

A. CONVOCAATION:

1. The Canadice & Richmond Joint Town Board Workshop was held on September 11, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Canadice Town Hall.

2. Canadice Town Clerk Eileen Schaefer called roll for the Canadice Town Board:

Present: Supervisor Kristine Singer
Councilman Michael Virgil
Councilman Leland Durkee
Councilman John O'Connor
Councilman William Hershey

Richmond Town Clerk Linda Grace called roll for the Richmond Town Board:

Present: Supervisor Ralph Angelo
Councilman Stephen Barnhoorn
Councilman Thomas Gendreau

Absent: Councilman John Chrisman
Councilman Gary Hubble

Others Present: Sixty One (61) guests/residents attended the Joint Town Board Workshop.

**Note; not everyone signed the guest register.

3. Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence to remember those who perished September 11, 2001.

B. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

*Supervisor Singer thanked everyone for attending, and outlined how this meeting came about. In August at a county meeting Supervisor Singer and Supervisor Angelo discussed some of the issues with Honeoye Lake. It was decided to hold a joint meeting to allow both Boards the opportunity to discuss the situation; evaluate programs and coordinate strategy between the county and both towns. Members of both Boards have all had conversations with residents and DEC; we need to address the issues that already exist and tap into all of the research that has been ongoing. Honeoye Lake quality is a multifaceted issue. We can try to address or minimize the impact of these issues and some of the issues we have no control over. Blue-green algae is not unique to Honeoye Lake; the September 6th report on the DEC website lists 35 lakes in NYS with the blue-green algae. 21 lakes are confirmed with blue-green algae, eight are suspicious and six have high toxins. It is unlikely any specific decisions will be made tonight. Canadice and Richmond do not own or have control of Honeoye Lake. We will involve the state agencies that have control while including the towns, county representatives, HVA, Honeoye Lake Watershed Taskforce and possibly some outside experts/consultants. Both Town Boards are aware that some residents feel the weed harvester is the problem, some residents feel the weir is the problem, some residents feel both the harvester and the weir together are the problem. The lake doesn't freeze like it used to, we don't have a good snow pack, temperatures have increased, and nutrient loading in the tributaries all contribute to the problem. The HVA and HLWTF have been trying to educate people so they don't throw leaves & grass clippings in the tributaries or the lake; not using fertilizers on lawns helps also. HVA has prepared a Honeoye Lake Informational Packet for everyone to use. Before any discussion takes place this evening there are a few guidelines to follow; be respectful of the Board members, everyone is entitled to their opinion. If you have information that is different than what

has already been outlined, please address the Boards with brief comments or get the information to both Town Clerks. This meeting is intended for the two Boards to have a chance to discuss strategies. No politicians were invited to attend this evening before the next step has been decided upon. They will be contacted when their assistance or support is needed for any projects we want to implement. The Board members were asked if they had anything to add at this point and they did not.

*Jack Starkey- suggests three documents be reviewed before any decisions are made; Princeton Hydro's report, Honeoye Lake Watershed Management Plan and the Macrophyt Management Plan.

*Councilman Hershey indicated the management plan and the macrophyt management plan were required by the state before any project like the Alum treatment was started. Those documents would have to be amended and re-submitted to the state before any additional projects could be implemented.

*John Englert- suggests we might look outside NYS and beyond the USA. China has been developing some new solutions to handle similar situations.

*Elaine –questioned why there were no other Finger Lakes besides Honeoye Lake on the list with confirmed blue-green algae. Councilman Hershey indicated Honeoye Lake was just confirmed this summer; no one has done the toxic testing of the algal blooms on any of the Finger Lakes before this summer. HLWTF has been testing samples in conjunction with the Dept. of Health & Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

*Jack Starkey- Honeoye Lake has very different characteristics from the other Finger Lakes.

*Councilman Barnhoorn- thought the three reports should be on each town website. Councilman Hershey indicated they are fairly large documents, if they have to be on town websites they can be. However, they have been listed on Ontario County Planning Department's website for some time now.

*Councilman Gendreau- everyone's target list is pretty similar. He would like to have an informational meeting with DEC, Honeoye Valley Association, and Honeoye Lake Watershed Taskforce to report on blue-green algae, the weed harvester, the alum treatment, and any other item that is in question for lake quality. Councilman Gendreau understood an additional alum treatment was to have taken place. Having all of the different parties with a list of those topics in front of them at an informational meeting might clear up some misconceptions. Supervisor Singer questioned whether it was better to have them explain the situation to everyone or work with them first to come up with a possible solution. Councilman Gendreau indicated he is suggesting having them at an informational meeting in the next couple of months, meet with them separately over the winter and then another informational meeting next spring.

*Supervisor Angelo- agreed with Councilman Gendreau and we should look at the weir also.

*Councilman Barnhoorn- need to involve the state legislators, they need to be a part of this. HLWTF has had at least five initiatives. We need to let everyone know what they are and their purpose; if there were any successes. Supervisor Singer reiterated there would be discussion regarding past programs, results and potential future programs. Councilman Gendreau indicated these were items he felt could be presented at the first informational meeting.

*Councilman Virgil- nothing to add at this point.

*Councilman O'Connor- not a lakeside property owner. But when using the lake some time ago, he didn't encounter the blue-green algae. When coordinating with the state and other agencies, he feels they will not show the problems that could be experienced with programs they suggest. He is not in favor of the weed harvester; the weeds are cut too short and fall to the bottom and he doesn't believe the process of cutting the weeds is successful. Councilman O'Connor wasn't in favor of the alum treatment and is not convinced it did any good.

*Councilman Hershey- doesn't feel a large informational meeting to discuss these techniques on the lake will

be helpful when they have been discussed for quite some time with the avenues the Town Boards set up. We can continue to discuss these items with DEC on a regular basis. If the two Town Boards want DEC to take action on something, an environmental impact statement would have to be presented; then we would have to file a permit for any specific technique we might want to implement. They need time to compile their opinions on any actions we may request. Just keep this in mind, and all of these items will cost a lot of money.

*Councilman Durkee- Councilman O'Connor covered everything he would have commented on.

*Supervisor Singer- there are weed harvesting programs on a couple of other lakes that have stopped their program; we should find out why and what has resulted in their lake quality since then. Also compare our program with a couple of lakes that have existing weed harvesting programs. Is there another piece of equipment that would be used in conjunction with the weed harvester to collect the fragments? The new harvester has a deeper and wider cut. Shoreline maintenance is important. Dredging the lagoon may help and could be done relatively quickly.

*Don Cook – October 19th he is hosting the NYS Federation of Lake Associations conference in Cuba. This would be a great arena to share ideas, find out what other lakes successes/failures are and network with other lakeside communities.

*Councilman Gendreau- HVA and the HLWTF have been working very hard over the years. But Councilman Gendreau has been questioned frequently regarding what is being done for the lake and many people are not aware of the HVA or the HLWTF. That's why he felt an informational meeting is a good idea. Councilman Barnhoorn indicated that was why he thought putting documents on the town websites would help. Supervisor Singer indicated having the links on the websites would accomplish that also.

*Marty Kester – went to the town websites and didn't see the links or any history of how everything has come to this point. Why the weed harvester program began or any other program that was implemented.

*Bonnie Washburn – provided information for the Irondequoit Bay Harbor Management Plan to both Town Boards. Ms. Washburn indicated that Irondequoit Bay is approximately the same size as Honeoye Lake, but deeper and they have implemented an oxygenation program. She was told it may cost about \$60,000 per year for the program. Page 24 has the information that would be of interest at this point.

*Supervisor Singer- another item on her list of possible items to address would be the weir since it is important to maintain it and should be kept vegetation free if we continue to use it. She is aware Richmond has been working with DEC to get Mill Creek dredged. If anyone else has something new to add, we will take the information otherwise we will continue with the Board's discussion.

*Frank Hacknauer – lived here seven years and felt the Alum treatment seemed to help. Not sure what the urgency is to get the problem solved now. The only urgency is to have the Boards listen to the experts and not everyone's opinion. He feels the data should be looked at and come up with a solution; not worry about another informational meeting. Supervisor Singer reiterated what Councilman Hershey mentioned; there has been a great deal of research and work going on for quite some time. Councilman Hershey indicated money was applied for from the State in 2006 and we received the funds this year for the work being done at the bottom of Cratsley and Jersey Hill Roads. So to the point of urgency, although we are trying, we don't have the clout to make the process go faster. Councilman O'Connor indicated he was frustrated by the speed of government before he was on the Board and now realizes how extremely slow any process is.

*Tom Duchess – on the northeast side of Honeoye Lake, there is a problem since some trees were cut and fell in the lake. Two tree stumps were left in the lake. He contacted DEC and they left the stumps because they are natural habitat for the fish.

*Supervisor Singer – as far as the Boards next move, should a couple of individuals take a task or have a couple of meetings? The Alum treatment took two or three years to prepare and implement. The lake quality issues will never go away, but we can try to minimize the severity of those problems. Councilman Hershey questioned what level of research would be acceptable by the Boards. Supervisor Singer indicated that looking into what permit may be needed to dredge the lagoon and cleaning the weir. Maintenance right now won't change any possible options of addressing the use of the weir.

*Councilman Virgil – questioned why some of these ideas that have been researched haven't already been implemented; is it cost or waiting for results? Councilman Hershey mentioned the weir was cleaned three or four years ago. Councilman Barnhoorn indicated it was cleaned in 2008. A question was asked why the weir would be cleaned if we might stop using it. Supervisor Singer indicated that investigating any changes to the weir could take three to five years. Councilman Hershey mentioned an environmental review would have to take place also.

*Chuck Carmel – he keeps hearing that things will be done and would like to know what committee is in place, when will they meet and how will people get the information?

*Councilmen Hershey – there already is a committee in place, the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force. Charge them with whatever task you want them to handle or research. Why reinvent the wheel with new committees that don't have all the background, the HLWTF includes members of each Town Board. Councilman O'Connor indicated that Councilman Hershey represents Canadice on the task force and makes a report at regular Town Board meetings every month as to what the HLWTF is working on. There won't be anything decided on this evening.

*Dave Baker – read each of those reports; some great information. However, he had to foil the minutes of the HLWTF meetings and they should be easily accessed. He urges the Boards to look at the action items already prepared and see if anything can be implemented without too much time or cost.

*Supervisor Singer – at this point we can assign items/tasks to the HLWTF.

*John Englert – sees two parts to the situation; tactical issues and strategic issues which are longer term. Ad hoc groups made up of residents are very willing to help.

*Supervisor Singer – as Canadice finishes building their website, information can be incorporated to keep everyone aware of the status and Richmond can list items on their website. HVA could identify what is being worked on now and what they need help with so people can volunteer.

*Patricia Foster – thanked the Board for coordinating this meeting. Ms. Foster tried to read the documents and understand what is going on. Since some of the documents were prepared several years ago maybe opinions are different now as to what should be implemented. Some of us have tried to understand what is happening to the real estate market. If there are questions we would like addressed, could they be answered? Supervisor Singer indicated if questions are submitted, they will be provided to the appropriate department to get an answer.

*Don Cook – the Invasive Species Prevention Project stationed Watercraft Stewards at the boat launch to educate boaters about invasive species, including Hydrilla. Hydrilla would have a much greater negative impact on the lake than blue-green algae. The program to help prevent invasive species is being discontinued since the funds were only available for one year. That project is something volunteers could help with or they can help with surveys.

*Peg Loughlin – appreciates what everyone has accomplished. When experts are brought in to speak, will they be different experts that haven't already provided help? She also feels numbers help when trying to accomplish something; writing letters in support of projects where funding and approvals are needed may

help.

*Supervisor Singer – reminded everyone to put their name on the sign-in sheet being passed around if they already haven’t done so.

*Dave Baker - has started a facebook page; Honeoye Lake Home Owners where he will post information.

*Jack Starkey - indicated all of the documents are on the HVA website also.

*Councilman Hershey – asked if there are any other specific concerns that have not already been mentioned.

*Carol Carusotti – feels the weed harvester should be discontinued.

*Name unknown - Has anyone looked at using aqua shade? Councilman Hershey indicated it has been considered. Jack Starkey mentioned it is listed in the document on the HVA website.

*Maureen McAuliffe – asked if leach fields or septic systems are inspected regularly. Supervisor Singer indicated when properties change hands they are usually checked. If a smell is noticed by a neighbor, it will get checked out. The newer raised bed systems have to be inspected annually.

*Merrily Hoover – for the next meeting it might be a good idea to include room for email addresses on the sign-in sheet.

*Name unknown - Any consideration for dredging the lake? Supervisor Singer indicated it is that document.

*Name unknown- If the state owns the lake, are we dependent on funding from them? Supervisor Singer indicated the state is in charge of all of the water bodies. When a town brings a project to the state, there are many funding avenues to assist with implementation.

*Councilman Hershey – now that toxins have been confirmed in Honeoye Lake that is a big step within the DEC.

*Joann Pipitone – three years ago they installed a well and the NYS Department of Health told them to keep it a certain distance from the lake. Is it safe to swim or eat the fish or for people to pump the water out of the lake? Councilman Hersey indicated that legally the NYS Department of Health has to answer those questions.

*Mike Weidner – confused about the informational meeting that brings in the experts to organize the reports in a way that people will understand them. He suggests that not take place; there are plenty of people working on the issues now to put an agenda forward that has the speakers and reports. If the two Town Boards need to take action they can do so after the election.

*Supervisor Singer – indicated the HLWTF can determine the speakers for an informational meeting and bring that list to the Town Boards.

*Could someone from the Department of Health be invited to the meeting? Councilman Hershey indicated we can ask.

*Supervisor Singer thanked everyone for coming and for their participation.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Barnhoorn motioned, Supervisor Angelo seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

APPROVED/Canadice	Ayes 5	Singer, Virgil, Durkee, O’Connor, Hershey
	Nays 0	
APPROVED/Richmond	Ayes 3	Angelo, Gendreau, Barnhoorn
	Nays 0	

Respectfully submitted, _____ Eileen Schaefer, Canadice Town Clerk