

## **March 10, 2008 – Meeting Summary**

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

Non-members present: Sally Scranton, Myron Glucksman, Dianne Rulnick, Town Board Members Dan Russo and Anna Throne-Holst

### **LIPA:**

Results of LIPA trustees meeting of Feb. 26 were summarized. According to LIPA CEO, Kevin Law, LIPA will bid out for both 100% underground and 55/45 over/under and they would start on underground portions first. The Committee for a Green South Fork ad that appeared in *Dan's Papers* was passed around. Dan Russo and Anna Throne-Holst gave their latest update on the situation:

-The Town has not gotten very far since the Feb 26 meeting. After a conference call with Fred Thiele, Kevin Law, Chris Nuzzi and Anna, it was decided that counsel on both sides meet and further discuss the issues. LIPA is still asking for some kind of insurance coverage for any cost LIPA might have re customers refusing to pay surcharge, maintenance issues, etc.

-Town could write a policy covering uncollected surcharge. Town might also cover some additional maintenance costs. LIPA would carry the insurance and the cost of it would be added to the surcharge. There will be another conference call within a week.

-Town has the option of filing an article 78 under the SEQRA process and seeking a TRO (Temporary Restraining Order) to prevent LIPA from going forward. Outside counsel that is advising Town said Town could probably not win at preventing LIPA from starting, as judges are lenient when dealing with a public utility.

-What can be done to set up a special tax assessment district?

It would be a very lengthy process according to Fred Thiele and Ken LaValle, who said it would be very hard to get this passed in Albany. The surcharge based on consumption was deemed the best way to go. Discussion followed on reduction in property values, and thus less tax money will go to the Town and to the school budget.

What permits are required from Town before LIPA can begin to work?

-Town believes our planning/building laws bind LIPA and before any work can start, it must get permits from the Town.

### **OTHER ISSUE BROUGHT TO TOWN BOARD MEMBERS ATTENTION:**

-Water Mill Corridor Study was started 5 years ago by Hutton Associates and has still not been completed.

Town has set up new procedures for Planning Dept. to expedite.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Water Mill Ateliers finally received permit from Suffolk County Dept. of Health and will start demolition of derelict building at Montauk Hwy and Davids Lane on March 17.