

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2019

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on February 13, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Cochecton Town Hall with the following members present:

(Between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM for the purpose of auditing bills)

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:38 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas
Councilperson Anna Story absent
Councilperson Sean Nearing
Councilperson Paul Salzberg
Councilperson Edwin Grund

OTHERS PRESENT:
Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk
Karen Mannino --Attorney
Gregg Semenetz –CEO
Michael Walter - SPO

During the work session Luis Alvarez recapped his State of the County address. Unemployment rate low, new water park will employ 500 people, things are moving forward in the County, and the County is doing many things in 2019

Regular Town Board meeting started

Zeke Miller Dove Trail will have his art work ready by February 15, 2019. This art work along with the town’s art work will be presented to the County on the 15th.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve the minutes of January 9th and 23rd, 2019 and be accepted as submitted. All present board members voted in favor. Councilperson Story absent

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to approve the bills on Abstract # 2 in the following amounts:

General Account	Voucher # 23-68	\$11,161.61
Debit Card Account	Voucher # 69	\$216.68
Sewer Account	Voucher # 70-72	\$2,102.65
Lighting Account	Voucher # 25, 27, and 41	\$1,209.65 are prepaid
Highway Account	Voucher # 73-89	\$55,262.41

Claim #'s 34, 48, 58, 62, 69 and 73 are split between funds/same voucher
Prepaid claims were paid on January 9th, 15th, 25th, 28th, and Feb. 5th, 2019.
All present board members voted in favor. Councilpersons Story absent

- 2018 General Accounts = \$709.44**
- 2018 Debit Card Account = \$0.00**
- 2018 Sewer Accounts = \$1,845.00**
- 2018 Lighting District Account = \$622.82**
- 2018 Highway Accounts = \$0.00**
- 2019 General Accounts = \$10,452.17**
- 2019 Debit Card Account = \$216.68**
- 2019 Sewer Accounts = \$257.65**
- 2019 Lighting District Accounts = \$586.83**
- 2019 Highway Accounts = \$55,262.41**

CORRESPONDENCE:
NYS Comptroller’s office: acknowledge their receipt of the Town of Cochecton’s response related to the draft audit report
Letter from NYS DEC: SPDES Permit # NY0030694 was sent to Mike Walter SPO
American electric: Emergency Generator: we already have one
2019 report of Municipal Officials with address information
Sullivan County IDA: 2019- Millennium Pipeline Co. LLC- \$35,615.31

- Streamline Gov.when Governments streamline their processes and reduce repetitive manual tasks, they can be more efficient and in turn, save time and resources

PUBLIC COMMENT:
No one wished to comment

Cochecton Youth: basketball court: discussed, possible grant money to help with this project, backboards etc. The Youth Commission would like to have more parents involved. Also gave a recap of the 2018 events, 83 youth 18 events 3 trips to NYC.2019 planning March 2nd to West Point

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL: Larry Richardson not present
Submitted a written report

