A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on September 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Cochecton Town Hall.

The following members present:

Supervisor Gary Maas

Councilperson Anna Story

Councilperson Sean Nearing

Councilperson Paul Salzberg

Councilperson Edwin Grund

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hollye Schulman –Town Clerk Karen Mannino –Attorney

Earl Bertsch –Planning Board Chair

Town Clerk read the legal notice for the Public Hearing

**MOTION:**  On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to open the Public Hearing regarding the unsafe property for the purpose of considering an order directing removal of and cleanup of single family/barn structures located at 218 Shortcut Road, and described as SBL 9.-8-8.1. Time 7:05PM. All Town Bard members voted in favor

No community members present.

Regular meeting opened at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor mentioned the Public Hearing for unsafe structures was opened at 7:05 p.m. and there were no comments.

Motion: On motion by Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg the following motion was to recess this Public Hearing until the next regular Town Bard meeting Oct. 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Time 7:31 p.m. All Town Bard members voted in favor.

Town Clerk read the legal notice regarding ice control sand bids

There were 2 bids submitted, and they were opened in the order they were received

1. Deckelman LLC $13.82 per ton delivered
2. R & H Gorr, Inc. $12.97 per ton delivered

No decision was made tonight: the HWY Superintendent wants to make sure the sand is what he requires for ice control. Decision will be made at the next regular Town Board meeting Oct. 11, 2017

**RESOLUTION # 42**

**BOOKKEEPER ASSISTANT CLERK**

On motion by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following resolution was

WHEREAS, the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2017 budget was unaware of a need to fund the position of Assistant Clerk for the Bookkeeper that would be required and needed to conduct its business for the FY2017 and the future position of Bookkeeper. The position is titled, Assistant Clerk, and will be funded by budget line A 1220.102 initially for $1,000.00 from the contingency line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT. to be properly funded, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budget line, A 1220.102 ASSISTANT CLERK be funded in the amount of $1,000.00 from line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT so that line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT reads $14,000.00 and ASSISTANT CLERK A 1220.102 reads $1,000.00.

**ADOPTED:** **AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**RESOLUTION # 43**

**CONTRACTUAL TOWN OF COCHECTON WEBSITE**

On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following resolution was

WHEREAS, the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the 2017 budget only budgeted $1,000.00 in line A 1220.401 CONTRACTUAL TOWN WEBSITE, and

Whereas the Town Website suffered a meltdown in January that required the entire site to be updated for future use and security of the website, so therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that budget line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCT. in the amount of $5,000.00 to be transferred to line A 1220.401 CONTRACTUAL so that line A 1220.401 shows $6,000.00 and line A 1990.400 CONTINGENCY ACCT. shows $9,000.00

**ADOPTED:** **AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

Larry Richardson representative for the Charter Commission has sent the Town Board a resolution that was introduced by the Town of Highland Town Board re: a change in Sullivan County’s Government to an elected County Executive form of Government and other related changes.

Councilperson Salzberg, said let the people decide

Councilperson Nearing agrees

**RESOLUTION # 44**

**CHARTER COMMISSIONS RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGE IN SULLIVAN COUNTY’S GOVERNMENT TO AN ELECTED COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following resolution was

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE TOWN OF COCHECTON TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

**CONCERNING THE TOWN OF COCHECTON TOWN BOARD'S POSITION ON A CHANGE IN**

**SULLIVAN COUNTY'S GOVERNMENT TO AN ELECTED COUNTY EXECUTIVE FORM OF**

**GOVERNMENT AND OTHER RELATED CHANGES**

**WHEREAS,** the Sullivan County Charter Commission spent 2-1/2 years studying the Sullivan County Charter and possible changes to the County's form of government; and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission, after exhaustive study, interviewing many presenters from many sources and research in Ulster County's successful switch to an elected county executive system; and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission, after an analysis of how many counties presently have an Elected Executive System of Government; and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission, found how many residents of New York State are successfully represented by that form of government; and

**WHEREAS,** an equally important analysis of the advantages of that form of government over the County's present system

was done by the Commission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Town Board of the Town of Cochecton requests that the Sullivan County Legislature prepare a public referendum for a vote by the residents of Sullivan County on a change in the County Charter, to an Elected County Executive system and to the related changes to the Sullivan County Government as proposed in the Sullivan County Charter Commission's report to the Sullivan County Legislature.

