

A meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on June 10, 2020 at 7:00 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)

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Hollye Schulman—Town Clerk Kevin Esselman - HWYS

Supervisor Gary Maas opened the regular meeting with a pledge to the flag at 7:30 pm

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to accept the minutes of May 13<sup>th</sup> and be accepted as submitted. All Board members voted in favor

**RESOLUTION # 28**

**APPROVE BILLS ON ABSTRACT # 6**

On motion of Councilperson Walter, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to accept the bills on abstract # 6 in the following amounts

General Account	Voucher # 268-296	\$2,494.83 includes prepaid
Debit Card Account	Voucher # no claim	
Sewer Account	Voucher # 297-301	\$2,488.37 includes prepaid
Lighting District Account	Voucher # 269 and 276	\$511.64 these are prepaid
Highway Account	Voucher # 302-317	\$38,022.56 includes prepaid

Claim # 295 and 302 split between funds, on same voucher.

Prepaid claims 268-282 paid on 5/13 and 5/19, 2020.

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

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Nearing, Salzberg, Grund and Walter

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letter re: Cochecton Bridge Closer

Letter National Grid: regarding Arbor day plant a tree

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No wished to comment

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**UDC REPORT:** Larry Richardson Not present

- The Council held its regular meeting via teleconferencing on Thursday June 4.
  - 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:
  - DEC Representative Bill Rudge reported the DEC is seeking angler input on proposed rule changes affecting trout fishing. The following are some of the discussion items:
    - Providing year-round fishing opportunities through the creation of a statewide catch-and release season;
    - Extending the duration of stocking on select stream reaches
    - Increasing the size of stocked fish
    - Ensuring that each stocking contains some fish that are 12 inches or larger
    - Improving the vigor of hatchery brown trout for increased survival
- Anyone interested in commenting should go to the DEC website and see [Draft Trout Stream Management Plan through June 25.](#)*
1. PA DCNR Rep Tim Duggan reported on the Peck's Pond Project that was started 4 yrs ago to clear algae and vegetation that was choking the pond. The water was drained down to about 20% and let dry. They are now refilling the pond. They may treat the pond as well.
  2. NPS Superintendent Kris Heister returned for her last two weeks here before transferring permanently to Gettysburg. She noted that Darren Boch will be the next acting Superintendent for a 120 day term.
  3. Executive Director Ramie:
  4. Asked permission to open the office with sanitizing, social distancing and face masks
  5. Noted that the NPS will be installing a new computer system for contract handling in October 2020. She is working with the regional contracting officer to secure carry-over funding into the next budget year so that the UDC is not forced to exist on its own resources.
  6. Because of covid-19 there has been a delay in searching for Pete Golod's replacement. We will re-advertise the position.

Actions taken:

- Approved River Cleanup Community grants
- Approved a letter to NPS objecting to the way the decision was made to ban trailer-in boats at TMR
- Approved a letter to member Boards explaining the reasoning behind the need to create and unanimously pass a minor amendment to the River Management Plan on how Utility Scale Solar Projects will be reviewed by the UDC Project Review Committee. The UDC Position Paper has already been approved. *We are encouraging Towns to treat such projects as Special Use/Conditional Use projects as Cochecton does. Most NY Towns have zoned for projects in that manner. Since a minor RMP Amendment requires unanimous approval, we are asking the Towns/Townships to agree by resolution.*

**SCENIC BYWAY:** Larry Richardson Not present

**Scenic Byway;** The UDSB held its regular meeting on Monday June 1, 2020

- New Chairperson John Pizzolato (Town of Highland) opened the meeting
- Topics of Discussion in part:
- Grant Applications: Vista Enhancement – two inquiries about Knotweed eradication along the Delaware were received. Since the NPS with funding from FUDR are planning a test project at Skinners Falls, it seems prudent to wait and see what suggestions may come from it before using funds to cut the weed just to have it grow back quickly
- **Hawk’s Nest Criminal Enforcement Assistance 3 Options**
- **UDSB Marketing Plan: Getting ready for Our Close-up includes** reviewing the UDSB website for the ease of interacting with site visitors Also updating business listings
- **Anti-Littering Community Signage Update** – Pizzolato had forwarded new prototypes of six anti-littering signs for Deerpark, Pond Eddy Barryville, Narrowsburg Cochecton and Callicoon that incorporate the committee’s feedback from the last meeting to representatives for comment
- **Promotional Opportunities for May 18-June 30 Sullivan County Litter Pluck**
- **5/3 Walk Through of the Callicoon Train Depot Visitor Center.** Freda Eisenberg reported that the firm Tectonic had accessed the site to conduct a Phase I Environmental Study under Sullivan County’s Brownfields contract with them
- **Highland River Access Project**
- **NYS DOT Report:** Kris Gilbert had provided a written report with the status of capital projects: Guidrail Work (9TDG21) in Towns of Delaware and Cochecton – includes 18 runs of guiderail work with construction anticipated to occur this summer
- **5/27 NY- PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission Annual Meeting:** \$200,000 for an alternatives study for the Skinners Falls, NY- Milanville, PA Bridge was approved
- **Next Meeting Date** Monday, June 22, 2020
- **Adjourn:** adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

**YOUTH COMMISSION:** Councilperson Grund

Youth are working on projects

**LAKE HUNTINGTON LAKE ASSOCIATION:** Councilperson Salzberg

Letter sent regarding treatment of the Lake next Thursday -no swimming for 24 hours

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** (Gary Maas)

- Monthly Financial Report
- Bank Information:
- Deposited \$1,330.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$0.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$85.06 Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$4,000.00 Tax Collector
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and given budget to actuals. (no budget to actual for board)
- Activity worked on Shanr Duquettes PFL documents. Responded to County letter in regards to Town Debt

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	\$65.00	2,477.60 \$
Abstract#7	\$	\$
Abstract#8	\$	\$
Abstract#9	\$	\$
Abstract#10	\$	\$
Abstract#11	\$	\$
Abstract#12	\$	\$

Abstract # 12 A

Worked 85 hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman)

- Was out ditching and patching
- Started mowing right of ways
- Had a few repairs
- Replaced a few pipes
- Worked 160 hrs
- Contractual balance is – 3,076.34
- Letter chips money passed they are holding back 20% am waiting on letter

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report.
- Took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk
- Dog licensing Made depots
- Had phone calls for tax collector, CEO, Assessor and Justice Court People asking about Transfer stations hours, some wanting to know if they were in the sewer district and water district
- Worked 103 ¾ hours in May
- Contractual Balance: \$3,016.02

**CEO:** (Gregg Semenetz) not present

Submitted a written report which the Supervisor went over

Worked: 80 hours, Mileage 696, Permits issued: 13, Renewals: 0, C of O 's 3, 0 notice of disapproval; Municipal search letters 3, 0 appearance tickets, Revenues \$1075, Expenses \$450.20 Contractual Balance: \$3,309.16  
Sewer permits up and new houses

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

Balance in checkbook \$1,592.17 hours I worked in May, Taxes-4 Sewer -8 for a total of 12

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** (Karen Mannino) not present no report

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

Submitted written report: Town Clerk read the report

*Old Business:*

1. Grievance Day was held on 5/26/20, all went well with social distancing and masks

*New Business*

1. As of late, we have been informed that the continuing education courses we have been signed up to take for 2020, will not be held in the usual fashion. The State Association will be providing these courses at a later date, either by classroom training or zoom

Assessor Hours: 45 ¾

Clerk Hours: 27

May contractual balance: A 1355.400

Total May \$41.97

Contractual Balance: \$1,496.43

**SEWER OFFICER:** (Michael Walter)

Submitted a written report:

- Average Flow 39,927; Percentage C.B.O. D. 97 %; Percentage T.S.S.99% for May
- Worked 71 ½ hours in May

Expenditures were \$2,488.37

Contractual Balance: \$19,712.56

Had sludge removed

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

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

No report

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

No report

**TOWN BOARD:**

No Town Board members had anything to add

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Unsafe buildings 2020 discussed earlier in the year
2. Dog Bill
3. Solar Law
4. Litter Pluck : until end of June

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Spring Cleanup Days – set for August 15 & 16

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Walter, the following motion was to adjourn this meeting: Time 7:48 p.m.. All Town Board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_  
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk