

SPECIAL MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, AUGUST 02, 2010

A special meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board was held on Monday, August 2, 2010 at the Albert Emerson Town Hall at 2:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Kevin Geraghty
	Councilman	John Alexander
	Councilman	Bryan Rounds
	Councilman	Austin Markey
	Councilman	Dean Ackley

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk.

DISCUSSION – PROBLEMS AT ECHO LAKE BEACH

Supervisor Geraghty asked Councilman Ackley to explain what is happening at the Beach.

Councilman Ackley told the Town Board this has been on going for at least twelve years, in the summertime when the Beach opens large groups of people come up. Councilman Ackley said the Board had tried to resolve it in several different ways in 2004, by having the rule the pavilion had mandatory reservations. Councilman Ackley said the lifeguards are having to concentrate on the large groups of people, they are not listening to the lifeguards bringing danger to the other swimmers in the water, the lifeguards have talked to grown ups who do not do anything when their kids are in the water, the grownups are trashing the place throwing garbage all over. Councilman Ackley said a couple of weeks ago there was a fight and one of the guys clothes were ripped right off of him, some of the residents were told it was none of their business. Councilman Ackley said he did not know what else to do except to restrict it to residents only and include the Town of Thurman, because he is sure Thurman uses the beach, too.

Councilman Markey said Councilman Ackley had made him aware there were more problems at the Beach again this year, he has received many of the same phone calls. Councilman Markey said people have come to him and told him that they cannot even go to their own beach, if they reserve the pavilion this group of people; who rent the whole motel at the Oasis, come in and overtake the pavilion area. Councilman Markey said he has spoken to the lifeguards and it is a safety factor, they will not take care of their own children; they cannot be watching one hundred people up at the pavilion area as well as watching the beach. Councilman Markey told the Town Board he had calls from police agencies the night the clothes were ripped off the guy, there were five cop cars there that night. Councilman Markey said one of the girls parents came into his garage and said she was on the volley ball courts when they threatened to hit her over the head, the people who he is talking about have a different culture and treat women differently and they tried to treat one of the local girls like their own. Councilman Markey said the Towns own taxpayers are having to leave the Beach, it is time to do something different, the recommendation after the fight that he made to Kevin was he would like to have these people prohibited and not let them reserve our pavilion. Councilman Markey said

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he did not know how much more control they could do beyond that, whether it be disorderly conduct or trespassing, something needed to be done.

Supervisor Geraghty said they have not called in, but they showed up. Councilman Ackley said they had over one hundred people there this past weekend on Saturday and on Sunday there was at least fifty people, some people had it reserved. Supervisor Geraghty said they are not even calling anymore.

Councilman Ackley told the Town Board that when this group of people see the pavilion is reserved, they sit around the other picnic tables and intimidate the other people.

Councilman Alexander asked if one resident is signing all of the others in from down state.

Supervisor Geraghty reminded the Town Board that when Jerry was Supervisor he did not support the idea in 2004 because he said a lot of the summer people came to his store. Councilman Ackley said he felt that way too, he would still like to have visitors be able to use it. Councilman Alexander said they should be banned, written up for beating up on taxpayers.

Discussion ensued on discrimination and enforcement.

Councilman Rounds asked if this was a group of people and if they have a name, is their name Izzie.

Councilman Ackley said he wished to make it perfectly clear that he did not believe any of them were discriminating against anyone, he does not care what religion they are or where they are from, if they wanted to come and use the beach he would be happy, but they have had twelve years of the same garbage over and over.

Discussion ensued about the taxpayers, and, what number limits to put on groups, the ramifications to our own taxpayers who wish to hold an event there, the fact that Diamond Point restricts their beach to residents only.

Councilman Ackley said the Code Enforcement Officer can ask for ID. Councilman Alexander said the Town can offer an alternative by recommending they use the fish hatchery.

Councilman Markey said if someone goes to Kevin's Office to make a reservation they should be told by Sherryl it is for Warrensburg residents only.

Councilman Markey asked about adding this to the Code Book, or if the resolution was adequate for enforcement. Town Clerk Combs suggested they use the resolution for enforcement until they can do a local law to amend the code. Councilman

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Markey said the Life Guard told him it was a safety thing for him, he cannot patrol the pavilion area as well as the Beach.

RESOLUTION #142-10

RESTRICT ECHO LAKE BEACH TO WARRENSBURG RESIDENTS ONLY WITH SIGNS

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Markey, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 5 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to restrict Echo Lake Beach and the Pavilion at the Beach to Warrensburg residents only and it is further resolved that three signs be prepared and posted at the Beach stating this, immediately.

DISCUSSION – DUCKS

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion telling the Town Board they have gotten rid of the ducks at Fred Flynn Park, the netting does work great. Supervisor Geraghty said the person who lives directly across the river asked about the duck feeder and asked if the Town should post a do not feed the ducks sign.

Discussion ensued on the wooden feeder, if they wish to stop the public feeding the ducks, and a business owner who used to supply truck loads of food for the ducks.

Consensus of the Town Board was the ducks are not making a mess or creating a problem, the property owner across the river can use the type of netting the town used at Fred Flynn Park, the wooden feeder has been gone for quite a while.

Supervisor Geraghty will tell the property owner the Town is not taking any action at this time about the ducks.

On motion of Councilman Markey, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk