

May 12th, 2008 – Meeting Summary

Members present: Co-Chair Steve Abramson, Co-Chair Rachel Verno, Gloria Rabinowitz, Tom Shea, Joe Krajewski, Paul Griffin and Mary Schader

Non-members present: Councilman Chris Nuzzi, Sgt. James Kiernan STPD, Sally Scranton, Bill Berkoski, Michele Berkoski, Dianne Rulnick, Liam O’Braoin, Sandra Raynor, Antonia Salm, Richard Shapiro, Rik Kristiansson, Robert Burden, Marilyn, Burden, Charlie Corwith, Arthur Muller, Jan Harboy, Ed Crook, Carolyn Bochning, Richard, Bochning, Adrien Baron, Tony Newman, Clarice Rivers, Sally Pope, Grania Brolin, Klaus Puhlmann, Anne Puhlmann, Fred Lehrer, Maura Doyle

There were no minutes for April 14th, 2008.

LIPA:

Discussion of the specifics of the agreement made between the Town of Southampton and LIPA -- specifically the surcharge, indemnification and the possibility of a tax assessment district if the LIPA trustees do not approve the surcharge.

Councilman Nuzzi explained that no specific taxing district has been mapped out, but the area will be similar to that mapped out by the LIPA surcharge, although a bit smaller.

Mention was made that the LIPA surcharge will be audited and the money will only go towards the additional cost of burying the transmission lines.

Other issues raised: surcharging larger homes as a means to target those primarily responsible for the need of this additional power line; setting up a Special Tax Assessment District (STAD) in the event LIPA’s trustees vote against the concept of a surcharge; and, setting up a STAD that includes the possible future growth of the power line further East.

POLICE SGT. JAMES KIERNAN:

The major crime issue in Water Mill is the stealing of building materials, specifically metal from construction sites, according to Sgt. Kiernan, the Commanding Officer of the Town’s Police Street Crime Unit. CAC members raised the following:

Traffic issues, specifically speeding on the back roads are the most frequent issues in Water Mill. Councilman Nuzzi informed us that Councilman Russo has put forward a resolution that would allow the Town to purchase several portable trailer units that track motorist speed. .

Graffiti: It is difficult to catch perpetrators and it appears that the best means of deterring it is to remove it immediately. Harold Steudte from the Fire Department had told CAC in December about a community service program that would allow for this type of clean up project to be addressed and we will follow up.

Litter was also mentioned as a concern.

OTHER NEWS:

The ARF Thrift Shop will close at the end of the summer and move to Sagaponack. The NY State DOT is due to begin work on the bridge at the western approach to the hamlet in September.

The issue was raised of increased traffic on the back roads as a means of avoiding the traffic congestion on the Montauk Highway as you approach Water Mill. Discussion followed about cutting off access to those roads during rush hour.

While there has been no formal discussion about the traffic situation in Water Mill, there has been mention of a 2-lane roundabout at the end of CR39 (the light at Flying Point Road) as part of a future plan to widen the road.

It was reported that NY State DOT engineers have been surveying in anticipation for future road expansion in the form of a secondary road through the back of the businesses on the North side of the Highway.

These projects indicate that there are ongoing road expansion/widening plans for the hamlet of Water Mill and these issues should be addressed publicly not behind closed doors without the CAC and the residents' input.