

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on February 9, 2021, at the Cochection Town Hall. At 6:30PM is for the purpose of Comprehensive Plan Review with Shepstone. Following members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas
Councilperson - Deputy Supervisor, Edwin Grund
Councilperson Sean Nearing
Councilperson- SPO, Michael Walter
Councilperson John Nober

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kevin Esselman – HWY Superintendent Jim Crowley –CEO Eileen Hennessy-Tax Collector
Karen Mannino –Attorney Joan Conklin, Deputy Town Clerk
Larry Richardson- UDC / UDSB Peggy Richardson Peter Grosser
Michael Attianese Liam Mayo- River Reporter

Work Session :

Tom Shepstone Presentation: Comprehensive Plan Update 2022

- Population in Cochection
- Discussion regarding Battery Energy Storage
- Short Term Rentals and Zoning laws

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION #15

Authorization for Supervisor Gary Maas to write a check in the amount of \$1,000. To the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, For the support of their operation in effort to promote economic activity in the Town of Cochection.

Moved by Grund Seconded by Nearing

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

RESOLUTION # 16

TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO REVOKE OR CONTINUE AN ORDER TO MAKE SAFE OR REMOVE UNSAFE STRUCTURES WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTIES DESIGNATED AS SECTION 5 BLOCK 2 LOT 8

WHEREAS the single-family home with attached garage located at 216 County Road 114 and more particularly described as Section 5 Block 2 Lot 8 has been deemed by this Board to be unsafe and in need of removal,

AND WHEREAS, this Board has Ordered removal of the Structures and that notice be provided in accordance with Chapter 95 of the Town Code.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on March 9, 2022, or at any recessed or adjourned date thereof, a public hearing be conducted in accordance with Chapter 95 of the Town Code to determine whether to revoke or continue the order to make safe and direct the work to be performed within a specified period of time to protect the general public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of the public hearing be served upon the owner of record as set forth in the Assessor’s records by certified and first-class mail.

Moved by Councilperson Grund Seconded by councilperson Nearing

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

MOTION : made by Councilperson Nearing seconded by Councilperson Walter, to authorize the Town Clerk to place a Legal notice regarding Public Hearing March 9th at 7pm in the Democrat. All board members voted in favor.

MOTION: made by Councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Nober, to approve the minutes of January 12th, 2022, as submitted. All board members voted in favor.

RESOLUTION #17**APPROVE BILLS ON ABSTRACT #2 TO BE PAID IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS**

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

General Accounts: Claim #'s 58-81 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 43, 44, 47-53, 55, and 57 are in prepaid's

Total General Funds: **\$ 13,380.25**

Debit Card Account: Claim #82

Total Debit Card: **\$ 1,216.44**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #83-87 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 40-42, 55, and 56 are in prepaids.

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$ 1,317.42**

Lighting District Accounts: Claim # 45 in Prepaid

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$58.71**

Highway Accounts: Claim #'s 88-97 to be paid.

Claim #46 is in prepaids.

Total Highway Accounts **\$37,687.57**

PREPAIDS were paid 1/11, 1/19, 1/21, 1/25, 1/27, 1/28, 1/31, 2/4 and 2/7

Audit 2/8/21 by Councilmen Grund & Nober

Moved by Nober Seconded by Grund

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Maas

- Sullivan County Farmland: Certified the Ag update to Ag district 1
- Received Pilot Payment for 2022 Millennium Pipeline- \$46,561.47 < than 2021 due to equalization rate.
- Youth Board Insurance for workman's Comp- has been addressed

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL: Larry Richardson

Following the roll call attendees watched a video: "Sexual Harassment Prevention Training". All representatives and alternates are required to view this or submit proof of alternate training.

Topics discussed in part:

- Pleased to note that once again the Project Review Committee has elected me Chairman
- Agreeing to sponsor the 2nd Annual River Corridor Litter Sweep from April 22-30.
- DEC longtime representative Bill Rudge is retiring due to health reasons. He will be missed. Mike DiSarno will be filling in until a permanent replacement is chosen.
- Development plans for Camp Fimfo (formerly Kittatinny Campgrounds) were discussed in committee.
- Financial Sustainability retreat for Saturday February 5 at the Union. (*Eighteen representatives, alternates and staff spent three hours discussing the findings from a study conducted by Crane Associates from Burlington, Vt. Trying to find a way to access additional funding. The study showed that if the federal funding had just kept up with inflation it would amount to more than \$700,000 today. There are many tasks assigned to the UDC through the RMP that cannot be undertaken for lack of funds.*)

Actions taken:

Approved:

- A resolution of Commendation for William J. Rudge, NYS DEC Representative
- Letter to NPS: issuing a finding that the "Art Shop" Use Variance if approved by the Town of Tusten would be in substantial conformance with the RMP.
- Letter to Tusten Planning Board: noting Ten Mile River Property Minor Subdivision as proposed is not a UDC reviewable project.

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC BYWAY-*Monthly Report*

Submitted by: Larry Richardson

The Committee held a re-scheduled zoom meeting on January 24.

Items discussed in part:

- **Butterfly Promotion:** Richard Lowe III from the Village of Hancock talked about a program to have butterfly sculptures created and distributed in the village and in the future perhaps scattered throughout the Byway
- **UDSB Grants Poster Design:** we are working on a poster describing our grants program with photo samples of projects completed that we would like to have displayed in the town halls
- **Promotional Placemats and Biodegradable Litter Bags:** we have re-ordered the popular placemats that we had given out in past years to non-profits, churches, and fire companies along the Byway. The litter bags are a bit more challenging given that the vendor only makes them in orders of 10,000 or more.
- **UDSB Delegate Presentations to Municipal Boards:** we are encouraging all representatives to present reports of the Committee’s activities to their respective municipal boards.
- **UDSB Visitor Center at The Callicoon Depot Communications:** the committee is seeking to get a commitment and a show of progress from the Depot project
- **“Byway Digital Mapping for Wayfinding Success”:** I viewed a webinar sponsored by the National Scenic Byway Foundation on how to make your website more attractive by adding mapping and pinning points of interest. We will look to incorporate these suggestions.

Next Meeting Date: 4th Monday, February 28, 2022

Adjourn: meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund

The New Youth Commission is planning events for the coming year. For more information contact **Sue Rodriguez** (845) 866-0853, or email: s_rod79@frontiernet.net. Check out their **New Youth Commission Facebook** page to see all the creative activities that has been thoughtfully planned out by the volunteers in charge of the New Cochection Youth Commission.

Events:

- **Dorothy & Friends Character Tea2/13**
- **Ceramic Painting 2/25**
- **Easter Egg Train Ride 4/9**
- **Valentine Crafts 2/11**
- **Dunkin Donuts 2/11**

Lake Huntington Lake Association: Not Present

DEPARTMENT HEADS

SUPERVISOR: Gary Maas

Submitted a written report:

Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

Deposited \$	100.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	703.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	3,096.07	Town Clerk fees
Deposited \$		Debit Card
Deposited \$	31,005.60	Mortgage Tax
Deposited \$	46,561.47	PILOT
Deposited \$	1,317,321.88	Tax Revenue for 2022

Made transfers and deposits as needed and have given budget actuals to board

Activity : busy

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$2,062.40	\$ 1,937.60

Worked 95.5hours

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman

Submitted a written report:

- Sanded and plowed as needed.
- Had some repairs.
- We have been out patching.
- Researching info for Trucks and truck bodies
- Worked 160 hrs.
- Contractual balance - \$3,761.00

RESOLUTION #18

WHEREAS it is necessary for the Highway Superintendent to purchase a new truck in a deliverable time frame AND **WHEREAS** previously ordered Western Star 47X will not be received at a much later date than expected **THEREFOR**, let it be know that the Town of Cochection Town Board grants Authorization for the Highway Superintendent Kevin Esselman to change his purchase of new truck from the previous approved Western Star 47X with a Freightliner SD114 Due to the estimated time of delivery.

Moved by Walter Seconded by Nearing

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

RESOLUTION #20

Authorization for Town Clerk Maryann Oumrim to submit a legal notice regarding Town Board adopted a resolution to authorize the use of Capital Reserve Funds, in an amount not to exceed \$65,000, for the purchase of an Everest 10' SS SDS Dump Body with RollRite Electric Drive Trap, LED Body Lights and Poly Fenders.

Moved by Grund Seconded by Walter

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

TOWN CLERK: Maryann Oumrim

- Prepared Abstract #2 for audit.
- Prepared Minutes for January 12th Meeting.
- Put Legal notices in the paper –
 1. Town Board Monthly Meetings
 2. Vacancy for Planning Board ad
- Emails have been responded to and appropriately shared with Board Members.
- 3 trips to the bank to make deposits.
- CEO Report / deposit
- Dog -- New 2 Licenses and 8 Renewals.
- Marriage License -0
- Parking Tags- 4 P and 1 T
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- DECALS- Hunting & Fishing Licensing -0
- Training Joan Conklin our New Deputy
- Learning the Website Maintenance
- Updated Directory with County and with Orange Sullivan
- Added a few 428's which is ongoing
- I worked a total of **90 hours** in January
- **Contractual balance: \$3,260.31**

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: James Crowley

Submitted a written report: Worked 80 hrs.

- mileage 298
- permits issued 9
- Inspections 12
- C of O's 2
- C of C's issued 10
- Logging permits 2
- Stop work orders 2
- Municipal search letters 11
- Plan Review Inspections 4
- Revenues \$2812.48
- Expenses \$320.05
- Contractual Balance: \$5179.95

TAX COLLECTOR: Eileen Hennessy

Total Money Collected \$2,698,916.42

Money paid out to Supervisor \$1,317,321.88

Money paid put to SC Treasurer \$1,325,000.00

Balance in check book \$56,594.54

My Contractual Balance is \$2,339.08 (ask about monitor)

I worked 103 hours in the month of January

I collected 78.75%

2021 75.91%

TOWN ATTORNEY: Karen Mannino

ASSESSOR: Lorry King - not present
Submitted a written report.

Old Business:

- 1. Field work continues.

New Business:

- 1. The State required exemption renewals were mailed and are all due back in my office by March 1st, 2022
- 2. I will be attending several classes in February. On the 7th of February and the 25th. These are mandatory training classes, and I will be out of the office on those days.

Assessor Hours: 31.5

Clerk Hours: 13.0

Jan-22	
A1355.400	\$2,000.00
SCAA Dues	\$50.00
NYSAA Dues	\$125.00
NYSAA Training	\$110.00
NYSAA Training	\$110.00
Total Jan	\$395.00
Balance	\$1,605.00

SEWER OFFICER: Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 23,511 gallons per day for month of January
- Obtained 97% C.B.O.D. and 94% T.S.S. removal for January.
- Expenditures \$1,317.42
- Contractual Balance: \$29,851.12

Worked 77-hours.

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR Earl Bertsch - not present.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Tamara DePaolo - not present

HISTORIAN: K. C. Garn - not present

TOWN BOARD REPORTS:

Councilperson Nearing - expressed concern about the delay in receiving CHIPS money from County.

Councilperson Salzberg - nothing currently

Councilperson Grund - nothing currently

Councilperson Walter - nothing currently

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Roof for old town hall – tabled.
- 2. Addition for Town Barn
- 3. Comprehensive & Zoning Law Update -Shepstone present next meeting 3/9 at 6:30PM

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Unsafe Buildings – Discussion was had among board members
- 2. Planning Board Position Opening- 2 letters received by interested candidates
- 3. Ambulance District
- 4. Web Site Maintenance:

Town Web Site:

Update – Jenn Powell will be the town’s Web Master Security, updates and plug in’s

RESOLUTION #21

ADA COMPLIANCE

MOTION to authorize Jenn Powell to go forward with updating the Web site with ADA compliance at a yearly rate of \$490. Yearly Moved by Councilperson Grund Seconded by Councilperson Walter

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

Ambulance District:

Conference call was had with Brad Pinsky, Maas, Nearing, and ambulance members Grosser and Attianese to discuss creating an ambulance district.

RESOLUTION# 22

CONTRACT WITH PINSKY /AMBULANCE CORP.

MOTION to enter contract with Honorable Bradley Pinsky to move forward with creating an Ambulance District in the amount of \$2,500-\$3,000.

Moved by Walter Seconded by Nearing

All in Favor: Maas, Grund, Nearing, Walter, Nober

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Liam Mayo from River Reported offered his apologies and advised the Board that he had made an error in numbers in his last article, a correction has been submitted.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Walter, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to adjourn.
Time 9:10 p.m. All board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maryann Oumrim Town Clerk