

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING APRIL 14, 2021

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on April 14,2021 at the Cochecton Town Hall. 7:00 PM. The following members were present:

PRESENT: Councilperson - Deputy Supervisor, Edwin Grund
Councilperson Sean Nearing
Councilperson Paul Salzberg
Councilperson- SPO, Michael Walter

OTHERS PRESENT:

Maryann Oumrim - Town Clerk Kevin Esselman – HWY Superintendent
Jim Crowley –CEO Karen Mannino –Attorney
Linda Drollinger – River Reporter

Meeting was called to order by - Deputy Supervisor, Edwin Grund with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION: #20 Funding - Dog Enumeration

WHEREAS the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2021 budget was unaware that we might conduct a dog enumeration in FY 2021, so for the FY 2021 Budget to be properly funded, and so

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budget line, A3510.401 DOG ENUMERATION CONTRACTUAL be funded an additional \$350.00 from line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT so that line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT reads \$13,900.00 and DOG ENUMERATION CONTRACTUAL A 3510.401 reads \$350.00.

Moved by Nearing

Seconded by Salzberg

Ayes: ✓ Grund Neyes: Grund
 ✓ Nearing Nearing
 ✓ Salzburg Salzburg
 ✓ Walter Walter

RESOLUTION: #21 Funding – Code Enforcement Laptop

WHEREAS, the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2021 budget was unaware that the building Department would be in need of a laptop for conducting the business of the office in the FY 2021, so for the FY 2021 Budget to be properly funded, and so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budget line, A 3620.00 CODE ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT be funded an additional \$750.00 from line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT so that line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT reads \$13,250.00 and CODE ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT A 3620.200 reads \$750.00.

Moved by Walter

Seconded by Salzberg

Ayes: ✓ Grund Neyes: Grund
 ✓ Nearing Nearing
 ✓ Salzburg Salzburg
 ✓ Walter Walter

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2021 as submitted. All board members voted in favor.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to approve the minutes of March 24, 2021 as submitted. All board members voted in favor.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to approve the minutes of March 31, 2021 Bid Opening as submitted. Board members Grund, Salzberg, and Nearing voted in favor, with Walters abstained.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Walter, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, to approve the bills on Abstract # 4 in the following amounts:

General Accounts: Claim #'s 183-207 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 161, 166-170, 172-174, 177, 178 are in prepaids.

Total General Funds: **\$9,701.59**

Debit Card Account: Claim #208

Total Debit Card: **\$ 5.00**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #209-211 are to be paid.

Claim #'s #162, 163, 171, 176, 179, 180 and 182 are in prepaids.

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$ 2,608.30**

Lighting District Accounts: Claim # 165 and #175 in Prepaid

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$440.73**

Highway Accounts: Claim #'s 164, 181 are prepaid.

Claim #207, 212-226 to be paid.

Total Highway Accounts **\$23,425.51**

PREPAIDS were paid 3/16, 3/23, 3/29, 4/5

Claim #'s 164, 192, 207, and 213 are split accounts paid on same voucher to Vendor.

Audit 4/12/21 by Councilmen Nearing & Walter

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**Upper Delaware Council:** Larry Richardson -

The Council held its regular meeting via Zoom on Thursday April 1. The meeting opened with a presentation by

Jessica Yoder, Assistant Director of the Pike County Planning Office. The subject was a Lackawaxen River Corridor Trail Study. The studies main focus is to identify where trails might be feasible in light of the growing popularity of hiking. She said that a recurring question when considering public access trails is liability. She noted that property owners who take part in the trails program are covered under Pa law.

Topics discussed in part:

Status Reports:

DEC representative Bill Rudge announced FINALIZATION OF TROUT STREAM regulations and a *New Interactive Trout Stream Fishing Map*. The new guide can be found at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7917.html> for downloading and printing at home. The new regulations will allow for regulated trout fishing year-round.

PA DCNR Pa representative Tim Dugan announced Operational Changes at State Parks, Forests In line with Governor Tom Wolf's latest orders intended to prevent the spread and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. During the discussion, it was noted that Pa is supplying backpack air blowers to fire-fighters to use in creating forest fire breaks. He said the devices are far more effective than the old rake and shovel procedure.

NPS Superintendent Salvatore discussed the difficulty with new operational procedures that came in with the new administration. One example is the difficulty securing housing for summer interns from outside of the area. Now any approval for such expenditures must be approved "up the ladder" previously they could be approved locally.

Old Business:

Discussed **Litter Sweep** and the support and cooperation received from the PA DOT versus the obstructionist stance of NYS DOT. I am pleased to make note that we now have 18 people volunteering for cleaning the 6.5 miles of Rte. 97 within Cochecton. I should note also that the project has received a lot of financial support.

Skinners Falls-Milanville Bridge: The Council re-affirmed its earlier position that due to the fact that the Bridge is listed on the Historical Register and the economic attraction that such a listing brings, the old bridge should be saved and rehabilitated to the safest weight limit attainable.

Actions taken:

Adopted: Resolution 2021-12: formalizing the UDC Position on the Definition of Substantial Conformance

Adopted: a letter to the NPS: finding the Town of Tusten's draft Comprehensive Plan to be in substantial conformance as written.

Adopted: a letter supporting the Delaware County Dept. of Planning's Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Upper Delaware Scenic Byway: Larry Richardson

The Committee held its regular meeting via Zoom on Monday March 29.

Election of Officers: the proposed slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee was voted on and approved: Chairperson – Johnny Pizzolato (Town of Highland); Vice-chairperson – Ginny Dudko (Town of Deerpark); and Secretary-Treasurer Larry Richardson

Treasurer's Financial Report: approved the draft budget submitted.

Discussion items:

- **Orange County Travel Guide:** approved a redesigned ad. There will be no charge since the tourism office did not publish the guide last year.
- **Skidders Falls-Milanville Bridge** Ramie said she would send out some background information on a Joint Position Paper that UDSB, Inc. had co-signed outlining numerous reasons to retain the bridge including economic importance, emergency response, and cultural/historical significance, and her notes from the first meeting of the study’s Project Advisory Committee on Feb. 22.
- **Draft Conflict of Interest and Preventing Sexual Harassment Policies:** the Conflict of Interest and Preventing Sexual Harassment Policies were approved as proposed.
- **Upper Delaware Litter Sweep Sponsorship Request:** a motion was approved that UDSB, Inc. cover the difference between what the UDC can afford and the cost for necessary supplies.

Next Meeting Date: April 26, 2021 (4th Monday) at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund

- The Cohecton Youth Commission is continuously adding to their social distanced activities. For more information contact **Sue Rodriguez** (845) 866-0853, or email: s_rod79@frontiernet.net. Check out their Facebook page at *Cohecton Youth Commission*.

Lake Huntington Lake Association: Councilperson Dr. Salzberg

Meeting was held on the weekend of 4/10/2021, Discussion regarding treatment to the lake to begin the end of May 2021. Further discussion about

- silk fences to be put around the lake for prevention of debris entering the lake.
- Possibility of the high school students getting involved in community by testing the water.
- Looking into special grass which aids in the chance for debris to enter the lake.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: Gary Maas

Submitted a written report:

CONTACTUAL – Beginning Balance **\$4,000.00**

Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$ 825.94	\$3,174.06
Abstract #3	\$ 58.64	\$3,115.42
Abstract #4	\$ 50.00	\$3,065.42 ending balance

- Worked 95.5 hours.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman

Submitted a written report:

- Patched on Paved and gravel roads.
- Ditched and started replacing pipes on roads to be paved.
- Started taking sanders out of trucks.
- Hauled in crusher run.
- Had sand hauled in.

- Cut brush.
 - Had some repairs.
 - Driveway permit applications addressed.
- Worked 160 Hours.
Contractual balance is 3,800.

Superintendent of highway suggested to install a drop box outside the town hall.
Discussion was had regarding auctioning off the old trailer and the broom attachment.

Movement made by Nearing, seconded by Walter to allow Kevin Esselman Highway Superintendent to list the old trailer and the broom attachment for auction. All board members in Favor.