- The Council held its Annual meeting on Thursday February7th

- The presentation was made by Heather Leach from the Spotted Lanternfly Extension Association at Penn State’s College of Agricultural Sciences: “ Spotted Lanternfly: Updates on this Important Invasive Pest” Interesting to note that in some areas in Pennsylvania where infestation is very heavy it is affecting people’s ability to sell their homes. When large numbers of Lanternfly are concentrated and eating on a selected tree they discharge a honey- like sticky liquid that can build up on surfaces and is difficult to remove. A slide was shown of this “goo” on steps at the entrance of a home and the removal required power washing. Ms Leach shared that she had stopped at a site to investigate the insect numbers and mistakenly left the window open in her car. It took a long time and a lot of effort to get all of the insects out the car before she could leave. Is very important that anyone who sees a Lanternfly or suspects the insect is a Lanternfly, contact the NYS DEC or local Cornell extension and report it promptly.
- Topics discussed in part:
- The recovery from government’s shutdown. The time between the last government shutdown and the next possible shutdown does not appear long enough for the UDC to apply for and receive reimbursement of funds used. It appears we will be forced to continue to rely on UDC accumulated funds to cover operations unless the pending shutdown is averted.
- In regards to the use of sirens for emergency alerts along the river, I circulated an article that appeared in November Times-Herald Record from 2018. The article talks about the Paradise fire in California and the problems encountered trying to alert people to evacuate. As a result it was reported a few Northern California Communities are moving to install sirens. The UDC is attempting to have a presentation about the sirens that were paid for by NYC DEP in Schoharie County near the Gilboa Dam.
- The continuing importance of meeting with state representatives in Pennsylvania and New York to explain the need for state funding of the UDC’s mission.
- The members’ Conflict of Interest forms that have not been returned (Sean and others).
- The Annual Upper Delaware Council Awards Banquet is scheduled for April 28 once again at the Central House in Beach Lake.
- Actions taken:
- Approved: Damascus Township Joint Comprehensive Plan Substantial Conformance Recommendation from the Project Review Committee
- Approved: letter supporting the Town of Tusten Green Waste Recycling Project
- Approved: a resolution supporting leaving the handrails on the Narrowsburg Bridge galvanized

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund
Youth Commission already recapped the report

Web Site and Fire District: Councilperson Story was not present.

Website Report No report

Fire District – No report

Lake Huntington Lake Association: Councilperson Salzberg
Lake Huntington Lake Association held a meeting on February 9th. Zack Diehl from Oneonta presented a 59 page report that was well written and informative

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: (Gary Maas)

Submitted a written report:

- .Monthly Financial Report
- Bank Information:
- Deposited \$1,639.29 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$ 1,311.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$840.00Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$5,395.00, \$6,995.00, \$82,457.72, \$276,307.95, \$146,795.00, \$236,000.00 \$200,000.00, \$150,000.00 \$150,000.00 from Tax Collector
- Deposited \$5,839.03 Mortgage Tax
- Deposited \$332.46 Stumpage
- Deposited \$\$635.54 Dietz Sewer Rent \$16,206.31 School Sewer Usage
- Deposited \$35,651.31 IDA
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals to board
- Activity
- The New York State Comptroller’s Office has been doing an audit of the Town and had the exit conference and have given our response to five items. Worked on alarm system entry numbers and contract with P & N Alarm. Health Dept. Inspection, all good. Meetings with Jaun Rigal and Zeke Miller on Dove Trail

CONTACTUAL \$4,000.00

Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$285.37	\$3,714.63
Abstract#3		

Supervisor’s report continues

- Abstract #4
- Abstract #5
- Abstract#6
- Abstract#7
- Abstract#8
- Abstract#9
- Abstract#10
- Abstract#11
- Abstract#12
- Abstract#12A

- Worked 94 hours

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: (Kevin Esselman) not present

Submitted a written report:

- Out ditching, patching and cutting brush
- Plowed and sanded as needed
- Had some repairs
- Worked 160 hrs.
- Contractual balance - \$3,636.60

TOWN CLERK: (Hollye Schulman)

Submitted a written report;

- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.
- Issued 3 permanent and 1 temporary parking permits in January
- I did not attend an OSS+TCA meeting in January
- I have had inquiries about death records, property taxes, and how to find out if their checks cleared for property taxes, also person wanting to know if their address was changed as they took over the father’s home. Questions: re: to transfer station etc.
- I also have people asking me questions related to the CEO, Assessor, Tax Collector and some Justice Court questions
- Worked 78 ¾ hours in January
- Expenditures: \$57.10
- Collected fees for January \$1,717.03
- Contractual Balance: \$3,942.90

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (Gregg Semenetz)

Submitted a written report:

- Worked 80 hours, mileage 577, permits issued 4, renewals 0, C of O’s issued 1
- Notice of disapproval 0, Municipal search letters 5, Appearance tickets 0
- Revenues \$1,275.00, Expenses \$534.66
- Contractual Balance: \$4,965.34

CEO mentioned that he has had a busy month, decent year, busy right from the get go. Unsafe building: by Blanke He has not heard from the owner. There were a few others unsafe buildings mentioned. One on New Turnpike was a trailer with debris around it

TAX COLLECTOR: (Eileen Hennessy) not present

Submitted a written report

February 13, 2019

Monies collected \$2,388,949.39

Money given to Supervisor \$1,248,544.67

Money given to SC treasurer \$1,100,000.00

Balance: \$40,404.72

Worked 91 hours in January

Contractual balance \$1,718.42

TOWN ATTORNEY: (Karen Mannino)

Submitted written report:

- Attendance at Board Meeting

ASSESSOR: (Lorry King) not present

Submitted a written report. Supervisor went over her report

Old Business:

1. Field review of sales and new construction continues

This is our busy season, exemption renewals are due in my office by March 1, 2019 and all information is then compiled and the data entered into the computer for the tentative roll

New Business:

1. I have received our PDC report from the State, I had challenged the regarding the use of a few sales that I had rejected, as not valid

Assessor Hours: 29.5

Clerk Hours: 29.5

Jan. -2019 A1355.400 \$2,000.00

SCAA \$50.00

Assessor's report continues:

NYS Assessor Assoc. \$115.00
Quill \$73.52
Total Jan. \$238.52
Contractual Balance: \$1,761.48

SEWER OFFICER: (Michael Walter)

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 63,670 gallons per day for month of January
- Obtained 96% C.B.O.D. and 96% T.S.S. removal for January
- Spent a total of 67 1/2 hours attending to sewer district affairs in January
- Expenditures \$257.65
- Contractual Balance: \$29,742.35

No problems at this time

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR (Earl Bertsch) not present

Draft minutes reflected the Coots Minor Sub-division has passed

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: (Tamara DePaolo) not present

Submitted a written report. No expenditures for January

HISTORIAN: (K. C. Garn) not present

No report submitted

TOWN BOARD REPORTS:

(**Councilperson Salzberg**) commented on Mr. Alvarez report, do we want to keep Cochection quiet or considering businesses etc. Supervisor replied we always consider businesses, not to many places in town for new businesses Most are looking for sewer and that is only around the Lake

(**Councilperson Nearing**) Most new people look at the school when considering purchasing property in Cochection

(**Councilperson Grund**) nothing to report

(**Councilperson Story**) absent

Letter Delaware Liquor License Services sent a request re; L&B Ice Cream and Café LLC dba Fosterdale Country Cafe for a liquor license

MOTION: On the motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing the following motion was to allow the liquor license for Fosterdale Country Café to move forward

All present Town board members voted in favor

RESOLUTION # 21

TOWN OF COCHECTON REQUIRED BY NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM TO AUDIT JUSTICE COURT RECORDS

On motion by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the Town of Cochection is required by the State of New York to have the local Justice Court records audited annually, and

WHEREAS, the accounting firm of Cooper Arias, LLP under contract with the Town of Cochection conducted an annual audit FY 2018, and

WHEREAS, included in the annual audit was a review of the Town Justices' Court records as required by the State of New York Unified Court System and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the duly elected Town Board does hereby accept the annual audit FY 2018 performed by Cooper Arias, LLP as fulfilling the requirement of the local justice records audit

ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0 Councilperson Story absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Unsafe Buildings 2018- earlier in the meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tire Disposal –discussed at an earlier meeting
2. Basketball Court – discussed earlier
3. Cochection Entrance signs and banners – Supervisor will have bigger ones

DOVE TRAIL ART WORK

Most Town Board members liked art work for Dove project # 4 and # 1, These will be submitted to the County for their input on February 15, 2019 along with Zeke Miller's art work will be submitted

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2019

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to adjourn.. Time 8:25 p.m. All present board members present voted in favor.
Councilpersons Story absent

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk