

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING AUGUST 11, 2021

1

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on August 11, 2021 at the Cochection Town Hall. 7:30 PM.

PRESENT: Supervisor- Gary Maas
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
Liam Mayo – River Reporter	Billy Boucher- Ground keeper
Peter Grosser- Vol. Ambulance	Michael Attianese-Vol. Ambulance
John Nober	David Bodenstein – Mike Preis Insurance

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

OVERVIEW OF WORK SESSION:

David Bodenstein from Mike Preis Insurance- Presentation regarding NYMIR Insurance coverage for the town of Cochection.

RESOLUTION #41

NYMIR PROPOSAL FROM MIKE PREIS INSURANCE-

On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter, the following resolution is to accept the NYMIR renewal proposal providing coverage from 9/5/2021 – 9/5/2022, with a total premium amount of \$30,510.27.

RESOLVED, to accept the proposal presented to the board by Mike Preis Representative David Bodenstein.

ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Grund, Nearing, Salzberg and Walter

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, that the minutes of July 14, 2021, as submitted by the Town Clerk are approved. All board members voted in favor.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Walter that the minutes of August 4, 2021, as submitted by Town Clerk are approved. All board members voted in favor.

RESOLUTION # 42

APPROVE BILLS ON ABSTRACT #8 TO BE PAID IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS

On motion of Councilperson Grund seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, to approve the bills on Abstract #8 in the following amounts:

Abstract #8 For the Month of July 2021

General Accounts: Claim's 423-441 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 404,409-411, 415, 416, 418-422 are in prepaids.

Total General Funds: **\$6135.00**

Debit Card Account: Claim #442

Total Debit Card: **\$344.67**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #'s 443-445 are to be paid.

Claim #'s 407, 413, and 417 are in prepaids.

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$1046.49**

Lighting District Accounts: Claim #405

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$392.90**

Highway Accounts: Claim #'s 446-458 to be paid.

Total Highway Accounts **\$327,677.83**

PREPAIDS were paid 7/9,7/20,7/21,7/26, 7/27

Audit 9/09/2021 by Councilmen Grund & Salzberg

ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg, Grund and Walter

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Williamson annual support 10% increase in upcoming year
- Auctions International- we will have several Highway Machines auctioned off
- State Controller- re: American Relief Payment half has been received and expected to receive second half next year.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None currently

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

UDC- Larry Richardson

The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday August 5.

The meeting opened with a virtual presentation; "Climate Change and Our Hemlock Forests and Brook Trout" by Rich Evans. Mr. Evans is using data collected over the last 20 years along with archived data from the last 100 years to compare changes. The Upper Delaware region has gotten warmer and wetter. As a result of average warming temperatures, diseases such as the Woolly Adelgid that feeds on Hemlock trees is no longer controlled by colder winters.

As the Hemlocks succumb and die, the shade once provided for brooks and streams disappears and as a consequence of warming water the native Brook Trout become stressed and die or fail to reproduce. Another invasive species showing up is Rusty Crayfish. This species was first identified in the western Ohio, eastern Nebraska and north western Kentucky region. Previously our colder winters and water temperatures prevented this crustacean from taking hold.

Topics discussed in part:

Status Reports:

- Delaware River Basin Commission (Kristen Bowman Kavanagh): had supplied a hydro logical report for upper basin.
- NPS Superintendent Joseph Salvatore reported that they have reached an agreement with the Boy Scouts of America to continue to manage the Ten Mile River access area. Negotiations are intermittent on acquiring the property under a willing seller/willing buyer arrangement. The property in question is about 20 acres.

Other:

- Tag applications are due into the office by August 20.
- The annual Raft trip was attended by 77 people.
- The 33rd Annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for September 12th at the Central House.

Actions taken:

- Approved a letter in support of leaving Senator Mariucci’s legislative district as is since it encompasses nearly all of the Upper Delaware Corridor with the exception of Hancock.

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC BYWAY-*Monthly Report*

The Committee held its regular meeting at the Catskill Provisions on Upper Main St. in Callicoon. Prior to the meeting we did a walk-through of the Callicoon Depot.

Discussion items in part:

- Status of the Callicoon Depot/ Visitors’ Center with Wendee Greene, Callicoon Depot Inc., President.
- Market New York CFA Grant with the Sullivan County Visitors Assn.
- Potential UDSB Kiosks in Port Jervis and Hancock.
- Vista Enhancement projects in Lumberland and Callicoon.
- Sullivan County/UDSB Smart Solar Trash Receptacles Pilot Program.

Grant Applications:

- Noah Kalina request to sponsor his Art Show on September 11-October 31 to be held in Livingston Manor.

Actions Taken:

- Approved buying a ¼ pg. ad in the 2022 Sullivan Catskills Travel Guide
- Approved Noah Kalina grant request
- Approved covering the cost of the Smart Trash Receptacles with a re-reimbursement from the Sullivan County Legislature.

Next Meeting Date: 4th Monday, August 23, 2021

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 *Cochecton Youth Commission*

LAKE HUNTINGTON, LAKE ASSOCIATION: Councilperson Dr. Salzberg

- Dr. Salzberg stepping down from the Lake Association Board
- New Board member Dave Strochak

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: Gary Maas

Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

Deposited \$1,699.50 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$1,904.00 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$4,101.26 Town Clerk fees
 Deposited \$1,350.09 Debit Card
 Deposited \$66,344.32 American Rescue Relief

Made transfers and deposits as needed and have given budget actuals to board.

Activity : Attended Supervisors Meeting, Called DEC on boat landing maintenance Worked on forms for American rescue plan and received half the money, 66,342.32. Called Tom Shepstone and had a meeting with him on comprehensive Plan and Zoning.

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 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
Abstract #5	\$ 315.31	\$ 2,750.11
Abstract#6	\$ 132.00	\$ 2,618.11
Abstract #7	\$ 104.00	\$ 2,669.42
Abstract #8	\$ 230.94	\$ 2,438.48

Worked 102.5 hours.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman

- Dropped truck off for new dump body
- Patching and ditching
- Paving is basically done

- Has few repairs
 - Sent legal notice for fuel bids and this month will be our sand bids
- Worked 160 Hours.
Contractual balance is 3,800.

Discussion between Highway Supervisor and Town Board regarding the Backhoe Bucket being changed from a Tag bucket to a Geith Bucket, noted to have greater longevity.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilman Grund seconded by Councilman Walter to authorize Town Clerk to submit a legal notice for a public hearing in the Democrat, for purchase of a New Caterpillar Backhoe Loader.

ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg, Grund and Walter

Public Hearing set for Monday August 30th at 7pm.

RESOLUTION # 43

WHEREAS it is necessary for the Highway Department to purchase truck body, plow, wings.

BE IT RESOLVED On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Walter, the following resolution was RESOLVED, that The Town of Cocheton Town Board Members are all in agreement and grant permission for Highway Superintendent Kevin Esselman to proceed with the purchase in the amount of \$134,571..

ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg, Grund and Walter

TOWN CLERK: Maryann Oumrim

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

- Prepared Abstract #8 for audit.
- Prepared minutes for July 14th regular meeting.
- Prepared Minutes for August 4th meeting.
- Emails have been responded to and appropriately shared with Board Members.
- 2 trips to the bank to make deposits.
- Deposited Town CEO fees.
- Dog -5- New Licenses and 7- Renewals.
- Marriage License -0
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- I worked a total of **86 hours** in July.
- Deputy Clerk: Peggy Richardson: 5 hours
- **Contractual balance: \$1,577.64**

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: James Crowley

Submitted a written report:

- Worked 80 hrs.
- mileage 138
- Permits issued 10
- Cert. of Occupancy 1 CofC's issued 5
- Municipal search letters 2
- Notice of Disapproval, 0
- Revenues \$1248.70
- Expenses \$143.51
- Contractual Balance: \$3,970.37

SEWER OFFICER: Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 51,890.gallons per day for month of July
 - Obtained 91% C.B.O.D. and 94. % T.S.S. removal for July.
 - Expenditures \$1,046.49
 - Contractual Balance: \$22,215.65
- Worked 84-hours.

TAX COLLECTOR: Eileen Hennessy – not present

Contractual Balance: \$1338.82

TOWN ATTORNEY: Karen Mannino

ASSESSOR: Lorry King - not present Submitted report:

Old Business:

- 1. Field work continues.

New Business:

- 1. Filed final roll for 2021.
- 2. Received final special franchise & telecommunication numbers from the State
- 3. Provided Anna with assessment roll for the website.
- 4. Finished assessor annual report for the State

July

1355.4 \$1,569.67

Total July \$0.00

Balance \$1,569.67

Assessor hrs.: 25.50 Clerk hrs.: 29.50

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR Earl Bertsch - not present

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Tamara DePaolo - not present

On July 6, 2021, NYS Agriculture and Markets completed an Inspection report, which indicated that the DCO services were found to be satisfactory regarding compliance to NYS Agricultural & Markets requirements.

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

TOWN BOARD REPORTS:

Councilperson Nearing - nothing currently

Councilperson Salzberg – Had concerns about land on Nearing Road, would like to see it become a walking path.

Councilperson Grund - nothing currently

Councilperson Walter – nothing currently

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Roof for old town hall, need to get Bids on it soon.
- 2. Addition for Highway Barn

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Covid 19 Rescue money – All necessary paperwork has been submitted.
- 2. NYS Cannabis Legislation- Article was in the Democrat, weather or not each town should out of having dispensaries within town limits. Some discussion among the board regarding the sale of and a consumption site within town limits. Further discussion to take place no decisions have been made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time

MOTION of Councilman Salzberg, seconded by Councilman Grund the following motion was to Recess meeting, to August 30 at 7pm.

Time 9:15 p.m. All board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryann Oumrim
Town Clerk