

ROCHESTER REPORTER



News & Facts about our Town

Published by the Rochester Town Board to keep residents informed and involved

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CONTACTS

Supervisor:

Pam Duke.....626-3043

Council Members:

Francis Gray.....626-4527

Alex Miller.....626-8144

Ron Santosky.....626-4314

Tony Spano.....626-4822

Town Offices:

Town Clerk.....626-7384

Fax: 626-3702

Building/Codes....626-2433

Planning/Zoning..626-2434

Highway.....626-7221

Transfer Station..626-5273

Tax Assessor.....626-0920

Dog Control.....626-5979

Town Court.....626-2522

Youth Dept.....626-2115

MEETINGS & EVENTS

7/11 (Tu) ZBA, 7:30pm TH

7/12 (W) Comp. Plan Update Committee, 7pm TH

7/13 (Th) Environmental Commission, 7pm TH

7/17 (M) Historic Preservation Commission, 4pm TH

7/18 (Tu) Plan. Board, 7pm TH

7/19 (W) Youth Dept. Board, 9:30am CC

7/19 (W) Fire Commissioner Board Meeting, 7:30pm AcF

7/24 (M) Code Task Force, 7pm TH

7/26 (W) Town Board (Audit), 4:30pm TH

7/26 (W) Comp. Plan Update Committee, 7pm TH

7/31 (M) Small Claims Tax Assessment Review deadline

8/03 (Th) Town Board Meeting, 7:00pm TH

TH=Town Hall
CC=Community Center
AcF=Accord Firehouse

Town Board Votes Against Self-Storage Appeal

At its July meeting, the Town Board voted against the appropriation of funding for an appeal of a NYS Supreme Court Ruling that ordered the Planning Board to issue a special use permit to Ample Self Storage for the construction of self storage units on Route 209, just south of Mettaca-honts Road. The ruling came in response to an Article 78 proceeding

filed by Ample that alleged that the Planning Board acted in an “arbitrary and capricious” manner when it denied the issuance of the Special Use Permit in December 2005.

The Planning Board asked the Town Board to allocate funds to finance the appeal. The Town Board authorized the attorney for the Town, Rod

Futterfas, to file a notice of appeal in order to protect the Town’s legal rights and separately authorized Futterfas to conduct a review of findings in order to determine if sufficient cause for an appeal existed. Upon reviewing the case, Futterfas determined that the Town had a weak case and the Town Board voted not to go through with the appeal.

Town Rumors: Fact or Fancy?

“Rumor travels faster, but it don’t stay put as long as truth.” Will Rogers

The Town Board has become aware of several rumors circulating around Town that are totally unfounded. We will use this space as necessary to counter false rumors with the truth.

Some of the more fanciful rumors we’ve heard are:

- The Town Board will prohibit the use of lawn mowers, chain saws and

other noisy equipment on weekends.

Absolutely false!

- The Town Board initiated the recent reassessment to raise taxes so they can spend more money. **Absolutely false!** The reassessment was ordered 3 years ago. The town’s general fund tax rate actually declined in 2006.

- You won’t be able to cut down trees or shrubs on your property. **Absolutely false!**

- You’ll need a permit to paint your house and the color must be approved by a special commission. **Absolutely false!**

- Clotheslines will be prohibited because they’re “ugly”. **Absolutely false!**

If you hear other rumors that seem just as outrageous, they probably are. Check the facts by calling the Supervisor’s office or any Town Board member.

Highway Department Funding

The Town Board has approved \$200,000 in expenditures by the Highway Department for the repair and reconstruction of local roads resulting from recent flood damage.

bursement from FEMA are being processed; in the meantime, the Town has funded the repairs from the General Fund.

In a separate action, the Town Board is considering a request from Highway Superintendent

Wayne Kelder for an \$8,500 expenditure on a new gasoline inventory system, which has been malfunctioning for two years, according to the Highway Department.

The Highway Department distributes gasoline

for the Accord Fire Department., the Sheriff's Office, and Accord/Kerhonkson First Aid Squad in addition to Town vehicles. The Highway Department then bills the appropriate entity for the fuel.

Applications for reim-

Flood Damage Relief

Residents who were affected by the late June heavy rains may be eligible for assistance from FEMA/New York State. The numbers to call to get more information are:

1-800-462-7587 (hours: 8 AM to 8 PM daily)

1-888-7-NYS-AID (hours 8 AM to 8 PM Mon-Fri; 8AM to 5 PM Sat & Sun)

Hearing/Speech impaired: TTY:NYS Relay 711

Applications can also be submitted online at www.fema.gov and www.labor.state.ny.us.

Moratorium Relief Granted

In response to a request by Mahoney Development LLC, the Town Board voted at its July meeting to grant an economic hardship variance to the Town's temporary Moratorium Law.

The Moratorium Law, which was enacted in February 2006, temporarily

prohibits subdivisions of more than four parcels and the construction of commercial buildings larger than 20,000 square feet. The Law also contained a variance procedure by which the Town Board could grant a variance from the law to applicants who could prove economic hardship.

Veterans' Memorial Underway

The Town Board approved plans to go ahead with a Veterans' Memorial, which will consist of a flag pole and brass plaques affixed to large stone markers paying tribute to the military service of Town residents. A permanent list of individuals who have served will be

at the Town Hall as well as the Friends of Historic Rochester's museum on Main Street in Accord. The installation of the memorial has been sponsored by Councilman Francis Gray with assistance from volunteers, including Ira Poppel and Richard Rider.

New Town Sign on Rt. 209

As part of the Town's efforts to improve communications, a new notice board has been erected along US Rt.209, just south of the Saund-

erskill Farm Stand. The sign will be used to post notices of public meetings and other Town events.

Pay attention as you drive by, and then attend those events that interest you. Open government requires active and broad participation.

Need Mulch? *A Free Treat for your Garden*

The Town Transfer Station has mulch to spare. Stop by with your container — the mulch is free while supplies last.

List Your Business (It's Free!) Place information about your local business on the Town's website. If you have your own website, a direct link to it will be offered. Go to www.townofrochester.net and click on the *Business Directory* link for more information and to sign up.