

REGULAR MEETING - TOWN OF COCHECTON - SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

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A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection took place September 12, 2018 at the Cochection Town Hall with the following members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas
Councilperson Sean Nearing Councilperson Dr. Paul Salzberg – not present
Councilperson Anna Story
Councilperson Edwin Grund

OTHERS PRESENT:

Margaret Richardson – Deputy Town Clerk Attorney, Karen Mannino
Greg Semenetz, CEO entered at 7:35 pm

Work session for the purpose of auditing bills began at 7 pm to 7:30 pm. The 2019 tentative budget was reviewed and discussed.

Supervisor Maas called the meeting to order and all pledged the flag at 7:31 pm.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, to accept Sand Bid presented by PJH Construction, LLC at \$12.74 per ton delivered, based on the recommendation of Highway Superintendent Esselman; all present Board members voted in favor.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, move to accept the minutes of August 8, 2018 regular Town Board meeting as submitted.
All present Board members voted in favor.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to accept the bills on abstract # 9 in the following amounts:

Prepaid: Claim #'s 434 - 457 *claim #435 and 437 are in the Lighting District
General Accounts: Claim #'s 458 - 475

Total General Funds: \$29,268.99 including prepaid

Debit Card Account: Claim # 476

Total Debit Card Funds \$ 1,235.65

Sewer Accounts: Claim #477 - 479

Total Sewer Accounts: \$ 60,149.60 including prepaid

Lighting District Accounts: Claim#435 and 437 in prepaid

Total Lighting District Funds: \$ 542.11

Highway Accounts Claim #'s 480 - 500

Total Highway Accounts \$ 164,201.45 including prepaid

Claim #445, 475, 476, and 490 split between funds same voucher.

PREPAIDS were paid on 8/9, 8/10, 8/16, 8/23, 8/27, and 9/4, 2018.

All present Board members voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Maas received the following:

- Sullivan Renaissance hosting a municipal forum September 26, 8:30AM to 11:30AM at the CVI Bldg. at One Cable Vision Drive, Ferndale, NY 12734. Topic is Building beautiful, healthy, active communities.
- A newsletter from the Retirement System
- DCO Report -
- Request from Joy Bertsch on behalf of the Ladies Aid for permission to set up in the atrium entrance on Election Day, November 6th from 7AM to 7PM for the purpose of a raffle and Bake Sale to benefit the Lake Huntington Presbyterian Church.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, move to approve permission for Ladies Aid request. All present members voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ANY TOPIC ON AGENDA (Limit of 3 minutes presentation.) None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Upper Delaware Council, no report;

Upper Delaware Scenic Byway - Larry Richardson; not present

The UDSB held its regular meeting on Monday August 27.

Chairman Pontier welcomed the representative, Tim Newman from the Town of Hancock who has voted to join the Byway organization. This now leaves only Fremont as an outsider.

Topics of Discussion in part:

1. **Use of NYS \$250,000 Visitor Center Capital Project Grant** –Mr. Brendan Weiden presented a revised proposal for the visitor's center to be located in the Narrowsburg Union. He's willing to lease the space for \$1.00 per year. He agreed that the cost of any renovations that exceed the \$250,000 grant would be covered.
2. We heard an updated design for the Callicoon railroad station. The UDSB had voted earlier in the year to support moving forward with the possible location at that station and voted again to reaffirm that position. The concern with the Callicoon location is that a county estimate to complete the project is projected to be \$750,000. Where and how long would it take to secure the funding and to complete the project? Architect Buck Moorhead stated that the \$250,000 would be sufficient to provide a workable visitor center. The rest of building could be done after. A very real concern is that since the money was secured by Senator Bonacic in 2007 and since Senator Bonacic is retiring this year control the money may be lost.
3. Ed Wesley provided a short presentation on the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies including live specimens in various stages of development.
4. I presented a draft outline of a new grants program for signage along the scenic byway. I'm proposing that businesses and nonprofit organization along the byway shall be allowed to apply for a small grant should they like to replace or upgrade existing business signs that are visible along route 97. Details are to be determined.

Actions taken:

Approved:

- Butterfly Grant application from the Tusten Community Heritage Garden in the sum of \$518.
- Butterfly Grant application from the Potomac River and Trails Council in the sum of \$400.
- Buying a ¼ page ad in the annual Sullivan County Visitors’ Travel Guide at a discounted price of \$775.
- Submitting Glenn Pointier’s name for consideration as a member of the Board of Directors for the Sullivan County Visitors Association by placing his name on annual the ballot.
- Spending up to \$500 to fix the UDSB website that has been hacked on more than 1 occasion.