**ADOPTED:** **AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to accept the Minutes of August 9, 2017 as submitted. All Town Board members voted in favor

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve bills on Abstract #9 for payment in the following amounts

General Account Voucher # 434-473 $37,483.59

Debit Account No Claim $0.00

Sewer Account Voucher # 474 $487.46

Lighting District Account Voucher # 475 $406.81

Highway Account Voucher # 476-487 $46,516.01

Claim #’s 444, 457, 469, 473 and 477 split between funds same voucher

Prepaid were paid on August 11th, 17thm 22nd, 25th, 31st and September 4th and 7th, 2017

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Sullivan County Historical Society; Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner Oct. 1, 2017 at the Rockland House

Sullivan County Youth Bureau: Contract for Youth program with the County for FY 2017

NYS Office of Real Property: advising town equalization rate of 79%. Supervisor mentioned that is 2% higher than last year

John Bonacic: FEMA re: Flood Mitigation Assistance funding available to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial overnments is strengthening our nation’s ability to reduce disaster losses

SLAC: Monthly meeting August 25th, 2017

Sullivan County Treasurer: advising the town still has 1.92 tons of allotment for Municipal cleanup

Sullivan County Manager’s Office: Final meeting ote September 14, 2017 at 6A:30 pm shared services, they have offered to provide space for records or the municipalities

PA Dept. of Transportation: Glenn Pontier Chairperson Upper Delaware Scenic Byway; re: maintaining of the existing Skinners Falls-Milanville Bridge

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joe Manaseri, mentioned Cochecton Preservation Society will hold Coffee, Tea and History on Sunday Oct. 24th at 1:00 pm. The Guest speaker will be from Wayne County PA. and he will speak about the Town of Cochecton’s roll in the Civil War. He also mentioned that if an opening comes up for the Town Historian the Preservation Society would be interested.

Supervisor Maas distributed the Tentative Budget for Fiscal year 2018 to the Board members

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Upper Delaware Council and Byway- Larry Richardson: Not present

TheCouncil held its regular meeting on Thursday September 7.

* The meeting began with a presentation from Jack Flynn, Town of Deerpark Emergency Management Director.
* Mr. Flynn gave an overview of their incorporation of Fire sirens as an emergency warning system. Since their sirens had not been used in a while they needed cleaning and testing. A grant was secured to help with that effort. A distinct tone was selected for flooding events. He feels that the system works.
* Sharon Davis provided information on a middle and upper Delaware Geotourism program. They hope to formulate an upper Delaware economic impact report over the next year.
* Ed Wesel, in the public comment period may not appeal for support letters to preserve the Skinners Falls Bridge.
* It was reported that the Delaware River Basin commission will soon implement a band on Fracking in two Pennsylvania counties. To this point a moratorium has been in place.
* As I reported earlier, the Upper Delaware Council will no longer be sending the $100 monthly Town check as compensation for Council Representatives rather the Council will begin paying the representative directly based on attendance.

Actions taken:

a. Approved a Letter to Pennsylvania Department of Transportation: Skinners Falls Interstate Bridge #5

b. Approved a Letter to Basil Seggos, Commissioner NYS DEC: New York State Funding for UDC

c. Approved a Letter to 1954 U.S. Supreme Court Decree Party Principals: Suspension of Voluntary Releases from

Delaware System Reservoirs

d. Approved Resolution 2017-10: Awarding the Printing of “The Upper Delaware” Newsletter to

Courier Printing Corp. for FY 2018

e. Approved Resolution 2017-11: Adopting a Fiscal Year 2018 Budget, Narrative and Work Plan

We returned two draft resolutions to the Project Review Committee for further discussion; substantial conformance reviews of Renewable Energy projects and reviews of “On-farm” Cideries in the River Corridor.

**Scenic Byway;** The UDSB held its regular meeting on Monday August 28.

**Topics of Discussion in part:**

**Business Items:**

1. Approved a 3rd Round Butterfly Habitat Promotion Grant Application submitted by Ed Wesely from the Potomac River and Trails Council for $565.00
2. Approved a 2018 Sullivan County Travel Guide Listing of ¼ page for $697.50.
3. Approved sending a request for $20,000 from the Sullivan County 2018 Discretionary Funds Grants Program.
4. Launching the new Mobile Website is being held up for necessary information from the Sullivan County Information Director Lorne Green. (the county had been the host of the site)
5. Approved the Monarch Butterfly Brochure Reprint Order: 6,500 copies at $2,087.25.

**Other Discussion Items**:

1. Special Cancellation to Promote U.S. Postal Service -Protect Pollinators Stamps (Debra Conway will be asked to talk to the board on this topic next month).
2. Emergency call boxes along section of Rte 97; awaiting Lumberland’s thoughts

c. NYS DOT Rt. 97 Attraction Signs – K. Gilbert

**Next Meeting Date:** will be on Monday, September 25 at 7:00 P.M.

**YOUTH COMMISSION:** Councilperson Grund; No report

**WEBSITE:** Councilperson Story – ordered and installed Adobe Photoshop, had telephone conversations and a training session with Dorene, Had a few issues with updating the website and set up another training session (for Photoshop) with Dorene on Sept. 6.

**FIRE DISTRICT:** Councilperson Story – They paid bills, did regular maintenance on trucks, set up physicals for firefighters, and the public hearing for the fire district budget will be on October 17 at 6:30 pm. They are also working on a Junior firefighter cadet program for 14 and 15 year olds. Cadets will not be put into any dangerous situations, training is in-house and will not interfere with school and cadets must live in our town. Anyone interested could attend the meetings on Mondays at 7pm or contact Ed Kraack for information.

**Seniors:** Councilperson Salzberg: Nothing to report

**Keep Cochecton Clean:** Jerold Yavarkovsky: Not present – no report

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** **(**Gary Maas)

Submitted a written report

Monthly Financial Report

* Bank Information:
* Deposited $100.00 UDC check
* Deposited $50.00 Judicial fees
* Deposited $528.00 Judicial fees
* Deposited $947.55 Town Clerk fees
* Deposited $4,639.64 Mortgage Tax
* Deposited $0.00 for Debit Card
* Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals to board
* Activity: Attended Supervisors Meeting. Meeting with Dennis Nearing. Sent out proof of Insurance to Count for Youth Grourp. Meeting with County on transfer Station. Meeting on Storm Stella

CONTRACTUAL $ 4,000.00

Abstract #1 $ 0.00 $ 4,000.00

Abstract #2 $413.66 ` $ 3,586.34

Abstract#3 $920.67 $ 2,665.67

Abstract #4 $606.75 $2,058.92

Abstract #5 $99.00 $1,959.921

Abstract#6 $76.75 $1,883.17

Abstract#7 $731.74 $1,151.43

Abstract#8 $ 52.87 $1,049.56

Abstract#9 $152.50 $897.06

Abstract#10 $ $

Abstract#11 $ $

Abstract#12 $ $

Worked 90 1/2 hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman) Not present

Submitted a written report, which the Supervisor went over

* Been out ditching and patching
* Finished up our ship sealing
* Tractor out mowing right of ways
* Paved on Tyler, Fred White, Mohn, Kelly, Old County and Bernas
* Handed out a couple of driveway permits
* Reserved a boom mower to rent in September to do our guide rails and banks
* Diesel 1087 gals del / used 665.4
* Gas 32.3 gals del / used 126.3

Worked 160 hrs.

Contractual balance is $769.14

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

Submitted a written report

* I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.
* UDC check # 2777 in the amount of $100.00 received 8/25/17 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day.
* I attended the OSTCA meeting August 16th. Our guest speakers were Sheriff Mike Schiff, and Under Sheriff Eric Chaboty they spoke about work place safety, fraud and also spoke about the opioid epidemic.
* Issued 6 permanent handicapped and 0 temporary parking permits in August
* Had several inquiries re: death, marriage and birth records. Some I could help and others I could not, as the record they requested are not on file in the Town of Cochecton.
* I provided telephone #’s for different departments. I hand out building permits, when the CEO is not in the office. I am getting a lot of phone calls for the Justice Court, people wanting to know what their fines are and if they can set up a payment plan. I also have people looking to purchase land in the town and wanting to know what regs etc. are required I tell them to contact the CEO, some other questions I tell them to speak to the Assessor.
* Worked a total of 109 1/2 hours in August
* Expenditures $132.27
* Contractual balance $1,574.01

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** (Gregg Semenetz) Not present

Submitted a written report:

Worked 80 hours traveled 765 miles

* Issued 5 permits; 0 renewals, 1 C of O’s, Notices of Disapproval 0, 5 Municipal search letters, 0 appearance tickets
* Revenues of $1,092.00, and expenses of $457.70
* Contractual Balance: $1,744.03

Cleanup update: 1. Shea – Cleanup will be taken care of end of week. 2. Nasar – Yard has been bush hogged. 3. CR 116 Boat and Garbage has been removed. 4. Shortcut Road La Fronz – starting today. 5. Falk- in contract for sale/ demo to be done by new owner

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

No written report submitted: She still has only $0.01 in her account

**TOWN ATTORNEY**: (Karen Mannino)

Email/ review sewer expansion

Falk Draft notice & order, res, Public Hearing notice, search clerk’s office; email

Conversation with Supervisor re: sewer district expansion

Attendance at Board Meeting

Falk service of Notice; draft resolution; email

Email Local Law Filing

Nothing new to add

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

Submitted written report: Supervisor went over the report

*Old Business:*

1. Nothing old to report

*New Business:*

1. I will be attending a continuing education course on Thursday, September 14 in New Windsor, NY

2. Updated our computers with the latest RPS codes to produce the School tax bills

3. Received a small claims petition for 59 C Meyer Road challenging their assessment. The hearing will be held on September 8th at 10:00 am

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| August |  |
| 1355.400 | $2,166.20 |
| Quill | $88.98 |
| Total Aug | $88.98 |

Balance: $2,077.22

Assessor: Hours: 35.1

Clerk: Hours: 30

**SEWER OFFICER:** (Michael Walter) not present

* Average flow of 19,002 gallons per day for month of August
* Obtained 93 % C.B.O.D. and 96 % T.S.S. removal for August
* Spent a total of 74 hours attending to sewer district affairs in August
* Expenditures: $487.46
* Contractual Balance: $12,101.04

Supervisor spoke to SPO yesterday, and he was told the UV system is working real well

**PLANNING BOARD: (**Chair Earl Bertsch)

The Nearing sub-division issue, the PB will not sign the proposal for the sewer extension - it is on hold, until the Town Board resolves this issue. The PB was told it was going to be a renter outside the district. The Town Board does not have that information and the Town Board is willing to add this property into the sewer district. This was discussed and the Supervisor will speak to the property owner to find out what the situation is at this time. Earl also mentioned the PB would like the Town Board to fund a Professional planner and attorney for the summer camp zoning to be included in the 2018 town budget

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** (Rosemary Barile) not present

Submitted a written report:

Worked 22 hours

Expenditures $63.66

Contractual balance: $2,364.48

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

Submitted a written report:

This past month I did not receive any request for information from the public. Have a great Board meeting

**TOWN BOARD:**

Supervisor Maas and Council members Grund, Story, Nearing and Salzberg had nothing more to add

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Alarm and Security for Town Buildings- Additional Cameras- have been installed

2. Unsafe Buildings 2017- this was discussed earlier

3. Website Update – this was discussed earlier

4. Basketball Court, Pickle Ball, Ball Field and Exercise Park – Cleanup of the property has started, some fill have been put in place

5. Zoning on Summer Camps – this is being worked on

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing new at this time

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to move into Executive Session to discuss a Notice of Claim. Time 8:33 pm. All Town Board members voted in favor

Others present: Town Clerk and Attorney

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to close this Executive Session at 8:45 pm. All Town Board members voted in favor

While in executive session no decisions were made

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to recess this Town Board meeting to Wednesday October 4, 2017 at 6:30 pm. All Town Board members voted in favor. Time 8:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk