Meeting of the Town Board on the above date at 7:30 pm. Supervisor was absent. All Board members were in attendance. Also in attendance were Town Attorney, Warren Replansky, Town Engineer/Assistant Water Superintendent, Raymond Jurkowski, Officer in Charge, Mike Lawson, Secretary to the Supervisor, Karen Pineda, Eileen Ciaburri, Deputy Town Clerk and Ann Noone, Deputy Town Clerk. There were eleven members of the public and the reporter from the Millerton News present.

Deputy Supervisor Gardner opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Keeler, second by Couse to approve the Town Clerk’s monthly report for February 2008. 4-0 passed.

Public Comments/Questions – None

Deputy Supervisor Gardner stated that she checked into the Dial-A-Ride program. Gardner further stated that it would cost the town $5,300. Keeler stated that he spoke with Nelson Rivera, Director of Veteran Affairs in Dutchess County and Rivera felt that the Dial-A-Ride program would be well received, especially by the VA clinic. Gardner stated that we would have to see how many people would utilize the service to see if it would be feasible at a cost of $5,300. Butler stated that he thinks we should at least seek some input. Keeler asked Whitney Joseph of the Millerton News if she could put something in the paper to see if there is any interest and ask that interested parties contact the Town Board. Joseph said that she would. Gardner stated that Jennifer Pindt is on tonight’s agenda and that Pindt is trying to develop a senior activities group. Gardner stated that since Pindt has been speaking with the seniors that perhaps she might have a number of how many seniors might sign up for the Dial-A-Ride program.

Jim Jackson, Recreation Director, presented the Board with an estimate from Red Hook Fence in the amount of $15,447 for the installation of fencing, including a backstop at the ball field. Jackson stated that Doug Weaver and Matt Blackburn have been helping out also with soil, sand and drainage. Gardner stated that the job would have to go out to bid because it’s over $5,000. Butler suggested that Jackson get a copy of the procurement policy to better understand the procedure. Ray Jurkowski stated that he can put together the bid pro bono.

Jackson explained to the Board that April 19th is Earth Day (rain date April 26th) and he has a program in place whereby young kids will go through town and pick up trash and recycling. Jackson stated that he received a phone call from the Homeowners Association around the lake and they would like to help out. Jackson further stated that the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County said that they would like to come up and set up booths to talk about recycling and various environmental issues. Jackson explained that the Elementary School children will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Elementary School and the older kids will meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Stissing Mountain High School parking lot. Jackson stated that the smaller children will walk on the sidewalks and the older kids will be walking around the lake with a car in back of them with lights flashing and a car in front as well. Jackson stated that there will also be some volunteers walking
around the lake and he hopes to be able to have them wearing vests for safety purposes. Butler stated that Jackson might be able to borrow vests from the Highway Department and the Water Company. Jurkowski stated that the Highway Department also has signs to put out on the roadway that say “Men Working” just to get people’s attention.

Gardner announced that the Pine Plains Library Groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, April 5th at 11:00 a.m. Gardner stated that Senator Liebell will be attending and Assemblyman Marc Molinaro was invited as well but we have not heard back from him yet.

Motion by Butler, second by Keeler to pay General bills # 200-226, PPWIA bills # 182-185 and Highway bills # 186-199. 4-0 passed.

Proposed Local Law # 2 of 2008, Cold War Veteran’s Exemption – Town Attorney, Warren Replansky stated that the law is not consistent with State Law. Replansky stated that he made changes but wants to have Jim Mara review it. Replansky suggested putting it off until the April 17th Town Board meeting.

Highway Superintendent Report – None

PPWIA Report – Deputy Supervisor Gardner read a resignation letter received from Louis “Buddy” Ginocchio which stated that he has resigned from the position of Water Superintendent effective March 19, 2008. Ray Jurkowski will continue on as assistant for now. Ray Jurkowski stated that water flows are consistent and there have been no leaks. Jurkowski further stated that he spoke with Mike George about the water meters and that George said that he dedicated someone to work two days per week to catch up on the meters. Jurkowski will forward a Water Superintendent job description to Karen Pineda so an ad may be place in the newspaper. Motion by Couse, second by Butler to accept the resignation submitted by Ginocchio effective March 19, 2008. 4-0 passed.

Gardner read a resignation letter submitted by Christi Acker, dated February 27, 2008 which stated that she is resigning from her position on the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) as she believes that her new duties as Town Justice would make it inappropriate to continue as a member of the CAC. Motion by Keeler, second by Couse to accept Acker’s resignation from the CAC.

Zoning Update – Gardner read a memo submitted to the Town Board by Supervisor Pulver which stated that after a meeting with various consultants, a plan was developed that should result in an October passage of the zoning law. The memo further stated that there will be a series of public hearings and the dates of those hearings will be announced in the near future. Replansky stated that he met with Bonnie Franson and Jon DePreter and will schedule more meetings but everything is moving along. Councilman Butler stated that a request was received from Bonnie Franson for the preparation of various GIS maps to aid in the review of the zoning document. The GIS maps would be prepared by Nan Stolzenburg’s assistant, Don Meltz. Motion by Butler, second by Keeler to approve the request. 4-0 passed.

Building Inspector Report – All Town Board members received a copy.
Attorney to the Town Report – Replasky had nothing to report

Police Department Report – Officer in Charge, Mike Lawson submitted a copy to all Board members.

Deputy Supervisor Gardner read a letter submitted by Court Clerk, Maryanne Lennon which stated that she has secured monies for court improvements and office equipment. The total amount of the grant is $14,699.48. Lennon further stated in her letter that $5,270 will be sent directly to the court to be used for walkthrough and handheld metal detectors, installation and training of court officers and personnel. The supervisor will receive a check in the amount of $9,429.48 for equipment to be purchased by the court. In addition, an award of $19,999.99 has been provisionally approved for the next fiscal year for renovation of the court offices and other construction. Gardner explained that Drew Weaver did an inspection of what they want to do but it can’t really be done because of the egress. Gardner suggested that the court find an alternative use for the funds with regard to renovations.

Other/Questions/Public Comment – Sarah Jones stated that there is a potential security problem for the courtroom as far as the Judge trying to get out if something were to happen.

Gardner asked for a motion for the town to spend a cap amount of $10,000 to repair the bathhouse to get through one more season. Gardner explained that without the repairs, the beach may not get Health Department approval to open. Because of time constraints, Gardner stated that it won’t be possible to go out to bid on this project and that the work would be done by local contractors. Motion by Couse, second by Keeler to repair the bathhouse. 4-0 passed.

Gardner announced that March 26th is Christine Finkle Day. The day was designated last year when Christine Finkle turned 100 years old. March 26, 2008 will be Finkle’s 101st birthday.

Motion by Butler, second by Keeler to go to executive session regarding a personnel matter with no action to be taken. 4-0 passed.

Motion by Butler, second by Keeler to return to regular order of business. 4-0 passed.

Jennifer Pindt explained that she is working on starting a weekly senior socializing group and/or possibly taking a bus up to Taconic Hills for swimming. Pindt explained that she spoke to the school district and they are willing to provide a school bus but she just needs insurance. Gardner asked Pindt how many seniors have shown an interest in the senior program. Pindt said she spoke with just under 200 seniors, all in Pine Plains, and she had an interest of anywhere from 20 to 50 people. Gardner explained that the town’s insurance agent advised her that if the school provides the bus, there will be no cost to provide an insurance rider. Gardner stated that all the insurance agent will need are the names and license numbers of any drivers. Pindt gave Gardner a Transportation Agreement that needs to be completed. Gardner suggested giving the program a name. Pindt said that she would think of a name. Gardner asked Pindt if any of the seniors she spoke with had indicated any interest in transportation services. Pindt said there was an
interest in having rides to doctor’s appointments, hospitals and things of that nature. Pindt explained that there is a program available by calling “211 Connect” for rides or things like references to a doctor or any type of answer to health questions. Pindt thanked the Town Board for their time.

Motion by Butler, second by Keeler to adjourn. 4-0 Passed

Respectfully submitted:

__________________________  Supervisor __________________
Karen Pineda                      Deputy Supervisor __________________
Secretary to the Supervisor       Councilman __________________
                                           Councilman __________________
                                           Councilman __________________