- | | | | |
|-------|------------|--------|----------|
| Ayes: | ✓ Grund | Nayes: | Grund |
| | ✓ Nearing | | Nearing |
| | ✓ Salzberg | | Salzberg |
| | ✓ Walter | | Walter |

TOWN CLERK: Maryann Oumrim

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

- Prepared Abstract #4 for audit.
- Prepared minutes for March 10 regular meeting
- Prepared Recessed Meeting Minutes for March 24.
- Prepared Minutes for BID opening on March 31st.
- Deposited Town CEO fees.
- Several trips to the bank to make deposits for the incoming revenue from the recent Dog Enumeration.
- Dog Enumerations Continue to come in.
- Emails have been responded to and appropriately shared with Board Members.
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- I worked a total of **95.75** hours in March.
- Deputy Clerk 7 Hours
- **Contractual balance: \$2,856.08**

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: James Crowley

Submitted a written report:

- Worked 80 hrs.
- mileage 347
- Permits issued 5
- Municipal search letters 11
- Revenues \$1,970.00
- Expenses \$989.31
- Contractual Balance: \$4,140.77

Report submitted regarding 71 Bernas Road, Cohecton, NY 12726 SBL 9,2,4.4 unsafe Structure dangerous to the public after structure fire on March 21, 2021. Request to proceed with a public hearing.

MOTION made by councilperson Nearing, seconded by Salzberg to accept CEO report for 71 Bernas Road.
All board members in favor

Ayes:	✓ Grund	Nayes:	Grund
	✓ Nearing		Nearing
	✓ Salzberg		Salzberg
	✓ Walter		Walter

RESOLUTION # 22 ORDER TO MAKE SAFE OR REMOVE AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE AND TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS SECTION 9 BLOCK 2 LOT 4.4

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Officer has filed an Unsafe Building Report with the Town Board regarding a structure located at 71 Bernas Road and more particularly described as Section 9 Block 2 Lot 4.4;

AND WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Officer has asserted and provided proof to establish that the property in question contains an unsafe structure, said structure being a barn that was the subject of a fire on March 21, 2021 causing the barn to be unsafe in that the roof is mostly collapsed and the walls are not intact with both the roof and the walls being at risk of further collapse.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, this Board Orders Removal of the unsafe structure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, on May 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., 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 Order and Notice of Hearing being served in accordance with Chapter 95 of the Town Code.

Moved by Nearing

Seconded by Salzberg

Ayes:	✓ Grund	Nayes:	Grund
	✓ Nearing		Nearing
	✓ Salzberg		Salzberg
	✓ Walter		Walter

TAX COLLECTOR: Eileen Hennessy – not present
Contractual Balance: \$1420.58

TOWN ATTORNEY: Karen Mannino

ASSESSOR: Lorry King - not present

Submitted report:

Old Business:

1. Field work continues.
2. I will be taking several online courses in the next few months to satisfy my education requirements.

New Business:

1. Nothing new to report

March

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING APRIL 14, 2021

1355.4	\$1,950.00
Terri Fountain	\$33.71
Lorry King	\$99.68
Quill	\$55.11
Total March	\$188.50
Balance	\$1,761.50

Assessor hours: 34.25

Clerk hours: 36.00

SEWER OFFICER: Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 35,018 gallons per day for month of January
- Obtained 98% C.B.O.D. and 99% T.S.S. removal for January.
- Expenditures \$620.16
- Contractual Balance: \$31,234.84

Worked 77-hours.

Discussion was had regarding Liquid sludge hauling and disposal- Sewer officer reached out to several companies for quotes, Esselman Septic on 5/5 and Roto Rooter (Lang) on 4/5 with no response, Koberlein submitted a quote on April 13, 2021.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, to accept the quote received from Koberlein in the amount of 32.5¢ per gallon All board members in favor with Walter abstaining.

Ayes:	✓ Grund	Nays:	Grund
	✓ Nearing		Nearing
	✓ Salzberg		Salzberg
Abstained -	Walter		Walter

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR Earl Bertsch - not present
Planning Board minutes February was approved.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Tamara DePaolo - not present

HISTORIAN: K. C. Garn - not present
No report

TOWN BOARD REPORTS:

- Councilperson Nearing -**
- Councilperson Salzberg -** nothing currently
- Councilperson Grund -** nothing currently
- Councilperson Walter -**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Unsafe Buildings – Stanzoni has been removed.
2. Roof for old town hall- Need to get Bids for roof and decision of shingles or tin roof.
3. Addition for Highway Barn – Meeting to be held on April 23, 2021 at 9am

4. Litter Pluck- Calls need to be made for volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Covid 19 Rescue money has not come in yet.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Karen Mannino- Suggestion to add a method for dog registration or a form to be added to the website to facilitate those who are unable to make it into the town hall during town hall hours.

MOTION of Councilperson Walters, seconded by Councilperson Nearing the following motion was to recess meeting to April 28, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Time 8:45 p.m. All board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Maryann Oumrim Town Clerk