

A meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on July 8, 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/Deputy Supervisor Edwin Grund  
Councilperson Sean Nearing Councilperson Paul Salzberg  
Councilperson/SPO Michael Walter

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kevin Esselman – HWYS Greg Semenez- CEO Karen Mannino - Attorney  
Eileen Hennessy – Tax Collector Margaret Richardson—Town Clerk

Supervisor Gary Maas opened the regular meeting with a pledge to the flag at 7:30 pm and asked everyone to remain standing with a moment of silence for Town Clerk Hollye L. Schulman who died June 28, 2020.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, to approve Resolution #29 – UDC Minor Amendment.

Supervisor Maas then read the proposed Resolution #30 as a tribute honoring Mrs. Schulman:

**RESOLUTION #29**

**RESOLUTION IN MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO**



**Hollye L. Schulman**

**November 6, 1944 – June 28, 2020**

WHEREAS, Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to take Hollye L. Schulman from our midst, and

WHEREAS, Hollye L. Schulman was born on November 6, 1944 and died on June 28, 2020, and during her 75 years of life, served God, Country and Family well, refusing to compromise her values and earning the respect and admiration of all who worked or became associated with her, and always conducting herself with dignity, honor and kindness toward her family, friends, those who worked with her and for the welfare of the Town of Cochecton, and

WHEREAS, Hollye L. Schulman served the Town of Cochecton as Town Clerk for 20 plus years. During her service to the residents of Cochecton and others doing business or needing assistance with permits, licenses and or any of the other duties of the Town Clerk, Hollye was the most Dedicated public servant who diligently performed her duties and exhibited those qualities essential as a Town Clerk. Not only was Hollye the Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics for Cochecton, but she was a member of the Sullivan County Town Clerk’s Association and the New York State Association of Town Clerks. Hollye has definitely left the Town of Cochecton in a better place than before she served this community, and

WHEREAS, her death leaves our community with a deep feeling of sorrow for the loss of such an honored and respected citizen, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Town of Cochecton Board express their personal sense of loss of such an honored and respected citizen and extend their heartfelt sympathy to her husband Richard Schulman, her children: Mark Clewell and Jennifer Olsen and their entire family, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution of memorial tribute is inscribed in the minutes of the Town Board of the Town of Cochecton and a copy be forwarded, with our condolences, to her family.

Resolution Unanimously Passed  
July 8, 2020

**Cochecton Town Board:**

Gary D. Maas Supervisor Sean Nearing Councilperson  
Edwin Grund Deputy Supervisor Mike Walter Councilperson  
Paul Salzberg Councilperson

Gary D. Maas  
Gary D. Maas, Supervisor

Margaret Richardson  
Margaret Richardson, Town Clerk

Supervisor Maas next read the proposed **Resolution #30**, UDC Minor Amendment to the Upper Delaware River Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan. The Board discussed with clarification from town UDC representative, Larry Richardson.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, to approve Resolution #30 UDC Minor Amendment to the Upper Delaware River Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan:

**RESOLUTION #30**

Approve adding Utility-scale Solar Energy Production as a Minor Amendment to the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan *Land and Water Use Guidelines*.

- 1) WHEREAS, the UDC approved a “Position Paper on Utility-Scale Solar Energy Systems” on March 5, 2020. The Paper which the UDC and the National Park Service (NPS) jointly developed states, “We conclude that Utility-Scale Solar Energy Systems qualify as ‘Other Commercial Development’ on the Schedule of Compatible, Conditional and Incompatible Uses in the Upper Delaware Land and Water Use Guidelines appended to the *Final River Management for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River: New York and Pennsylvania* (Nov. 1986). As such, this land use will be considered as: Incompatible within scenic segments of the river corridor; and Appropriate with implementation of conditional use (PA) or special use (NY) criteria in recreational segments and hamlet areas of the river corridor.” AND
- 2) WHEREAS, a Utility-Scale Solar Energy System is not listed in the Schedule of Uses in the RMP, AND
- 3) WHEREAS, incorporating the conclusions noted above into the RMP Land and Water Use Guidelines as an amendment would provide the UDC with a written justifiable basis for evaluating the substantial conformance of any commercial solar projects, new ordinances, or zoning amendments, AND
- 4) WHEREAS, adding a minor amendment to the RMP requires a unanimous vote of the UDC voting members, THEREFORE
- 5) BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Cochecton does hereby approve of the use of a Minor Amendment procedure to add Utility-Scale Solar Energy Systems to the RMP Land and Water Use Guidelines.

Unanimously Approved this day July 08, 2020

Supervisor Gary Maas  
 Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Edwin Grund  
 Councilman Sean Nearing  
 Councilman Dr. Paul Salzberg  
 Councilman Michael Walter

**RESOLUTION #31**

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, to approve Resolution #31 authorizing Supervisor Maas to open a new CD with matured HWY Fund CD monies plus the check received from auction sale of sweeper and Ford Truck to be deposited into a new Capital Reserve Fund/Highway New Equipment. The total amount is \$196,243.21. a new0020c c All Board Members voted in favor

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Grund, to approve MINUTES of June 10 and June 30, 2020.

Unanimously approved: Supervisor Gary Maas  
 Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Edwin Grund  
 Councilman Sean Nearing  
 Councilman Dr. Paul Salzberg  
 Councilman Michael Walter

**APPROVE BILLS ON ABSTRACT # 7**

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve the bills on abstract # 7 in the following amounts

General Account	Claim # 337-351 and Claim #'s 320, 324, 328-330, 332, 335 and 336 are in prepaids <u>Total for General Funds \$4,649.98</u>
Debit Card Account	Claim # 352 <u>Total for Debit Card Funds \$139.24</u>
Sewer Account	Claim # 353-357 and Claim #'s 318, 319, 352, 326, 327, 333, 334 are in prepaids <u>Total Sewer Funds \$3,507.89</u>
Lighting District Account	Claim # 322 and 323 are prepaid <u>Total Lighting District Funds \$ 533.39</u>
Highway Account	Claim #'s 358 – 368 to be paid and Claim #'s 321 and 331 are in prepaid <u>Total Highway Funds \$24,610.84</u>

Claim # 337 and 361 are split between funds, on same voucher.  
 Prepaid claims were paid on 6/9, 6/11, 6/16, 6/24 and 7/9, 2020.

All Board Members voted in favor to approve Abstract #7.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Email re: DPW – the request from Town for speed reduction from Walnut Creek to intersection of Shortcut Rd and Rt. 52 has been reviewed and now passed on to NYS to make decision.
- Letter from Youth Development Programs
- A check was received from DRAM recovery for overpayment on electronic purchases for years 1998-2002.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**UDC REPORT:** Larry Richardson

The Council held its regular meeting in person on Thursday July 2 at the Tusten Town Hall to allow for social distancing.

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence in respect for the passing of David Hulse.

**Topics discussed in part:**

Status Reports:

1. DEC Representative Bill Rudge had planned on attending the meeting remotely but the phone system in the hall would not provide for that. He did submit a written notice that the new DEC Automated Licensing System(DECALS) includes user friendly information and is designed to make it simpler than ever to purchase fishing, hunting and trapping licenses from the comfort of your home over the phone or online.
2. NPS temporary Superintendent Darren Boch was in attendance. He invited members to stop by and chat at his office. He said it is lonely there with so many working from home. I expressed that it would be good to schedule a meeting remotely or in person if room permits with any new personnel to orient them and emphasize that this segment of the national park system is different from almost all of the others.
3. Executive director ramie announced that the long-awaited project review workbook is at the printers. And she is working on a roll out presentation that will include a video so that people could prefer to it when using the workbook for new people could use it as a training platform. Ramie also announced that the personnel committee had met with an applicant to fill Pete Golod's vacated position.
4. How to move forward with a retreat where a facilitator (Buck Morehead) will lead a discussion and formulation of a New Five-Year Planning Agreement with the National Park Service. He has to put together a steering committee to help with the planning.

**SCENIC BYWAY:** Larry Richardson

The Committee held its regular meeting via teleconferencing on Monday June 22, 2020.

Topics of Discussion in part:

- The Delaware Company/Greater Barryville Chamber of Commerce Vista Clearing; Eagle Observation: discussion continues about vista clearing in the eagle observation location along Route 97 in the Town of Highland. What needs to be done and how the scenic byway might be able to help.
- **Presentation on Website Proposal** – Pizzolato introduced Steve Franzken from Mid-Hudson Web who joined the call. Pizzolato said that Roberta Byron-Lockwood from the SCVA had recommended this company since they are revitalizing the Visitors Association website.
- **Hawk's Nest Criminal Enforcement Assistance Options:** discussions continued concerning what can be done to better control traffic speed, loitering and graffiti along that section. A follow-up meeting with the town of Deerpark Police Chief will be scheduled in the next couple of months.
- **Possible processes to Update 2002 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Enhancement Concept Plan**
- **Callicoon Train Depot and Visitor Center Project Update**
- **NYS Department of Transportation Report provided by Liaison Kris Gilbert** (*written*)
- **Anti-Littering Community Signage Update:** where the signs might be appropriate and affective.

Actions Taken:

- Approved a contract with Mid-Hudson Web for upgrade to the web site for \$3,500.

**Next Meeting Date:** Monday July 27, 2020 (*possibly a meet and greet at the Cochecton Fire Station Restaurant since there are new members that only know each other by voice*)

**Adjourn:** adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

**YOUTH COMMISSION:** Councilperson Grund

Youth are working on projects online. For more information contact **Sue Rodriguez** (845) 866-0853, or email: [s\\_rod79@frontiernet.net](mailto:s_rod79@frontiernet.net)

**LAKE HUNTINGTON LAKE ASSOCIATION:** Councilperson Salzberg

The Lake has been treated to eliminate algae using the safest and proper process. It is a great success and people are enjoying the Lake again. Lake Association dues are due and donations are accepted. The Lake Huntington Lake Association will plan a meeting – date TBA

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** Gary Maas

Monthly Financial Report

- 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 Duquette’s PFL documents. Responded to County letter regarding 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	\$ 50.00		\$2,427.60

Worked 92 hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** Kevin Esselman

- Was out mowing, patching, ditching, and cutting brush.
- Started some of our paving
- Had a few repairs
- Installed a few new pipes
- Worked 160 hrs
- Contractual balance is – \$ 3,076.34
- Received winter emergency fund CHIPS money

**TOWN CLERK:** Hollye Schulman – not present

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

- 16 dog licenses issued
- 2 death certificates issued
- Deposited Town fees including CEO fees
- Had phone calls for tax collector, CEO, Assessor and Justice Court
- Also, people asking about transfer station, and some wanting to know if they were in the sewer district and someone wanting to know if he was in the water district, told him we don’t have a water district
- Worked a total of 65 ¾ hours and Deputy Clerk worked 9 hours in June
- Contractual balance: \$2,914.68
- Check #2069, \$2,229.00 for June Town fees handed over to Supervisor Maas.

Hollye Schulman Town Clerk

**CEO:** Gregg Semenetz

Submitted a written report which the Supervisor reviewed.

Worked: 80 hours	Mileage 450	Permits issued: 9	Renewals: 0
C of O ‘s 2	0 notice of disapproval	Municipal search letters 7	Appearance tickets
Revenues \$1575.00	Expenses \$308.75	Contractual Balance: \$3,001.41	

He is BUSY!

**TAX COLLECTOR:** Eileen Hennessy

Beginning balance in checkbook \$1,592.23  
 Check #507 - \$1,592.22 to Supervisor  
 Ending balance in checking account is now 1¢  
 A copy of abstract settlement was given to Supervisor Maas.

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** Karen Mannino

Currently, there is an issue of a dog owner’s unpaid dog fines totaling \$890.00. A certified letter was sent to remind the owner of the unpaid fees. Supervisor Maas asked the attorney to send out another certified letter. Also, he asked that she investigate how the Town can create a law to impose unpaid fines added to the property taxes. Attorney Mannino will do.

**ASSESSOR:** Lorry J. King - not present

Submitted written report: Town Clerk read the report

*Old Business:* None

*New Business:*

1. **The tax roll has been filed and is available online and on our town website and county website.**
2. Continuing Education has been granted by the State for several classes. I have signed up for three days: July 15 from 9am – 4pm and July 16 & 17 from 9am to noon. I will post a notice on the entrance door.
3. My office will be doing field work all summer. We have been busy working on permits.

Assessor Hours: 32 ¼

Clerk Hours: 19

Account Fund A 1355.400

Total June expenditure \$ 32.20

Contractual Balance: \$1,437.23

**SEWER PLANT OFFICER:** Michael Walter

Submitted a written report:

- Average Flow 39,927; Percentage C.B.O. D. 95 %; Percentage T.S.S.94% for June 2020
- Worked 72 hours in June 2020

Expenditures were \$3,507.89

Contractual Balance: \$16204.67

Work is being done on the berm. He presented a quote for a new Flow Meter. The current one is over 25 years old; parts are NLA, and the ribbon does not print the data report. This is the third time it has messed up and the DEC will only accept printed data. The cost is \$5,138.00; this is the same Flow Meter vendor used by other towns; the data is downloaded to a thumb drive so that you can print the report from a computer.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve purchase of a new Flow Meter for \$5,138.00.

4 - 0 vote, approved. Councilman/SPO Walter abstained

**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:**

Councilman Salzberg spoke. As Medical Director of the Senior Adult Care Center he is extremely concerned about the County Legislators' proposal to sell the Care Center at Sunset Lake. If a private company takes over, the quality of care will decline. Supervisor Maas stated he looks at this differently. He had urged the Legislature to sell the Care Center 6 years ago; now there is a \$6 million loss plus the County's \$10 million loss of revenues which is why they created an LDC to do the sale. The County scheduled a public hearing for July 14, 2020.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Unsafe buildings 2020 discussed earlier in the year
2. Dog Bill
3. Solar Law
4. Summer Cleanup Days – set for August 15 & 16, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
5. **CENSUS 2020;** Get the word out to tell people to do their Census Survey. Our town federal aid is determined by the number of people reported in the Census. You do not need any prior information or census materials to complete the census form. Just go to [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov). Also, if you lack internet access, the census can be completed by phone by calling (844) 330-2020.

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Larry Richardson spoke tagging on to Councilman Salzberg's statement regarding the proposed sale of the Care Center at Sunset Lake. He agrees that the County should investigate how Valley View in Orange County was turned around.

**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, \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Richardson, Town Clerk