Next Meeting Date: 4th Monday, September 24, 2018

Youth Commission – Councilman Grund

- 9/28 at 6:30 pm in community room will be BINGO for free books
- Tricky Trunk is scheduled for October 20th at the Town Hall parking lot at lower level.
- There are bus seats available for purchase for trip to Holiday Rockettes Show December 8.
- There is a board seat open to be filled. Anyone interested in the position please contact Sue Rodriguez 845-866-0853 or email s_rod79@frontier.net
- Meeting was rescheduled to Tuesday, September 18th

Website Report - Councilperson Story

The calendar has been updated with additions of community events. Total of 4 hours

Fire District - Councilperson Story – their meeting was August 10th; their physicals will be on 9/17; the Commissioners will meet on 9/26; budget will be ready 10/16

Lake Huntington Lake Association: Councilperson Salzberg, not present

Supervisor Maas mentioned that he had a visit from the LHLA president Michael Popolillo regarding questions about the efficiency of the Town’s retention pit. Basically he wanted to know how it functions and where the overflow travels.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: Gary Maas

Submitted a written report:

- Bank Information:

Deposited	\$ 886.00	judicial fees
Deposited	\$ 0.00	judicial fees
Deposited	\$1,648.54	Town Clerk fees
Deposited	\$ 53.20	Tax Collector
Deposited	\$6,400.00	Youth Aid
Deposited	\$ 767.74 & 614.46 to Debit Card	
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and (budget to actuals given to Town Board members)
- Activity: The NYS Comptrollers Office has been doing an audit of the Town which was completed and now is being reviewed for a preliminary report; Dog Control Officer appointed and set up to be compliant with Ag & Markets; met with County Manager on Workers Comp and Supervisors’ meeting on same subject; arranged for Garbage pickup.

CONTRACTUAL		<u>\$ 4,000.00</u>
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$ 232.55	\$ 3,762.45
Abstract#3	\$ 755.03	\$ 3,007.42
Abstract #4	\$ 147.75	\$ 2,859.67
Abstract#5	\$ 127.00	\$ 2,732.67
Abstract#6	\$ 299.84	\$ 2,432.83
Abstract #7	\$ 104.50	\$ 2,328.33
Abstract#8	\$ 77.25	\$ 2,251.08
Abstract#9	\$ 176.24	\$ 2,074.84

- Worked 90 hours

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman not present

August monthly report

- finished up paving
- ditching and patching
- maintenance and repairs as needed
- met with the State Comptroller
- ordered barricades and barrels with lights to help on road closures and debris obstructions
- I would like to award PJH Construction LLC our sand bid. He was the lowest bidder and hauls from the same gravel pit we received for the last few years.

Worked 160 hours

Contractual balance \$3,333.24

TOWN CLERK: Hollye Schulman

I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk

There was no OSTCA meeting in August

Issued 1 temporary and 2 permanent accessible permits

I also have people asking me questions related to the CEO, Assessor, Tax Collector and Justice Court.

Town Clerk worked 82 hours for August 2018

Deputy clerk worked 6 1/4 hours total for August 2018

Expenditures \$ 228.25

Contractual Balance: \$ 2,935.54

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Gregg Semenetz

- Submitted a written report:
- Worked 80 hours
- Traveled miles is blank
- Issued 6 permits 0 renewals
- C of O's issued 2
- Notices of disapproval 0
- Municipal search letters 2
- Appearance tickets 0
- Revenues: \$ 775.00
- Expenses: \$ 442.04
- Contractual Balance: \$ 1,777.59

CEO asked Attorney Mannino to review an addendum to the property maintenance code regarding weeds and debris. He wants to be sure that he fully understands and interprets it correctly.

TAX COLLECTOR – Eileen Hennessy, not present

- No report

ATTORNEY – Karen Mannino - no report

ASSESSOR – Lorry King – not present

1. I will be training in Middletown, NY on Wednesday September 12, 2018
2. I provided Supervisor Maas with budget information for 2019
3. The Enhanced STAR program is changing again. All tax payers whom receive this exemption will be required to use the State Income verification program. If they don't file State or Federal income tax, they are required to file an Income worksheet. The State has been sending out income verification letters to taxpayers who do not file income tax. It is confusing to our seniors so my office has been helping as much as possible.

Assessor Hours: 41

Clerk Hours: 42

Contractual balance \$1,288.23

SEWER – Michael Walter, SPO – not present

- Submitted written report; worked 76 hours for August 2018;
- Contractual balance is \$14,509.41

The sewer plant is functioning properly; testing for ammonia is pending.

DCO – Tamara DePaolo – not present

HISTORIAN – KC Garn – not present. No inquires from the public during August.

BOARD MEMBERS –

Nothing else

OLD BUSINESS:

- Basketball Court, Pickle Ball, Ball Field and Exercise Park – waiting for Paddy McCarthy's report, tabled

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limited to 3 minutes presentation on any topic.)

None

NEW BUSINESS: none

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Grund, to enter into executive meeting at 8:00 p.m. All present Board members voted in favor.

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, to adjourn executive meeting at 8:10 p.m. All present Board members voted in favor. While in executive session no action taken

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Grund, to recess regular meeting at 8:12 p.m. Date September 18, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. All present Board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Margaret Richardson, Deputy Town Clerk

Tentative Budget for 2019 was presented to the Town Bard members during the work session.