legislator Jim Van Slyke reported that CR54 has had construction, and there were no signs at end of detour on Jennings Road; one or two more days, and paved by end of June, Jennings Road to CR26. On CR61, Church Street and north, will have engineer in by end of July and will grind it down; he needs to talk to Denis about curb cuts. Supervisor expressed that he didn't understand that over a month ago, sitting in middle of Main Street with County Highway Superintendent Gary Harvey and Jim Van Slyke, County Highway still has not picked up phone and called local Highway Superintendent Denis Jordan. Household Hazardous Waste Day is next Saturday at Athens.

Rich Guthrie asked what the County will be doing on Main Street? Answer: Grind, level, and topcoat with 2 inches by end of July or first week of August.

Town Clerk Brooks reported 1 C/O search; Permits: 6 building, 1 mobile home, 1 demolition, 3 park, 1 beer, and 5 conservation fees, 12 dog licenses, 14 photocopies, 3 certified copies for total local revenue to Town Supervisor of \$1,664.41 and non-local revenue disbursed of \$520.59. Regarding the Inactive Records Inventory, the cartons of records that met NYS retention requirements and were approved by department for destruction, were taken to 3N Document Destruction in Clifton Park, weighed 1100 pound where they were shredded into finger-size shreds. They bale 1200-hundred pound bales to be sold to a company who makes the toilet paper for Walmart and Sam's Club. Electricity was turned off at the AgFest site on June 4.

Highway Superintendent Jordan reported for the month of May: Installed 12"x40' culvert on New Baltimore Road by park; Installed 12"x40' culvert at Wyche Park; Cleaned ditches on Sunset Hill Road and spread crusher run on entire road; Picked up orange bags from clean up; Installed 12"x120' culvert on Baldwin Terrace; Installed 12"x70' culvert on Flatbush Road; Installed 12"x30' culvert on High Rock Road; Began to dig at Town Hall for new parking areas; Took dump body off 1993 International and replaced with stainless steel sander purchased at Thruway auction; Mowed cemeteries; Removed play equipment from Wyche Park; Put stone on parking lot at Wyche Park; Patched roads with crusher run and winter mix; Thursday May 15 Denis met with Councilman Norris re: 7-year road plan; Mowed and weed-whacked around highway garage; Painted frame on 1993 International; Took 1989 international for NYS inspection; Installed 15"x70' culvert on Scheller Park Ext.; Started to get mower ready for cutting grass along roads; Installed 12"x110' culvert on Scheller Park Road; Installed 12"x80' culvert on Highmount Road; Installed new power steering pump on Ford backhoe; Installed 15"x45' culvert on Deans Mill Road; Moved picnic tables to Van Etten farm for Ag-Fest; Started patching roads with blacktop.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Jim Polverelli reported for May: Replaced exhaust fans belts at drying beds, Replaced broken chains on drying bed vents; Pulled RAS pump and cleaned debris from impeller; Repaired leak on UV channel weir, replaced one quartz sleeve; UV system back online; Preventative maintenance on pump station generator; Preventative maintenance on rain gauge, Pumped sludge to EQ holding tank.

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 9**

Town Historian Clesson Bush reported for the month of May: had a small history exhibit at the AgFest, and is preparing another display for the upcoming inaugural Farmers' Market on June 14.

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector John Cashin and Christian Larsen reported: New Building permit applications received-6; Demolition permit -2; Change of occupancy application -1; pool permit-1; building permits issued-4; mobile home permits re-opened-1; building inspections-19; pool permits issued-1; demolition permits issued-1; certificates of occupancy granted-1; temporary certificates of occupancy granted-1; junk vehicle complaints-4; court appearances-2; zoning violation investigations-4; code violation investigations-7. Application fees for month: \$1,430.50, YTD: \$3,331.50 Councilman Byas and Norris meet with them monthly.

Newsletter Chair Councilman Kuenster reported deadline next Monday, June 16.

Assessor Gordon Bennett reported no activity. Board of Assessment Review Chair Ellie Alfeld reported 28 property owners grieved taxes, between informal, 9 petitions, 6 stipulations by the Assessor. How many people? 7 appearances. Chair Alfeld asked for different location for BOAR hearing for 2009. Consider Highway Garage, downstairs of Town Hall. A weekday change would take a resolution by the Town Board.

Agriculture Committee Chair Councilman Kuenster had no report.

Planning Board Chair Lee Davis reported no meeting since its last report to the Board.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Meave Tooher reported no meeting on June 4, since there were no applications to come before the Board.

Recycling Center Operator Spencer Sebert reported receiving 1 appliance, 1 microwave, 29 tires, and 1 battery, for total revenue to Town of \$73.50. Also, 23 tires were picked up by the Highway Department. For Building Maintenance, Spencer reported having secured ramp decking with new screws, resolved ticking sound in the smoke alarms, and changed air filters in the heating systems. Art Byas stated that nearly all labor is free to date on the basement office project.

Animal Control Officer Joe Tanner reported having traveled 360 miles the last 2 months, 21 dog calls, 9 cat calls, 2 skunk calls, and 2 on coyotes. Having been subpoenaed and spent a day at courthouse, was called to get a dog that was hit. Couldn't find owner, took him to shelter, they couldn't take him in that condition, off to Latham emergency clinic and a bill for \$250.00. Found owner, who paid the bill. Two complaints off CR26 about dogs running, and a couple of skunks, then a call about a dead raccoon in the eaves of an old barn. Found owner to take it down; I suppose he did. Have been getting calls on a black bear in the area; he won't bother anyone, "walked up to him and got pretty close, too. I think he thought I was a female black bear; what a surprise he got when he saw me imagine that one, poor bear." Three times in court, 2 times for one case (all over), the state required a shelter to take dogs, said he could have one at house, found a shed, got the shed, and we save money by not using the Menands shelter for the first 14 days; then the dog can be put up for adoption.

Fire/EMS /Law Enforcement Norris reported he could not attend the Greene County EMS meeting on May 20th due to a conflict with the Greene County All Hazards Mitigation meeting, which he attended along with Alan Van Wormer, who is the town's emergency management officer. (Due to the illness of the EMS president, and this conflict, there wasn't a quorum so I didn't miss much.) The purpose of the Greene

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008-Page 10**

County Mitigation meeting was to have all the towns in Greene County start to formulate a plan to look at potential hazards that a major disaster can bring to each town. And through planning avert some of the causes of these problems so we can reduce the damages and possible loss of life. Also, the county needed feedback of what was in the towns such as schools, fire departments, sheltering facilities, flood and winter events etc. This information was reviewed by Alan and Supervisor Louis and sent back to the county by the due date. The next meeting will be set up after all the towns send in this information and is reviewed.

The town's emergency management committee meeting was held on May 27th. At this meeting a partial draft of the new emergency plan was presented by Alan Van Wormer for review by the committee. Alan hopes to have the draft completed by the next meeting scheduled for June 24th at Cornell Hook and Ladder. One of the issues brought up at the meeting was the duty of the Town Clerk in an emergency disaster, so the committee has asked Janet Brooks to attend the next meeting so she can address any items in the new plan that may need to be focused on. Progress is being made with the new Sheriff's office. The wood studs are up, the insulation is going in and the doors and sheet rock are due in soon. The target date for completion is beginning of July.

For Parks, Councilwoman McKeon reported for the Summer Recreation Director, Amy Decker: Summer Recreation camp begins Monday, July 21st and ends on Friday, August 15th, 2008. Applications for counselors have been received and perused, and being finalized. We have a pool of great young people to incorporate in some capacity. Counselors usually look forward to coming back just as much as the campers! Letters will be sent to all applicants letting them know their status as well as general plans for camp this summer. Assistant Director Michelle Fortney and I will meet to plan themes and events, review budget and do inventory at the beginning of July, and will shop for needed materials. Communication will continue with the Greene County Youth Bureau to see what resources they have available. Townspeople have called to offer time and talents, and the library has scheduled time for visits. Thanks to everyone on the board and in the offices!

Councilman Kuenster reported that AgFest weather was better than usual; a successful event overall.

Promotion/Economic development Chairman Kuenster reported June 18 Business Appreciation Breakfast, 86 invites mailed. Farmers Market opens next Saturday, June 14.

Grants had no report.

For Website and Technology, no report.

Personnel had no report.

With no more from the Board or the public, Councilman Kuenster moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman McKeon.

**Motion Carried Ayes-5 McKeon, Kuenster, Louis, Norris, Byas
 Nays-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully,

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk