

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2023

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on February 8, 2023, at the Cochecton Town Hall. At 7:00 PM for Public Hearing of Comprehensive Plan 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:

Maryann Oumrim-Town Clerk	Jim Crowley –CEO	Eileen Hennessy-Tax Collector
Robert Smith –Attorney	Joan Conklin	Larry Richardson- UDC / UDSB
Jack Nearing	Michael Attianese	Liam Mayo- River Reporter
Sheila Schultz	Mitra Behroori	Chris Renaud
Stephanie Rudolph	Thomas Cambridge	Greta Knutzen
Derek Kirk	Frank Kratz	Billy Boucher

MOTION made by Councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Walter to open the Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan Update 2023 at 7:10 pm

PUBLIC HEARING: Opened with the Pledge to the Flag

Tom Shepstone Presentation: Comprehensive Plan Update 2023

Reviewed the Comprehensive Plan Update-

Asked if anyone had and questions- None were presented.

MOTION made by Councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Nober to close Public Hearing at 7:26pm

Town Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas 7:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION #20

MOTION made by councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Walter to accept the proposed Comprehensive plan 2023 update discussed in the public hearing.

Supervisor Maas and Councilpersons: Grund, Nearing, Walter and Nober voted in favor.

Correspondence Received from Kratz:

Supervisor Maas read aloud letter received from Frank Kratz regarding his interest in joining the Planning Board.

MOTION made by Councilperson Grund seconded by councilperson Walter to approve Frank Kratz to join the Cochecton Planning Board.

All Board members voted in favor.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Nearing seconded by Councilperson Walter the following motion was to accept the minutes of January 11, 2023.

Supervisor Maas and Councilpersons: Grund, Nearing, Walter and Nober voted in favor.

RESOLUTION #21

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

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

General Accounts: Claim #'s 47-70 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 29, 32-34, 37-41 45, and 46 are in prepaid's.

Total General Funds: **\$ 18,224.36**

Debit Card Account: Claim #71

Total Debit Card: **\$ 2,137.11**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #72-74 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 31, and 42-44 are in prepaids.

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$1,072.21**

Lighting District Accounts: Claim # 30 and 35 in Prepaid

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$346.51**

Highway Accounts: Claim #'s 76-93 and split # 65 to be paid.

Claim #36 is in prepaids.

Total Highway Accounts **\$38,944.48**

PREPAIDS were paid 1/18, 1/20 1/30, 1/31, and 2/6

Audit 2/8/21 by Councilmen Grund & Nober

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CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Maas

2022 census was sent into county.

NYCLASS- Supervisor has opened 12 accounts with NYCLASS to get a better interest rate on town money.
No further correspondence

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL: Larry Richardson

On February 2, an early assembly was required to view a video on sexual harassment. All in attendance will be credited. A bit earlier at 6:00 pm the committee on telecommunications met to continue deliberations on a draft position paper.

The regular meeting opened with a zoom option and swearing in of officers: Aaron Robinson (Shohola Rep), Virginia Dudko (Deer Park Rep)-Vice Chair, Alan Henry (Berlin Rep) Secretary-treasurer.

Reports- Asked for questions regarding previously distributed minutes from the three standing committees.

- Project Review, (Larry Richardson)
- Operations, (Aaron Robinson)
- Water Use/Resource Management, (Ginny Dudko)

Status Reports

- Delaware River Basin Commission * (Kristen Bowman Kavanagh)
- NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (Jeff Rider)
- PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (Tim Dugan)
- National Park Service (Lindsey Kurnath (Superintendent)
- UDC Executive Director * (Laurie Ramie)

Actions Taken

- Approved Resolution 2023-03: to contract with our accountants to perform a Financial Review FY2023
- Approved Resolution 2022-11: Accepting the Project Review Committee finding of Substantial Conformance for Lackawaxen's proposed Zoning Ordinance. It will be forwarded to the NPS.

Other

- The Project Review Committee has re-elected me as Chairperson.
- Upcoming events: Corridor-wide Litter Sweep is planned for April 22-30.
- An elected officials Summit consisting of State and Federal Officials is being planned to discuss our financial condition. The UDC Federal funding has been stagnant since 1988 and no regular state funding has ever been forthcoming.

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC BYWAY-*Monthly Report*

Submitted by: Larry Richardson

The Committee held a re-scheduled meeting on January 23, with a zoom option.

Discussion items:

- a) Program Manager Independent Contractor Agreement
- b) UDSB Bus Tour for 2nd Annual Festival of the Founding Fish: Upper Delaware Shad fest
- c) Tabled a grant request to support the Deep-Water Literary Festival in Narrowsburg
- d) Agreed to the pay registration fee of \$35.00 for Laurie Ramie to attend the Catskills Legislative Networking Breakfast 2/10, in Rock Hill
- e) Agreed to once again place as ad in the "**Destination Hancock: Gateway to the Upper Delaware**" **2023 Magazine**
- f) After interviewing three candidates it was approved to offer a contract to John Pizzolato as **Program Manager** under an Independent Contractor Agreement. The agreement is for 6 months at a contracted price of \$35,000.
- g) An update was presented on efforts to transfer the UDSB website to a new host.

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h) Chairman Lowe reported that prototype WIFI solar powered trash receptacles are expected to arrive soon from the State Department for testing in the Hancock area. *(The County’s similar effort seems to have gone away.)*

Next Meeting Date: 4th Monday, February 27, 2023

Adjourn: meeting adjourned.

Cochecton Fire Department: John Nober

Purchased a truck from Pittsburgh, NY 2011 Used rescue truck.

Sullivan Renaissance is Hosting a Healthy aspire challenge Lake Huntington is in 2nd place!

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 Cochecton Youth Commission.

Lake Huntington Lake Association: John Nober notified the town that they have recently had 2 members resign and are currently looking for members to join the association.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

SUPERVISOR: Gary Maas

Submitted a written report:

Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

Deposited \$	00.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	00.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	1,191.07	Town Clerk fees
Deposited \$	124.20 & 145.34	Debit Card
Deposited \$	746.90	Sewer Rent
Deposited \$	1,000.00	Escrow

Made transfers and deposits as needed.

Activity : busy

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$1,300.41	\$ 2,699.59

Worked 98 hours

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman

Submitted a written report:

- Sanded and plowed as needed.
- Had some repairs.
- We have been out patching.
- Worked 160 hrs.
- Contractual balance - \$3,300.00

TOWN CLERK: Maryann Oumrim

I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk including:

- Prepared Abstract #2 for audit.
- Prepared Minutes for January Regular Meetings
- Changed over all folders from 2022 to 2023 in both the General and Highway bills. .
- Emails have been responded to and appropriately shared with Board Members.
- 3 trips to the bank to make deposits.
- CEO Report / deposit
- Dog -- New 0 Licenses and 3 Renewals.
- Marriage License -1

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- Parking Tags- 0 P and 0 T
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- DECALS- Hunting & Fishing Licensing –1
- Website Maintenance
- Ads placed in newspaper
- I worked a total of 88 hours
- **Contractual balance: \$3,539.66**

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: James Crowley

Submitted a written report: Worked 80 hrs.

- mileage 116
 - permits issued 3
 - C of O's 1
 - C of C's 0
 - Notice of Disapprovals 3
 - Municipal search letters 5
 - Plan Review Inspections 13
 - Revenues \$878.04
 - Expenses \$125.98
 - Contractual Balance: \$4,874.0
- CEO will be going to a Code Enforcement training regarding Gas stoves and Heating Energy Code for future, proposed for 2025

TAX COLLECTOR: Eileen Hennessy

I have collected \$2,623,942.05

I paid Supervisor \$1,443,756.46

I paid County \$1,100,000.00

Balance in checking is about \$103,733.00

My batch #77 is messed up and I have a few bounced checks.

Credit Card \$22,369.76 Cash \$19,255.70 Checks \$2,623,942.05

TOWN ATTORNEY: Robert Smith

- Revised contract between Town and Ambulance
- Expansion of Sewer District plan has been started
- Association of Towns is holding Annual conference in NYC 2/9-22

RESOLUTION #22

MOTION made by councilperson Nober seconded by councilperson Nearing to approve Robert Smith to attend the NYS continued education in NY City hosted by the Association of Towns on 2/19.

Supervisor Maas and Councilpersons: Grund, Nearing, Walter and Nober voted in favor.

ASSESSOR: Lorry King - not present

Old Business:

1. Field work continues.
2. Senior Citizen exemption increase

New Business:

1. Discussion with Supervisor regarding RP-466 Volunteer Fire/Emergency exemption
2. I will be taking required mandatory continued education in the months of February and March

A1355.400 \$2,000.00

SCAA Dues \$50.00

NYSAA Dues \$125.00

Quill \$29.99

Total Jan \$204.99

Balance \$1,795.01

Hours:

Assessor: 30.75 Clerk: 22.00

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SEWER OFFICER: Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 48,856 gallons per day for month of January
- Obtained 98% C.B.O.D. and 99% T.S.S. removal for January.
- Expenditures \$1,072.21
- Contractual Balance: \$32,927.39

Worked 89-hours.

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR Earl Bertsch –

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Tamara DePaolo - not present

HISTORIAN: Kristina Kraus - not present

TOWN BOARD REPORTS:

Councilperson Nearing – nothing currently

Councilperson Salzberg - nothing currently

Councilperson Grund - nothing currently

Councilperson Walter - nothing currently

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Nober, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to adjourn.

Time 8:30 p.m. All board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryann Oumrim

Town Clerk