

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on May 13, 2020 at 7:30 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 7:30 PM.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Gary Maas  
Councilperson Sean Nearing  
Councilperson Paul Salzberg  
Councilperson Edwin Grund  
Councilperson Michael Walter

**OTHERS PRESENT:**  
Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk Kevin Esselman – Highway Superintendent  
Michael Walter –SPO

During the work session, HWY Superintend Kevin Esselman has decided which bidder he is going with for the stone bids and blacktop bid. Stone bid R & H Gorr the rest of the will go to Deckelman. The blacktop bid will go to Morlyn for binder type # 6 and type # 7 with Callanan as the backup

**RESOLUTION #24**  
**STONE BID ACCEPTED**

On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the HWY superintendent has decided he wants the stone bids to go to R & H Gorr as a secondary alternative for delivery and Deckelman LLC for crusher run, # 2, # 3 # 4 and Surge Stone as well as PA # 8 and PA # 6S.

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg Grund and Walter

**RESOLUTION #25**  
**BLACKTOP BID ACCEPTED**

On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the blacktop bid will go to Morlyn Asphalt Corp for type 6 and type 7, with Callanan Industries, Inc as the back up

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg Grund and Walter

Regular meeting opened at 7:30 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #26**  
**APPOINTMENT JENNA KRATZ AS MEMBER BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the board of assessment needs a new member, and WHEREAS Jenna Kratz is hereby appointed as that new member

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg Grund and Walter

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter, the following motion was to accept the minutes of April 8<sup>th</sup>, and be accepted as submitted  
Supervisor Maas.

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg, Grund and Walter voted in favor.

**RESOLUTION #27**  
**BILLS ON ABSTRACT # 5**

On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter the following resolution was to accept the bills on abstract # 5 in the following amounts:

|                           |                      |  |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>PREPAID 216-229</b>    |                      |  |
| General Account           | Voucher #'s 230-245  | \$21,056.09 includes prepaid                             |
| Debit Card Account:       | Nothing at this time |  |
| Sewer Account             | Voucher #'s 246-249  | \$3,827.65 * <b>220, 222, and 224 are prepaid</b>        |
| Lighting District Account | Voucher # 218        | \$410.81 * is in prepaid                                 |
| Highway Account           | Voucher #'s 250-267  | \$8,733.32 * <b>claim # s 221 and 225 are in prepaid</b> |

Claim #'s 203, 220, 229,236 splits between funds, same voucher.  
PREPAIDS were paid on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and May 2nd, 2019.

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

New Hope Community: Golf event postponed until October 5th

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Linda Drollinger asked for the transfer station  
No one else wished to comment

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Larry Richardson: UDSB

- The Committee held its regular meeting via teleconferencing on Monday April 27, 2020.
- **First order of business:** The following representatives were elected as officers: Chairperson John Pizzolato (Town of Highland); Vice-Chairperson Rosie DeCristofaro (Town of Delaware); and Secretary-Treasurer Larry H. Richardson (Town of Cochecton), with unanimous approval.
- **Treasurer's Financial Report,** Status of Sullivan County \$25,000 Funding Contract: the County had approved \$25,000 in its budget for the UDSB, however due to the crisis all spending was frozen. We are told that the approved funding has been reduced to \$20,000 and will be dispersed when circumstances permit.
- **Topics of Discussion in part:**
- **Grant Applications: Butterfly Promotion; Business & Non-profit Signs; Vista Enhancement:** Ramie reported that one application was received for the Promoting Butterflies on the Byway Grant and circulated in advance with samples of the proposed signage attached. The Hancock Community Education Foundation (HCEF) requests a \$555 matching grant to create a kid-friendly butterfly way station at the Robert W. Nichol Nature Preserve and Science Center in Hancock. The committee approved awarding \$555 as a matching grant to HCEF as requested.
- **Remote Meeting Platform; Schedule of Monthly Meetings**
- **Response to Hawk's Nest Criminal Activity and Graffiti Vandalism**
- **NYS DOT Report – 1)** Kris Gilbert had provided a written report with the status of capital projects:
- **Callicoon Train Depot and Visitor Center Project Update**
- **Next Meeting Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 (*moved so as not to conflict with Memorial Day weekend*)
- **Adjourn:** adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**UDC report:** Larry Richardson:

- The Council held its regular meeting via teleconferencing on Thursday May 7.
- The Standing Committee reports were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. The usual reading of committee summaries was suspended to reduce time on the phone. However, each participant was allowed time to question the committee chairs. No questions were asked.
- **Topics discussed in part:**

Status Reports:

- NPS Acting Superintendent Jessica Weinman reported that the river access at Ten Mile River will be closed for trailer-in boats. The access will remain open for carried in boats. The Boy Scouts of America organization that owns the site agree with this action, she also reminded us that her term here expires at the end of this month.
- Executive Director Ramie reported that she and Ashley are continuing to work from home and take turns going to the office to check mail and acquire needed files. She is asking for permission to start working full time in the office. It will be locked and whenever the bookkeeper or Ashley need to enter social distancing will be maintained. Request approved.
- Other Topics:
- Cochecton-Damascus Bridge status
- DOT guide rail work
- Strategic retreat planning
- Annual Awards Banquet
- Actions taken:
- Letter of commendation for outgoing Superintendent Heister
- Letter urging the NPS to extend Acting Superintendent Weinman's stay
- Letter to DOT expressing concern regarding guide rail repair scheduling

**Youth Commission:** Councilperson Grund: online ordering for projects to do at home

**Lake Huntington Lake Association:** Councilperson Salzberg -no meeting until further notice

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** (Gary Maas)

- Monthly Financial Report
- Bank Information:
- Deposited \$739.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$0.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$1,688.01 Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$165.61 Debit Card
- Deposited \$20,023.45 Franchise Fee Time Warner
- Deposited \$4,000.00 Escrow for NY Land of Lakes
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals.
- Activity worked on Sewer Tax corrections with Eileen and completed after a lot of time and effort. Put up signs in regard to Corona Virus. Did website updates. Transfer Station hours continued as they were. Close to have been closed on Saturdays dur to overtime and budget changes. Sent message on facebook in regard to using hand wipes and proper disposal

|                   |          |                      |
|-------------------|----------|----------------------|
| CONTRACTUAL       |          | \$4,000.00           |
| Abstract #1       | \$ 0.00  | \$4,000.00           |
| Abstract #2       | \$71.27  | \$3,828.73           |
| Abstract#3        | \$966.00 | \$2,908.73 corrected |
| Abstract #4       | \$166.13 | \$2,742.60           |
| Abstract #5       | \$200.00 | \$2,542.60           |
| Abstract#6        | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#7        | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#8        | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#9        | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#10       | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#11       | \$       | \$                   |
| Abstract#12       | \$       | \$                   |
| Worked 88 ½ hours |          |                      |

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman)

No longer present Supervisor went over his report

- Finished grading our dirt roads
- Rented sweeper and swept roads
- Been out patching and ditching
- Replaces a few pipes
- Handed in some driveway permits
- Worked 160 hrs.
- Contractual balance is – \$3,076.34

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report:
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk when I was able to come back to work
- Took care of dog licensing
- Made deposits
- Had phone calls for tax collector, CEO, Assessor and Justice Court
- Also people asking about transfer station, someone wanting to know if his taxes were paid. I told him he e would have to go to taxlookup.net as the tax collector had taken her information to the county
- Worked a total of 44 hours in April
- Contractual Balance: \$3,050.52

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** (Gregg Semenetz) not present

Worked 80 hours, traveled 607 miles

Issued 6 permits no renewals no C of O's issued

No notices of disapproval issued

Municipal search letters 3

Revenue \$625.00

Expenses \$399.20

Contractual balance: \$3,759.36

- Submitted a written report: Which he sent to the Supervisor
- Revenues from building permits and municipal searches continue to remain steady, even during this pandemic
- New demolition permit has been issued for 2 structures on Lake Huntington. The boathouse and cottage owned by Charles Tien.
- We are continuing to issue new permits for all types of construction therefore the building season looks promising
- There has been a rise in permits for sewer tank replacement and leech field repair. The stay at home policy has affected marginal and seldom used systems
- I continue to operate the building dept. daily and service the needs of the public in these stressful times

**TAX COLLECTOR:** (Eileen Hennessy) not present

Submitted a report

- Balance in Checkbook \$5,592.11
- Check # 506 for Supervisor \$4,000.00
- Balance \$1,592.11
- Worked 6 hours on taxes and 18 hours on sewer properties in April
- Contractual balance: \$168.09

**ATTORNEY:** (Karen Mannino) not present

**ASSESSOR:** (Lorry J. King) not present

Submitted a written report: Supervisor went over the

*Old Business:*

1. I am still looking for a Board of Assessment Review member!
2. I attended the webinar on STAR which was informative
3. I have completed the 2020 Tentative Roll and sent it off to the printer

Assessor report continues:

*New Business:*

1. I have filed the legal notice for Tentative roll, we have the social distancing order, so according to the recent

- executive order, we are allowed to suspend the personal inspections of the roll
- Grievance Day will be on Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 4:00 -8:00  
Assessor Hours: 37 3/4 Clerk Hours: 31  
April: A1355.400 \$1,552.97  
Quill \$17.99  
Lorry King \$23.58  
Total \$41.57  
Balance: \$1,511.40

**SEWER OFFICER:** (Michael Walter)

- Submitted a written report:
  - Average flow of 37,205 gallons per day for month of April
  - Obtained 98% C.B.O.D. and 98% T.S.S. removal for April
  - Spent a total of 69 1/2 hours attending to sewer district affairs in April
  - Expenditures \$3,827.65
  - Contractual Balance: \$22,200.93
- Pump station had 8,000 lbs. of sludge removed and there will be an additional 10,000 in the near future

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** (Earl Bertsch) not present

There was no report

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** (Tamara DePaolo) not present

**HISTORIAN:** (K.C. Garn) not present

No report

**TOWN BOARD**

**(Councilpersons)** Nearing, Walter, Grund, Salzberg

Nothing to report by any board members

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Unsafe Buildings -Councilperson Nearing asked about # of cars 2 unregistered
- Dog Bill: will be addressed when Court can reopen
- Solar law: Supervisor will check with Attorney
- Sewer Tax Adjustments - Completed

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Spring Cleanup Days: on hold to a date to be announced later
  - Litter Pluck: suspended by County however some people are collecting litter
- No new business at this time

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter, the following motion was to adjourn this Town Board meeting. Time 8:05 p.m. All Town Board members voted in favor

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk