

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:35 PM.

John J. Keating –Attorney
Gregg Semenz – CEO
Sharon Cardone –Planning Board Chair

On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following resolution was

WHEREAS, Gary Maas, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Supervisor of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Hollye Schulman, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Town Clerk of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Eileen Hennessy, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Town Tax Collector of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Steven Sauer, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Town Justice of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Craig Fine, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Town Justice of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Kevin Esselman, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of the Highway Superintendent of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Michelle Albrecht, of the Town of Bethel, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Town Court Clerk of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hennessy, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Town of Cochection Deputy Tax Collector, and

WHEREAS, Edwin Grund, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Town of Cochection Deputy Supervisor of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Gregg Semenetz, of the Town of Callicoon, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Town of Cochection Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Sharron Cardone, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Town of Cochection Planning Board Chair of the Town of Cochection, and

WHEREAS, Jerold Yavarkovsky, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Zoning Board of Appeals Chair of the Town of Cochection, and

NOW, THEREFORE, we as respective officers above, do hereby undertake with the Town of Cochection that we will faithfully perform and discharge the duties of our office, and will promptly account for and pay over all monies or property received as a Town Officer, in accordance with the law, and

This undertaking of the Town Supervisor is further conditioned upon that he will well and duly keep, pay over and account for all monies and property, including any special district funds, belonging to the town and coming into his hands as such Supervisor, and

This undertaking of the Town Clerk is further conditioned upon that she will well and truly keep, pay over and account for all monies or and property, including any special district funds, belonging to the town and coming into her hands as such Town Clerk, and

This undertaking of the Town Tax Collector, and her Deputy Tax Collector is further conditioned that she/he will well and truly keep, pay over and account for all monies and property coming into her/his hands as such Tax Collector and Deputy Tax Collector, and

The Town does and shall maintain insurance coverage presently with NYMIR Insurance Company in the sum of \$992,450.00 plus thru (National Grange Mutual Public Employee Blanket Bond # F415046Y) which covers all Town employees in the amount of \$15,000.00 each, with an excess of \$600,000.00 for the Tax Collector and Deputy Tax Collector and \$250,000.00 for the Supervisor. For the Town Clerk to indemnify against losses through the failure of the officers, clerks and employees covered there under faithfully to perform their duties or to account properly for all monies or property received by virtue of their positions of employment, and through fraudulent or dishonest acts committed by the officers, clerks and employees covered there under

\$29,415.36

Lighting District Account	Voucher # 24	\$602.42
Highway Account	Voucher #'s 25-27	\$2,825.43

Please note 2011 expenditures for General were \$2,785.97 and 2012 are \$26,824.39

Highway expenditures for 2011 were \$2,550.75 and 2012 are \$274.68

Prepaid claims were paid on 1/13/2012. All voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NYMIR David Bloodgood reviewed the town's sexual harassment policy, discrimination policy and the Internet policy. He found the internet policy to be sufficient; however he suggested some changes to the other policies

Time Warner Cable – channel changes. Highway Superintendent asked about having internet service at the Old Town Hall.

Supervisor will look into this issue

Letter – Rural Health Network-regarding smoking policies

E-mail correspondence:

Delta Road assessment- still pending

Ellen Herfield – (Allyson Strong cancer patient passed away in November, was her son's girlfriend) would like to start a walk around the lake in May as a fund raiser

FEMA – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop invitation January 19

Ross Winglovitz asking if his firm was reappointed Engineer – yes his firm was reappointed. He also had some suggestions re: future projects (finishing the basement etc.)

Doreen Werner rep: W Design– web site on how to archive minutes for a year. Also how to put on the web site pages to include Youth Commission and legal notices etc.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joan Glase, Cross Road read a statement from Jane Roth who could not attend tonight's meeting.

No one else wished to comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Zoning Advisory Committee: Pauline Johnson, Peter Grosser and Earl Bertsch gave oral reports, and submitted statements which are on file at the Town Clerk's office if anyone wishes to view them. Recommended the Town Board appoint a committee whose purpose would be to exert local control over gas drilling through gas drilling

Allan Rubin read his statement which is also on file at the Town Clerk's office if anyone wishes to view. He wanted this committee to be created and why he felt it was so vital for it to succeed. He would like the Town Board to continue the Zoning Advisory Committee. There were some other letters presented to the Town Clerk, which are on file in her office if anyone wishes to view them.

Youth Commission – Councilperson Grund: presented the Town Board with a list of events planned for 2012. The officers will remain the same as last year with the exception of Jerold Yavarkovsky as the liaison for the Youth Commission. Joan Ernst will be the County representative

Office of the Aging: Councilperson Schulman no meeting yet. There will be a SLAC meeting which he plans to attend later this month

Web Site: Councilperson Story –made changes as necessary, created e-mail addresses for DCO and Highway Superintendent. Added minutes to the web site, added an eagle picture that she got from Councilperson Richardson to the picture gallery. Updated legal notice on the Tax Collector's page and corrected term expiration dated on the board pages. Received the Planning Board minutes on January 2, and will post on the web site. Worked 3 ¼ hours on the site. Also mentioned that NYS Resolution # 3 states that legal notices, and forms other than newspapers or paid advertisements can possibly be put on the website as the municipality may be able to save money. Should the Board consider creating a webpage? After discussion it was decided to go ahead with the webpage.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: (Gary Maas)

- Submitted a written report, bank information:
- Monthly Financial Report Bank Information:
- Deposited \$100.00 UDC check
- Deposited \$4,480.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$570.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$1,714.71 Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$3,005.70 Mortgage Tax
- Deposited \$105,340.20 CHIPS money
- Deposited \$35.09 Stumpage
- Made transfers as needed
- Activity:
- Opened new CD for Machinery Capital Reserve
- Furnace serviced at Old Town Hall and water filter
- Meetings & calls with Bob Meyer DPW, Highway Supt., Ethan Cohen
- Made deposits and transfers as needed
- Returned call and e-mails with David Bloodgood on town policy and risk and internet policies

CONTRACTUAL	BALANCE FROM ABSTRACT 12-A	\$1,504.71			
Abstract #1	\$158.38 2011 expenditures	\$1,346.33	2011	BALANCE	

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: (Kevin Esselman)

Submitted a written report:

- Purchased concrete blocks for the salt shed and was able to use the other half for premix
- Attended my first associations meeting in Monticello
- Sent the men out patching with bagged cold mix
- Ditched along Kelly, Mohn and Mitchell Pond East Roads
- Measured roads for 2012 road repair (Highway agreement 248)
- Contacted Valley Water and will be switching at the end of the month
- Hours worked 50

UPPER DELEWARE SCENIC BY-WAY

Proposed estimate for blacktopped apron

- Pavement to run 150 feet along State Route 97 by 10 feet wide
- 30 ton of type 6 blacktop going off of the 2011/12 bid would cost \$1,830.00
- An estimate of 20 ton of crusher run to edge blacktop. \$182.00
- Contractual Balance: not reported at this time

Highway Superintendent also had the Highway Agreement to spend town capital monies for the board to approve and sign

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to accept the Highway agreement 248 as submitted by the Highway Superintendent. All voted in favor

TOWN CLERK: (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report; \$1,215 collected fees for December 2011
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk
- I attended the NYSTCA regional meeting in Suffern December 5th. The guest speaker was from NYS Dept. of Cemeteries. He was very informative, he spoke about fraud with some cemetery plots, having people pay for plots and stacking of caskets. He also spoke about damage from the hurricane, snowstorms and tropical storms, and how much it cost the cemeteries to repair the damage. Some ran into thousands of dollars. He also explained how municipalities are responsible for abandoned cemeteries. This training session also allows continuing education credits toward the renewal of my Registered Municipal Clerk certification.
- I attended the OSTCA meeting December 7, 2011 held in Monticello, newly elected and re-elected clerks were given the oath of office by County Clerk Dan Briggs. He also issued the oath of office to the new OSTCA officers
- The UDC check in the amount of \$100.00 received and turned over to the Supervisor in December
- I issued 2 temporary handicapped parking permits in the month of December
- I also helped the incoming Highway Superintendent with some paperwork
- I also had several request for birth, marriage and death information. I also provide telephone #'s for different departments in Sullivan County: such as Solid Waste, Western Transfer Station, County Clerk etc.
- Contractual balance: \$1,460.78 for 2011

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (Gregg Semenetz)

- Submitted a written report:
- Worked 80 hours, traveled 622 miles, issued no building permits, no renewals
- No C of O's, issued, 4 municipal search letters
- No appearance tickets
- Revenues \$300.00, Expenses \$549.11
- Contractual Balance: \$117.98 for 2011

Since we are having warm weather I expect construction to start early. I completed a list of unsafe buildings to be taken care of this year. Found out there is work being done at the Summer Community without permits, and there are also violations

Town Board feels that the CEO should send letters to the property owners, he will send letters notifying the property owners before any other action is taken

TAX COLLECTOR: (Eileen Hennessy)

- Submitted a written report:
 - As of January 11, 2012 balance in checkbook for 2011 --- \$0.09
 - 2012 Taxes collected \$402,067.95
 - Check # 255 \$100,000.00 to Supervisor Maas, and also check # 256 \$6,950.00 paid to the Supervisor
 - Balance \$295,117.95
 - Contractual balance for 2011 \$1,404.92
 - Contractual balance: \$4,000.00 for 2012
- Tax Collector also mentioned that there are very tiny spiders in her office and in the Assessor's office as well.

HISTORIAN: (K.C. Garn) not present

Submitted a written report; Inquiries were few and far between over the past month

However, several local citizens inquired as to the availability of historical maps as well as Civil War records for the Town. These, in the form of copies were given to them on loan. Whenever locks are placed on the doors of the meeting room in the old Town Hall, I'll begin hanging up all of the pictures that are in storage. Just let me know.

Contractual Balance: Not reported at this time

TOWN ATTORNEY: (John J. Keating)

A written report was submitted at the end of December; nothing new to report. The Attorney has drawn up the FY 2012 leases for the ball fields, and also for the Ambulance Town Park

ASSESSOR: (Lorry King) not present

Submitted a written report:

OLD BUSINESS:

Field review of sales and new construction continues

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Exemption applications will be mailed to all qualified seniors and Enhanced STAR recipients
 2. I will be attending continued education training in Fishkill
- Hours worked Assessor: 32 1/2 hours, Clerk 34 hours
Contractual balance: \$56.53 for 2011

PLANNING BOARD: (Sharron Cardone)

PLANNING BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 29TH 2011

- Meeting opened late at 7:40 as did not have a quorum until Joe Manaseri arrived.
- Minutes of both September and October meeting were approved. No minutes for November as no quorum,
- **Old Business**
- All members did there 4 hours of training that are required during the year and they need to continue to do this next year as well.
- **New Business**
- Ed Zwirm and Miguel Cruz were present – they presented a proposal for a special use permit for auto sales at the property owned by the Fosterdale Methodist Church. The site of the property is the Fosterdale Grange on Route 17B. Mr. Cruz wants to exhibit and sell up to four or five autos under the name of Cruz Cars on this site. Mr. Cruz in return for this will donate part of the profits from these sales to the church.
- Discussion was held by board members with Mr. Zwirm and Cruz – problem is that area not that big and may have problems with # of vehicles on site and where the vehicles will be displayed and where buyers will park while looking at vehicles. It was determined that we will need a better outline on the site plan showing location of the building, where the vehicles will be displayed, where any lighting and signs will be as well. Need to see this to get a better picture of how this would work out. Also need to get something from the Trustees of the Church stating that this is Ok with them. We only have Ok from Pastor Hagerty and the trustees need to sign off on this as well.
- Advised Mr. Zwirm and Mr. Cruz that they need to have exact size of property involved as not that clear on plans they brought to the meeting and in addition they will need to contact the DOT regarding driveway being used and we will need to contact the county as well as this property is on a county road
- Clients will get all this information together and bring a better set up and more information at the January meeting.
- Recommendation by board to reappoint Lauren Bunch as clerk was made and approved by all as well as recommendation to reappoint me as the Planning Board Chair for 2012.
- Meeting was closed at 8:30 PM

SEWER OFFICER: (George Walter) not present

Submitted a written report: the supervisor went over the report.

Average flow of 66,867 gallons per day for month of December

Obtained 92.6% C.B.O.D. and 94.6 % T.S.S. removal for December

Spent a total of 77 1/2 hours attending to sewer district affairs in December

Received notice of renewal for SPDES Permit # 30694, dated 6/1/2012- 5/31/2017 there is no charge for the renewal

Contractual Balance: \$7,544.80 for 2011

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: (Rosemary Barile) not present

Submitted a written report:

Worked 6 hours in December, lost dog call

Contractual balance: not provided at this time

UDC: (Larry Richardson)

- The Upper Delaware Council held its regular meeting on Thursday January 5. Various committee reports were presented.
- The Council had its annual election of officers. Since December when the slate of officers was presented by the Nominating Committee, the nominated Vice Chairperson, Scott Rando has not been reappointed by his township of Shohola. And since we have several new appointments from the Pa side, and it is policy to have a Chair and Vice Chair from opposite states, we elected Nadia Rajs for Chairperson, Jack Niflot returned as Secretary/Treasurer and the position of Vice Chair was left vacant. The Nominating Committee will take the next month to poll the Pennsylvania members to see who might accept the position and then submit the name at the February meeting for a vote.
- As you are aware, the UDC is involved with legal action to ascertain its right to be a part of the public hearing in Lackawaxen Township involving an application from the Holbert Brothers to expand their blue stone mining operation. The Township had denied the UDC and the NPS participation even though they had done so previously in 2008 when the same applicant submitted essentially the same request. To date, legal fees have exceeded \$17,000 dollars and the matter is not resolved. As part of the Holbert Brothers business expansion plan, a mining permit is required from the State of Pennsylvania. The UDC after much discussion approved a letter to Pa. DEP asking to be a part of the hearing in regards to that permit request. If the mining operation ultimately is allowed to operate based on the variance granted by the Township, the township most likely will be declared “out of Substantial Conformance by the UDC”. As result of such a determination, the township would lose all the benefits and rights awarded a member community.
- Some benefits enjoyed by member towns include assistance with major projects planned within the River Corridor, access to Tag grants, and most important the right not to have the National Park Service review all zoning, sub-division

UDC Report continues:

and other projects. The right of the NPS to use eminent domain proceedings is severely limited within member towns, not so in non-member towns.

- The DRBC has still not determined when its proposed regulations for gas drilling will be approved. Carol Collier said she thought the commissioners might rule by the end of January. New York has asked them to hold off until its regulations are in place.
- DEC new regulations: If pursuing migratory game fish such as shad or striped bass in the Delaware, you must pre-register. This can be done on line or at any location that sells fishing licenses. There is no cost. Also, ice fishing regs now permit up to 5 tip-ups and three hand lines (previously 2 hand lines were allowed). Restoration of the illegal tilapia fish farm in Big Island is nearly complete with reseedling to take place in the spring.
- Actions taken:
- Approved a letter to be sent to Pa Governor Corbett supporting Damascus and Shohola's position on SB1100 and HB 1950. (to maintain some local control over gas drilling and extraction)
- Approved a letter to NYS DEC commenting on the dSGEIS.

TOWN BOARD:**(Councilperson Richardson)**

Nothing to report at this time

(Councilperson Schulman)

Nothing to report at this time

(Councilperson Grund)

Nothing to report at this time

(Councilperson Story)

Nothing to report at this time

OLD BUSINESS:

1. New Town Hall – landscaping – flag pole pending
2. MMTF update – meeting tomorrow night – but it may be cancelled
3. Pull off Route 97 – Highway Superintendent worked up an approx. cost for the town. Approx. \$2,000.00. Town expected to install the sign and the highway workers will also do the work on the pull off. Councilperson Richardson said the project should move forward
4. Old Town Hall insulation – Garage – it will take a couple of hours - Councilperson Grund will take care of this. Smoke alarms have been installed

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NYMIR review- sexual harassment policy, internet policy, and discrimination policy have been review by NYMIR, the Internet policy is sufficient, however the sexual harassment and discrimination policies need further review to bring them more up to date – pending for next meeting
2. Water system – filter—this was discussed
3. Basement completion – pending County Planning may have grant money to be used for that purpose
4. Old Town Hall – paint the exterior – need quotes and it should be done this year
5. New Town Hall – settling – shingles lifting up, separation Justin from Just In Time Contracting has been notified
6. Web Site adding pages- discussed earlier
7. NYS Association of Town Resolutions – to be looked over and Town Board to let Planning Board Chair our delegate know how she should vote on them at the meeting held in February

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Schulman, the following motion was to proceed with the blacktop as required to move Route 97 pull-off the project forward. All voted in favor

MOTION: ON motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to adopt the Internet policy as presented. All employees that use the internet will be required to sign a copy of the policy. All voted in favor

Councilperson Grund will take care of the deck off the kitchen area, get price for lumber etc. he will most likely do the work also

Supervisor Maas – if the town board decided to continue with the Zoning Advisory Committee.

Councilperson Richardson – not sure if they can come to an agreement

Peter Grosser – they are looking for a total ban or a moratorium

The persons on the committee he was a part of want a special use permit so the town has some say over what can be done

Councilperson Richardson -legal challenge - knows of no provision to allow the towns to zone out

Town can impose moratorium, but needs a purpose, and he does not see the State issuing permits anytime soon.

No decision was made to continue or not with the Zoning Advisory Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to adjourn this Town Board meeting. Time 10:43 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____

Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk