

**REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF COCHECTON, MARCH 14, 2018**

**PUBLIC HEARING NEARING SEWER PETITION - 1 -**

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection beginning with a Public Hearing at 7:00 pm was held on March 14, 2018 at the Cochection Town Hall with the following members present:

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Margaret Richardson – Deputy Town Clerk  
Karen Mannino --Attorney  
Gregg Semenetz – CEO entered at 7:38 pm  
Michael Walter – SPO entered at 7:30 pm

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to open the Public Hearing regarding the Nearing Sewer Petition. Time 7: 03 pm. All present board members voted in favor.

Supervisor mentioned that he and Attorney Mannino are waiting for more information regarding this project.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to recess this Public Hearing until the next Town Board meeting on April 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Time: 7:06 pm. All present Town Board members voted in favor.

Work session included:

- Discussion of draft of amendment to camp regulations; Attorney Mannino will email Tom Shepstone to clarify definition of who will reside there, how many cooks, maintenance, support staff, etc. She will prepare a Public Hearing Notice for April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The final draft will be adopted in May.

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

Supervisor Maas read letter from Kasey Kratz with request for consideration to fill vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review Committee. Grace DePasquale has moved out of the area.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, motion was to appoint Kasey Kratz to the unexpired term of Grace DePasquale (expires 9/30/2019) for the Board of Assessment Review Committee. All present Town Board members voted in favor.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to approve the minutes of February 27, 2018 be accepted as submitted. All present board members voted in favor.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, motion was to approve the bills on abstract # 3 in the following amounts.

General Account	Voucher # 47-75, plus prepaid 100,Split 101, 102,103,105, 109,111,113,114,116-118	\$14,088.57
Sewer Account	Voucher # 141, plus prepaid #98,99,104 ,107,110,115	\$ 999.44
Lighting Account	Voucher # 142 plus prepaid #108,112	\$612.63
Highway Account	Voucher #'s 143-157, plus prepaid #97,Split 101, Split 133 and Split 154	\$45735.42

Prepays were paid on 2/15, 2/20,2/24,3/1,3/7,3/8, 3/13

**2018 General accounts = \$14,088.57**

**2018 Debit Accounts = \$796.93**

**2018 Sewer Accounts = \$999.447**

**2018 Lighting District Accounts = \$612.63**

**2018 Highway Accounts = \$45735.42**

All present Town Board members voted in favor.

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#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Email received from Vera Bradley Company requesting information on who to contact for a proposed photo fashion shoot on Lake Huntington in April. Supervisor Maas replied to her.
- An updated legal claim was received which is not yet made public.
- Letter of complaint received by all town officials from Lori Zamborino regarding noise from Lander's Campgrounds. This is not a town responsibility because Ms. Zamborino resides in Milanville, PA.
- Letter from UDC regarding funding request.
- The agreement is signed between the Town and Sullivan West School to purchase sand and salt together from same vendor.
- Violation with Labor Department mandated training courses for Highway personnel beginning with "Workplace Violence". Training was provided in the Town Board meeting room last week.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **Upper Delaware Council and Byway-** Larry Richardson

The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday March 1, 2018.

Chairman Robinson opened the meeting followed by-

##### **Presentation by Adam Bosch, Director of Public Affairs, New York City DEP: Emergency Public Notification System**

**Improvements:** Bosch offered a Power Point presentation that started with an overview of the New York City Water Supply System. It is the nation's largest unfiltered water supply with 19 reservoirs and three lakes with a storage capacity of 580 billion gallons delivering more than 1 billion gallons of water each day to 9.5 million consumers, conveyed by gravity alone. The watershed is 1,969 square miles, covering parts of eight counties in New York plus a small portion of Connecticut. Bosch described their robust dam safety and inspection program.

Bosch proceeded to provide an update on the Delaware Aqueduct Bypass Tunnel. This is the largest and most complex repair project in the 176-year history of New York City's upland water supply. It will cost \$1.5 billion to rehabilitate the 100-year-old Catskill Aqueduct, fix or eliminate leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct, and build a new 2-1/2 mile long tunnel 600 feet below the Hudson River. The project is expected to be completed in 2023.

It was reported that the office had received a letter of funding support from the Town of Cochection that will be forwarded to the NYS DEC along with such letters previously received from other towns. The UDC thanks the Cochection Town board for its support.

The Federal funding that had been held up for so long it resulted in a departure of a key staff member. Although restored the possibility does remain of an interruption due to a continuing resolution.

New York State DEC Representative Bill Rudge acknowledged that his agency is discussing with the Federal Government the probability of lifting the quarantine on the transportation of wood. In affect the DEC is acknowledging that controlling the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer is not feasible. It is everywhere.

NPS Superintendent Heister presented an impressive summary of the value of volunteerism in supporting the Park Service's mission.

The personnel committee is holding job interviews for the position of UDC Secretary.

At the next Project Review Committee meeting on March 27, we will discuss the procedure and verbiage to add definitions from the Renewable Energy Position Paper regarding utility-scale solar into the Land and Water Use Guidelines through a River Management Plan minor amendment. Given that this would require a unanimous vote for approval, it's suggested that non-committee members attend the Project Review Committee meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> to gain an understanding, discuss concerns, and get information to take back to their towns and townships if need be. The challenge is that one representative has expressed that he cannot vote for this amendment unless the River Management Plan (RMP) is opened and changes made. Since the RMP is derived from Federal legislation it would take an act of Congress to change the plan and with the extreme effort required to get approved of the Plan I don't think it's wise to open Pandora's Box.

**Scenic Byway;** The UDSB held its regular meeting on Monday February 26.

**A discussion was held with Jacquie Leventoff,**

**Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council:** The committee was interested in learning more about how the council operates. Leventoff agreed that Sullivan County is the "red-headed stepchild" of the Mid-Hudson Region. The council is made up of 5 members. She is the one and only Sullivan County vote. As a result it is a struggle to secure funding for Sullivan County projects in such a competitive atmosphere.

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**Treasurer’s Report:**

Treasurer Richardson presented his written report and reviewed the transactions. Terry Whitt, the accountant who has always handled the UDSB tax filings advised that the UDSB return previously was simple with e-postcards but with the new tax law changes and the \$20,000 grant from Sullivan County which has pushed UDSB over the income threshold a more complicated return is required; the estimate for preparation is \$500. He previously charged \$75.

I reported that I had the pleasure to review and present the UDSB Monarch Butterfly Program to all of the Elementary School Principals in Sullivan County with a targeted class of fourth graders.

Todd Lanze, a sculptor presented a plan to install butterfly sculptures at all of the pollinator gardens along the byway. Grant monies may be available to defray the costs (\$800).

An invitation to have a presentation at the Sullivan Renaissance Annual Conference, Apr. 28 at Bethel Woods was received.

The UDSB has been notified of continued existence of a NYS \$250,000 Grant for UDSB Visitor Center Construction. This grant was originally secured by State Senator Bonacic. We had been told that due to the length of time since the award, that the money was no longer available.

**Youth Commission – Councilperson Grund**

- 43 attended the Bus Trip to the NY Knicks game
- They are planning a trip to a Yankees game TBD

**Website Report** – Councilperson Story, no report

**Fire District** – No report

**Lake Huntington Lake Association:** Councilperson Salzberg

- Ms. Suozzo of NYS DEC will meet with Lake Association April 6 at 2PM to review problems with Lake Huntington.
- He attended a meeting in Albany to discuss the lake with Bonacic and Gunther. Cuomo has money grants available to clean up the lakes in New York.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** (Gary Maas)

Submitted a written report:

- Bank Information:
  - Deposited \$1,639.00 judicial fees
  - Deposited \$ 803.00 judicial fees
  - Deposited \$1,251.54 Clerk fees
  - Made transfers and deposits as needed and (budget to actuals not given to Town Board members)
- Activity: has sent email message to Legislative chair Alvarez requesting the overdue signed Transfer Station contract and \$5,000.00 maintenance check.

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$ 232.55	\$ 3,762.45
Abstract#3	\$ 755.03	\$ 3,007.42

- Worked 85 hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman, absent)

- Did some ditching and cutting brush
- Had some repairs
- Plowed and sanded as needed
- Put up some road signs
- Worked 160 hrs
- Contractual balance is \$3,403.59

**TOWN CLERK:** (Deputy Margaret Richardson)

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- Submitted a written report
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk beginning February 26, 2018.
- Issued 4 permanent handicapped and 0 temporary parking permits in February
- Issued 6 neutered dog licenses
- Hollye worked a total of 107 3/4 hours in February. Deputy worked 8 1/2 hours (2/26-27)
- Expenditures \$0
- Contractual Balance: \$3,913.73

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** (Gregg Semenetz)

- Submitted a written report:
- Worked 80 hours, traveled 774 miles
- issued 3 permits 0 renewals
- C of O's issued 5
- Notices of disapproval 2
- Municipal search letters 4
- Appearance tickets 0
- Revenues: \$600.00
- Expenses: \$587.96
- Contractual Balance: \$4,439.71

Two new houses coming on CR 114; Municipal Searches are busy; of the three unsafe buildings that were notified, one replied and a second notice will be sent out to the other two.

**TAX COLLECTOR** – Eileen Hennessy, no report – absent

#### **ATTORNEY** – (Karen Mannino )

A written report was submitted: worked 3 hrs. 11 minutes on summer camp zoning; attended Board meeting on 2/14 and 2/27

#### **ASSESSOR** – (Lorry King, absent)

- Office is closed the week of March 26<sup>th</sup> – we have posted the doors.
- Request for appointment to the Board of Assessment review received from Kasey Kratz and forwarded to the Supervisor.
- I will be attending mandatory training in June, August and September
- On March 13<sup>th</sup> I will attend the SC Assessors' meeting in Monticello.
- Assessor hours 35.75 Clerk hours 23.50
- Contractual for February \$ 2,950.00

#### **SEWER** – (Michael Walter)

- Submitted written report and worked 62 hours for February 2018;
- the Plant needs more LP capacity enough for 3 to 4 days at least. He will look into what needs to be purchased (500-1,000 gal tank) and get a quote.

#### **DCO** – (Rosemary Barile, absent)

Submitted written report and worked 14 hours for February 2018. She will be on vacation 3/20-3/29/18. Arrangements have been made with the DCO of Bethel Township.

**HISTORIAN** – (KC Garn, absent, no report)

#### **BOARD MEMBERS** –

Councilperson Salzberg – The Rules and Regulations sign needs to be put back at the lake access, i.e. no camping. The DEC needs to weed whack and clean up the area at access.

Councilperson Grund – nothing else

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to recess this meeting to April 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Time 8:10p.m. All present Town Board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Richardson, Deputy Town Clerk