

## REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING JUNE 14, 2023

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on June 14, 2023 at the Cochecton Town Hall. 7:30 PM. The following members were present:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Maryann Oumrim - Town Clerk                      Jim Crowley –CEO                      Robert Smith –Attorney  
Billy Boucher- Ground keeper  
Frank Kratz, Kacey Kratz, Don Dittmer, Sheila Schultz

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

### RESOLUTION # 36

#### CHIPS FUND

WHEREAS the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2023 budget was unaware of the exact amount allocated for the CHIPS Fund and until being notified could not accurately be stated so in the FY 2023 Budget, therefore

WHEREAS the town has been informed that the apportionment for 2023 will be \$283,768.88 increasing both the expense and revenues lines by \$58768.88, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budget line DA 5112.400 CAPITAL OUTLAY- CHIPS instead of reading \$225,000.00 should read \$283,768.88 and revenue line DA 3501.000 STATE AID-CHIPS CAPITAL instead of reading \$225,000.00 should read \$283,768.88 to cover actual revenues and expenditures.

**Moved by Grund Seconded by Nober**

### RESOLUTION #37

#### DEPUTY CODE ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2023 budget was unaware that a position for a DEPUTY CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER would be created and need to be funded, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budget line, A 3620.101 ASST. CEO/ BLDG INSPECTER be re-titled DEPUTY CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER and that it be funded additionally in the amount of \$7,500.00 from the Contingency Fund A 1990.400 which would leave \$300.00 remaining in A 1990.400

**Moved by- Grund Seconded by Walter**

### RESOLUTION #38

#### BEAUTIFICATION FUNDS

WHEREAS the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2023 budget did not fund enough for the COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION CONTRACTUAL A 8510.400 , and therefore,

To fund the following line A 8510.400 sufficiently for FY 2023 an additional \$5,200.00 from the line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY FUND will be needed to fund line A 8510.400 and therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that after transfers stated above, budget line A8510.400 COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION CONTRACTUAL will have \$6,700.00, and CONTIGENCY ACCOUNT A1990.400 will have the amount \$ remain7,800.00 remaining,

**Moved by Walter Seconded by Nober**

### RESOLUTION #39

#### Reimbursement for Flags

Reimbursement to be made to John Nober in the amount of \$6,654.34 as a prepaid. For the purchase of Town pole banners and brackets.

**Moved by Walter Seconded by Grund**

**MOTION:** made by Councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Walter, to approve the minutes of May 10<sup>th</sup>, and May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as submitted. All board members voted in favor.

### RESOLUTION #40

#### APPROVE BILLS ON ABSTRACT #6 TO BE PAID IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS

On motion of Councilperson Walter seconded by Councilperson Grund, to approve the bills on Abstract #6 in the following amounts:

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### **Abstract # 6**

General Accounts: Claim #'s 262-264, 269-275, and 279-281 are in prepaid's. Claim numbers 282-305 and 307-315 are to be paid

Total General Funds: **\$15,195.78**

Debit Card Account: Claim #316

Total Debit Card: **\$ 62.67**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #317-319 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 267, 268, 277 and 278 are in prepaids.

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$421.12**

Lighting District Accounts: Claim #265, 266 are in Prepaid

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$350.99**

Highway Accounts: Claim #'s 320-330 are to be paid.

Claim #261, and 276 are in prepaid

Total Highway Accounts **\$43,850.56**

PREPAIDS were paid 5/12, 5/21, 5/23, 5/31, 6/5, and 6/7

Audit 6/13/23 by Councilmen Nearing & Walter

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Municipal Shelter inspection

NYMIR- Notification RE: Master Switch disconnect due to Issues with batteries in trucks catching fire.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No one wished to comment.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **UDC- Larry Richardson**

The regular meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a zoom option.

The meeting began with a presentation: "Plastics: Damning the Delaware" by Rebekah Creshkoff, environmental advocate and volunteer with Beyond Plastics Speakers Bureau.

**Reports-** Asked for questions regarding the three standing committees' February meetings.

- 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) Reported that NYS DEC is hoping to move along the upgrade to the Delaware River access in Long Eddy.
- **PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources** (Tim Dugan) Reported that spraying for the Spongy Moth (Gypsy) will be primarily on private lands. He noted that a wet, cold spring is detrimental to the insects.
- **National Park Service** (Lindsey Kurnath, NP Superintendent) Reported that there is a need for seasonal housing for a few temporary staff. If you have or know of rooms available please contact the NPS office.
- **UDC Executive Director** \* (Laurie Ramie) Reported on a recent summit held with representatives from NY and PA. A staff member from Senator John Fedderman's office and Aileen Gunther attended via zoom. Unfortunately, the overall response from invited officials was quite poor. It seems that since the Upper Delaware Council is not a "flashy" headline-getting organization but rather goes about its essential business quietly and in the background, it is very difficult to generate the support for additional funding that we desperately need.

#### **Actions Taken**

- A letter to U.S. Congress and Senators: UDC Federal Funding Restructuring Proposal
- Approved opening a Vanguard Brokerage Account to invest some of the UDC accumulated funds.
- Accepted a Substantial Conformance Recommendation 2023-01 from the Project Review Committee for a special use permit in Lackawaxen Township. The recommendation will be forwarded to the NPS.

**Other:** Ramie announced that the UDC sponsored annual corridor Litter Sweep is planned for 4/22-4/30.

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING JUNE 14, 2023**

**UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC BYWAY-*Monthly Report***

The regular meeting opened on June 1 at 7:00 p.m. with a zoom option.

**Reports-** Minutes for the three standing committees were distributed earlier.

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

**Status Reports**

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

**New Business**

- Skinners Falls Bridge Project Advisory Committee Report by Laurie Ramie: It was reported that following another study, the conclusion is that the bridge can be re-habilitated. Yet another study will determine what is the best weight limit and location.
- NPS Letter to UDC: Camp FIMFO Substantial Conformance Recommendation. For the first time that I can recollect, the NPS cannot agree with the UDC finding of substantial conformance in regard to the FIMFO Project. A motion was approved to ask the NPS to attend a special Project Review meeting to listen to the concerns.
- Personnel Subcommittee Report: Six people submitted applications for the position of Administrative Assistant.

**Old Business**

- Callicoon-Damascus Bridge Ready to begin a \$18 Million Rehab.
- NPS agreement: Big Eddy Brewing Special Use Permit is in Substantial Conformance as found by the UDC.
- UDC expresses its gratitude for all the support given for the "Upper Delaware Litter Sweep "

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** Gary Maas

Bank Information:

Deposited \$	874.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	1,153.00	Judicial fees
Deposited \$	5,052.81	Town Clerk fees
Deposited \$	322.80	Debit Card

Made transfers and deposits as needed.

Activity : Worked on Labor Negotiations.

<b>CONTRACTUAL</b>		\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$ 1,300.41	\$ 2,699.59
Abstract #3	\$ 395.60	\$ 2,303.99
Abstract #4	\$ 187.00	\$ 2,116.99
Abstract #5	\$ 263.40	\$ 1,853.59
Abstract #6	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,803.60

Worked 98 hour

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** Kevin Esselman

Submitted a written report:

- Ditching and Patching
- Replaced few pipes
- Started some paving
- Cleaned up few trees
- Cut brush
- Took truck 34 down to Reeds for the new dump body.

Worked 160 Hours.

Contractual balance is 3,300.

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**TOWN CLERK:** Maryann Oumrim

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

- Prepared Abstract #6 for audit.
- Prepared Minutes for May 10<sup>th</sup> & May 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting.
- Put Legal notices in the paper
- 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 10 Renewals.
- Marriage License -1
- Parking Tags – 2-P, 1-T
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- DECALS- Hunting & Fishing Licensing Mostly Fishing
- Website Maintenance
- I worked a total of 90 hours in May
- **Contractual balance: \$2475.05**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** James Crowley

Submitted a written report:

- Worked 80 hrs.
- mileage 238
- Permits issued 13
- Municipal search letters 1
- Revenues \$2,733.10
- Expenses \$266.72
- Contractual Balance: \$3,241.81

**SEWER OFFICER:** Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 41,239 gallons per day for month of May
- Obtained 97% C.B.O.D. and 99. % T.S.S. removal for May.
- Expenditures \$421.12
- Contractual Balance: \$18,131.75

Worked 97 hours.

**TAX COLLECTOR:** Eileen Hennessy – not present

Ck# 612 \$2,570.78 Given to Supervisor

Balance \$.01

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** Robert Smith

**ASSESSOR:** Lorry King - not present Submitted report:

**Old Business:**

1. Field work continues.
2. Attended first of several mandatory education requirements.

**New Business:**

1. Grievance day was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023
2. I will be out of the office from May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 14<sup>th</sup>

<b>May</b>	<b>1355.4</b>	<b>\$1,557.51</b>
Terri Fountain		\$78.53
<b>Total May</b>		<b>\$78.53</b>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>\$1,478.98</b>

## REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING JUNE 14, 2023

**PLANNING BOARD CHAIR** Earl Bertsch - not present

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** Tamara DePaolo - not present

**HISTORIAN:** Kristina Snedeker

May 2023- Town Historian Report--

I received a phone call from a woman looking to find her grandfather's house which was in Lake Huntington NY during the 1960s. She was not sure where it was located, her grandfather owned a house, and before he owned it was a boarding house. All she had of the house were 3 pictures of it. Her name was Karen Bovie.

I was able to find the house- it turned out to be the old Prospect House- now the apartment house before the old firehouse in Lake Huntington- the one on top of the hill, as if coming into town. Back in the 1920-1950s it was known as the old Prospect House owned by Herman Schmidt. The Schmidt's sold the house to Karen's Grandparents in the 1960s. I gave Karen the address and she was able to call the Sullivan County tax records office and found the deed- It was the house; she was very happy. I also sent her some pictures of the house, and she wanted to see the house now a days. I took some photos of the house, as it is still standing and being used.

**5/20/23** I called Helena Indelicato, asking about Sal's history books he had made while as town supervisor/Historian- going to visit her and see the books! – I have not gotten over yet to her house but soon, as both of our schedules have been busy. I have been in contact with her.

**5/25/23-**

I received a phone call from Sue Umnick- who will be donating pamphlets from Cochection center- which includes, Heinles, School House, Church, tannery, all from and about the Town of Cochection days from 1993-1998. She will also make a cd hard copy with the pamphlets so it can be archived for our town's records.

I have also been to the Old Town Hall a few times, looking through the history things the town has, and have been cutting out some down the decades articles about Lake Huntington/Cochection Happenings, also any news stories about our area when they show up in the Sullivan County Democrat.

### **TOWN BOARD REPORTS:**

**Councilperson Nearing - - Not Present**

**Councilperson Salzberg - nothing currently**

**Councilperson Grund - nothing currently**

**Councilperson Walter - - nothing currently**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Roof for old town hall
2. Sewer roof repairs
3. Defib and Narcan Boxes

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Basketball Court
2. Otto Heib House

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**8:05 PM -MOTION** of Councilman Grund, seconded by Councilman Walter to recess meeting to June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm All board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Maryann Oumrim*

*Town Clerk*