Town of Cochecton Board Meeting was held on June 10, 2026, at the Cochecton Town Hall

With the following members present:
PRESENT: Deputy Supervisor /Councilperson Edwin Grund
Councilperson Sean Nearing
Councilperson/SPO Michael Walter
Councilperson Dr. Paul Salzberg

OTHERS PRESENT:

Maryann Oumrim- Town Clerk	Robert Smith Attorney	Jeffrey Daub, Hwy. Supt.
Charles Nystrum -CEO	Larry Richardson	Peggy Richardson
Micael Attianese	Barbara Jane Attianese	Michael Bellock
Sheila Schultz	Scott Goodman	Sonia Ahmed
Z.Miller		

Between 7 PM and 7:30 PM there is a work session
The meeting was Opened- by Acting Supervisor Ed Grund, with Councilpersons Nearing and Walter approving the start of the public hearing regarding the sewer plant bond.

Darren Doetsch: provided an overview of the proposed sewer plant improvements. He explained that the sand beds at the Town's wastewater treatment plant are failing and, following an inspection by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Town has been directed to replace them.

Mr. Doetsch stated that there are four sand beds requiring substantial reconstruction. The project will include demolition and removal of the existing sand, underdrain piping, distribution piping, and gravel layers. The new system will consist of new underdrain piping, multiple layers of gravel, and new distribution piping.

Mr. Doetsch stated that the Town anticipates advertising the project for bids in August or September. The DEC has established a compliance schedule requiring completion of the work. If additional time is needed, the Town may request an extension from the DEC.

Mr. Doetsch advised that the estimated project cost is approximately $1.2 million. He explained that this amount represents a worst-case estimate for bonding purposes to ensure adequate funding and expressed hope that the final project cost will be less than the bonded amount.

Mr. Doetsch then opened the floor for public comments and invited anyone with questions regarding the proposed project to speak.

M. Bullock asked if the project was simply changing the treatment medium rather than making any changes to the size of the facility.

Darren Doetsch confirmed that the project is a **replacement in kind** and does not increase the size or capacity of the system. He explained that because the work is considered a replacement in kind, it does not require review or permitting by the DEC, making the process much less onerous.

M. Bullock thanked Mr. Doetsch for the clarification.

Deputy Supervisor Grund stated that the public hearing would remain open for a while longer.

Other Questions which were asked:

Regarding the School, how will they factor into the increase for this sewer project? It was explained that the Town and the School have an agreement that for every 10 students they are counted as one EDU and would be billed accordingly.

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Deputy Supervisor Introduced Girl Scout Joycelynn Oumrim to Propose her Silver Award Project:

"Hello, my name is Joycelynn Oumrim. I'm a Girl Scout in Troop 736, and I'm working on my Silver Award project.
I've spoken with the town historian, Kristina Snedeker, and I plan to create a shadow box to move historical artifacts from the old town hall to the new one, so the town can enjoy our history.
I'll be working with Acting Town Supervisor Ed Grund, who has kindly offered to help me build the shadow box.
I've also started attending the 250th celebrations happening in each hamlet of Cochecton to further my learning and raise awareness about my project.
I plan to do small fundraisers in town to help support my Silver Award Project and to purchase the supplies needed. I'm also open to any other suggestions or support from the community.
My plan is to have the Shadowbox completed by August 9th when the Town opens the Time Capsule from 1976.
I hope you'll consider letting me proceed and support me on this journey. I really appreciate all your help and look forward to working together. Thank you."

M.Bullock asked if there were any set plans for the project?

Joycelynn had on display an Ai photo of what she would like the Shadow box to look like in the town hall.

Peggy Richardson – Spoke about the Hamlets of Cochecton Celebration and that Skinners Falls presentation was held on June 7th at the Cochecton Depot and was led by Larry & Peggy Richardson. * A full list of all Hamlets and their future dates is on the Cochecton Website.*

ED Grund- Mentioned he spoke with G. Maas and he would be looking into getting a digital USPS Stamping machine for the town.

At 7:30 p.m., Deputy Supervisor Edwin Grund opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Supervisor Grund called for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion was made by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, to close the public hearing. Upon a vote, all Board members voted in favor. The motion carried, and the public hearing was declared closed.

RESOLUTION #36 06.10.26
Read Allowed by Ed Grund:

WHEREAS, by proceedings heretofore had and taken, the Town Board of the Town of Cochecton, Sullivan County, New York, authorized an increase and improvement of the facilities of Lake Huntington Sewer District (the "District"), being the replacement of elements of the filtration system at the Town sewer treatment plant, including incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of $1,200,000; and

WHEREAS, by Order dated May 13, 2026, said Town Board called a public hearing on the question of the increase and improvement of facilities of said District in the maximum estimated cost of $1,200,000; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly published and posted in the manner and within the time provided by law and such public hearing was duly held at the time and place specified in said notice at which all persons interested in the subject matter thereof were duly heard; and

WHEREAS, said Town Board has duly considered the evidence given at said public hearing; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

ORDERED, by the Town Board of the Town of Cochecton, Sullivan County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. Upon the evidence given at the aforesaid public hearing, it is hereby found and determined that it is necessary and in the public interest to increase and improve the facilities

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of Lake Huntington Sewer District, in the Town of Cochecton, Sullivan County, New York, in the manner described in the preambles hereof, at a maximum estimated cost of $1,200,000, and said increase and improvement is hereby authorized and approved.

Section 2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Order was duly put to a vote on roll, which resulted as follows:

_____Edwin Grund_____ VOTING _____Aye_____

_____Sean Nearing_____ VOTING ____Aye____

_____Paul Salzberg_____ VOTING ____Aye_____

_____Michael Walter_____ VOTING ____Abstained__

The Order was thereupon declared duly adopted.

There was discussion among Board members, Darren Doetsch, and Attorney R. Smith regarding the possibility of recessing the meeting until June 17th in order to ensure there are a sufficient number of voting Board members present to act on the bond resolution. Additional discussion took place regarding whether Michael Walter may participate as a voting member on the resolution, given his role as Sewer Plant Operator.

MOTION made by Councilperson Salzberg seconded by Councilperson Nearing the following motion was to accept the minutes of 05/13/2026 and by Councilperson Nearing and Walter for Minutes of 05/27/2026.
Deputy Supervisor Grund and Councilpersons, Nearing, Walter and Salzberg voted in favor.

Resolution No.37- 06.10.26
On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter, to accept the bills on abstract #6 in the following amounts:
Abstract # 6
General Accounts: Claim #'s 302-305, 307 and 309-313, are in prepaid's.
Claim numbers 317-339 to be paid
Total General Funds: **$19,244.90**
Debit Card Account: Claim 340
Total Debit Card: **$3632.44**
Sewer Accounts: Claim # 297-301 are in prepaids
Claim 341-344 to be paid.
Total Sewer Accounts: **$6,615.41**
Lighting District Accounts 306 and 308 are in prepaid
Total Lighting District Funds: **$575.82**
Highway Accounts: Claim's 315 and 316 in prepaid
Claim #'s 345-360 to be paid.
Total Highway Accounts **$16,568.26**
PREPAIDS were paid 05/20 and 5/25
Audit 05/09/2026 by Councilmen Nearing & Walter

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Correspondence:

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC BYWAY-*Monthly Report* *June 10, 2026*

Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. – Meeting Summary
June 1 (rescheduled from May)

Call to Order Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson DeCristofaro

Treasurer's Report: Treasurers report was presented and approved unanimously.

Discussion items:

- Discussed one Butterfly Grant application from **ENGN CNTR LTD** to provide hands on butterfly promotion training along with a pollinator garden near the silos in Callicoon. Amount requested $1,216.00.
- **Program Manager** Report (David Krantz): updated his photo contest efforts on behalf of the UDSB. The contest runs from April 1 – November 2026
- **SCVA** Tourism Grant second submission: was approved for $1500. We had submitted for considerably more to help with the visitors project.
- Garbage over the side of the **Hawk's Nest** area. Approved a letter to the NPS to provide funding for trash removal. The action requires trained personnel to repel down the rock cliff as well as collect garbage that has made it to the riverbank. It should be noted that the property in question is privately owned and permission must be obtained.

Actions take:

- Approved $750 for the ENGN CNTR project.
- Approved a request from the CDI for $700 to cover 1/3 of the cost to replace the tarp on the Callicoon Depot roof.
- Approved accepting a scholarship from the NSBA to their November 6-8 Conference where David Krantz (PM) will explain our Scavenger Hunt and Photo Contest. The UDSB will cover travel, hotel and food. Unfortunately our contract with Mr. Krantz runs out mid-July unless additional funding is secured. David has said he will try to attend regardless of employment status.

Other Business: none. **Next meeting** will be June 22, 2026

Upper Delaware Council-*Monthly Report*

LARRY H. RICHARDSON
111 Bernas Rd.
Cochecton, New York 12726
Phone (845) 932-8104, *l.richardson1068@gmail.com*
June 10, 2026

On June 4, Chairperson **Jeffrey Dexter** called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Presentation "Flowing Histories: Tracing Water, Structures, and Hidden Landscapes in the Upper Delaware" by Sam Bourcy, geophysical specialist, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. Contracted by NPS to inventory their Minisink property and their Cowin Farm property for subsoil geophysical anomalies. (*No burial sites were discovered but several images of possible foundations and subsoil water flows were detected.)*

Status Reports

a. **Delaware River Basin Commission** (Kristen Bowman Kavanagh) presented

b. **NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation** (Ryan Coulter) (Zoom) continuing creel sampling and upgrades at some river accesses.
c. **PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural** Resources (Tim Dugan) (Zoom) Spongy moth infestation seems to be reduced. Lots of Data Centers planned in NE PA . One proposal is for a 700-acre parcel in Clinton Cty. They are now seeing major challenges to Butternut trees in NE PA: a fungal disease infection that leads to decline and death as well as increased attacks from Butternut weevils.
The DC&NR is also searching for surviving trees such as Hemlocks, American Walnuts, and Ash to study and collect seeds.
d. **National Park Service** (Lindsey Kurnath)-(Zoom) updated staffing
e **UDC Executive Director** (Laurie Ramie)- reported that she was notified that the UDC"s NYS funding portion of $100,000 envisioned in the RMP has been approved in the NYS Budget. This only took 38 years and critical support from Assemblywoman Paula Kay.

New Business:

- **Approved**-Letter of Appreciation to NYS Assembly Member Paula Elaine Kay
- **Approved**-Letter to NPS: Cochecton Pumphouse Use Variance. It was determined that an issuance of approval would not take the town out of substantial conformance.
- **Approved**- Consulting Services Agreement for Interim Substantial Conformance Review tasks as needed with Kerry Englhardt.

Old Business:

- NPS confirming UDC determinations: Tusten Open Space and Recreation Plan
  Lackawaxen Zoning Ordinance Amendments
  Shohola Revised well Ord

Next meeting is Thursday July 2 @ 6:30 p.m.

YOUTH COMMISSION: Edwin Grund
For more information contact **Sue Rodriguez** (845) 866-0853, or
email: s_rod79@frontiernet.net

- The Youth Board has set up some events all are posted on our website.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:
SUPERVISOR: Edwin Grund (Deputy)

Deposited: $988.00	Judicial Fees
Deposited: $556.00	Judicial Fees
Deposited: $3,952.56	Town Clerk
Deposited: $390.30	Debit Card

Worked 98 Hours May
Expenditure End Balance $ 3,448.39

- Transfers were made as necessary between Town accounts at Jeffersonville Bank.
- Meeting with Doetsch RE: Sewer
- Mike Preis- Mower
- Chris Decker- Highway Negotiations

HIGHWAY: Jeffrey Daub

- Ditching
- Mulch for in front of the Town Hall received, and spread
- Paving in the Parking lot and ramp up to the building.
- Monday Bernas is coming to Pave Turnpike at Delaware town line past pump station
  Worked 160 hours

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TOWN CLERK: Maryann Oumrim
May 2026
I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk including:

- Prepared Abstract #6 for audit.
- Prepared Minutes for May 13, and 27th 2026
- Emails have been responded to and appropriately shared with Board Members.
- Auto Agent – Still working out kinks and I do not have a check ready today I will give the Town Clerk funds to Supervisor tomorrow.
- Made Deposits for Town Clerk and Code Officer.
- Monthly reports sent to Agriculture & Markets and DOH for marriage and death.
- Organizing files and weeding out old files
- Dog Enumeration was sent out 7- Original 6 renewal
- Placed ad for Public Hearing, Posted on Sign Board & Notarized copies sent to Doetsch
- Website Maintenance
- I worked a total of 120 **hours** in May
- **Contractual balance: $3,059.38**

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Charles Nystrom
Submitted a written report:

- Worked 105 hrs.
- Mileage 198
- Permits issued 11
- Cert. of Occupancy issued -5 and C of C – 7
- Municipal search letters -3
- Violations- 8
- Revenues $2533.30
- Expenses $287.87
- Contractual Balance: $1728.89

TOWN ATTORNEY: Robert Smith
Communication was held with Judge Fine regarding the pursuit of court filings for Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) violations that have not received a response.

TAX COLLECTOR- Not Present

SEWER PLANT OFFICER: Michael Walter
Submitted a written report:

- Average Flow 36187 Percentage C.B.O. D. 99 %; Percentage T.S.S. 99% - May 2026
- Worked 98 hours
- Expenditure $ 6,615.41
- **Sewer Department Update:**
  It was reported that approximately 8,500 gallons of sludge were removed from the Sewer Plant on Hearing Road. Coverline renovations are progressing, including work in the main building where interior walls have been installed and electrical work has begun.

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ASSESSOR

Old Business
Field work continues
Meeting with Taxpayers
Board of assessor review opening

New Business:
Tentative Roll filed with Town Clerk
Grievance Day held on May 26th
Updated my Computer to Windows 11

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Tamara DePaolo - not present.

HISTORIAN: Kristina Snedeker- not present

Planning Board Update:
The Town Board was informed that Gottlieb Engineering has exited the municipal engineering field as of the end of the year. It was noted that Planning Board members do not have authority to appoint an engineer; this responsibility rests with the Town Board.

A motion was made by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Walter, to appoint Doetsch & Pintogero Engineering as the Planning Board Engineer. Motion carried.

Deputy Supervisor Grund welcomed Mr. Doetsch aboard, and Mr. Doetsch expressed appreciation for the appointment.

TOWN BOARD:
Councilman Grund – no additional comments
Councilman Nearing – no additional comments
Councilman Walter – no additional comments.
Councilman Salzberg – no additional comments

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: On a motion by Councilperson Walter seconded by Councilperson Nearing, to recess meeting to June 17, 2026, at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted, Maryann Oumrim
Maryann Oumrim Town Clerk