

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on January 11, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Cochection Town Hall with the following members present:  
(Between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM for the purpose of auditing bills)  
Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:32PM.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Gary Maas  
Councilperson Anna Story  
Councilperson Sean Nearing  
Councilperson Paul Salzberg  
Councilperson Edwin Grund

**OTHERS PRESENT:**  
Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk  
Gregg Semenetz – CEO  
Karen Mannino --Attorney  
Kevin Esselman – Highway Superintendent  
Michael Walter – SPO  
Eileen Hennessy—Tax Collector

During the work session the Youth Commission voiced their concerns re: payments they feel are due them from the town. The Supervisor mentioned that they should come before the Town Board during the budget process, if as they have been waiting until the end of the year the budget is already set. This was discussed

**TAX COLLECTOR:** (Eileen Hennessy)  
Submitted a written report:

- balance in checkbook \$264,812.84
- Monies collected \$358,463.60
- Paid to Supervisor -\$93,650.80
- Balance in checkbook \$264,812.80
- Ck. # 382 Supervisor Gary Maas \$70,117.54 Sewer
- Ck. # 383 Supervisor Gary Maas \$6,490.00 Lake Huntington Light
- Ck.# 384 Supervisor Gary Maas \$ 5,963.26 KFH
- Ck. # 385 Supervisor Gary Maas \$ 6,000.00 Demo
- Ck. # 386 Supervisor Gary Maas \$5,350.00 Refuse Removal
- Total \$93,650.80
- Balance Ck. Book \$264,812.84
- Worked a total of 34 hours in December
- Contractual balance: \$2500

**RESOLUTION # 14**  
**OFFICIAL UNDERTAKINGS**

On motion of Councilperson Salzberg, seconded by Councilperson Story, 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, Margaret Richardson, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been elected to the office of Deputy 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, Kristin Lockwood, 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, 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, AnnMary Hallen, 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, 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, Earl Bertsch, 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  
WHEREAS, Sharon Erdman, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Planning and Zoning Board Clerk of the Town of Cochection, and  
WHEREAS, Charles Keesler, of the Town of Cochection, County of Sullivan, New York, has been appointed to the office of Deputy Highway Superintendent, and

**RESOLUTION # 14 Continues:**

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.

**ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**RESOLUTION # 15**  
**APPOINT JASON KRAACK TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY**

On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following resolution was  
To appoint Jason Kraack to the Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

**ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve the minutes of December 28, 2016 and January 3, 2017, and be accepted as submitted. All board members voted in favor

**ADOPTED – AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Maas  
Councilpersons: Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to approve the bills on abstract # 1 in the following amounts.

General Account	Voucher # 1-27	\$6,295.47
Sewer Account	Voucher # 7-10 are in prepaid	\$762.65
Lighting Account	Voucher # nothing at this time	\$0.00
Highway Account	Voucher #'s 28-37	\$15,531.75

Claim #'s 18 split between funds/same voucher. All voted in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**  
Sullivan County Democrat: Wishing the Town Board a Happy New Year, and thanked the town of continued support and to advise the town that the legal notices will be published on their website  
Thomas P. DiNapoli- Comptroller – as a participating employer you’ve entered into a partnership with NYSLRS. Data you send us on salaries and days worked for NYSLRS Members is crucial.  
National School Choice week: Asking the town to issue an official proclamation commemorating January 22-28, 2017 as Town of Cochection School Choice week. The town is not going to do a proclamation  
NYS Dept. of Public Service: As winter season approaches, many New Yorkers will face a difficult time managing their energy costs. NYS Dept. of Public Service’s winter outreach and education campaign is designed to help consumers manage their energy bills while staying warm and safe  
US Dept. of Interior: Invitation to join them on January 5, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Upper Delaware Council Office to meet Dr. Claire Jantz of Shippensburg University’s Center of Land Use and Sustainability

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**  
Larry Richardson Bernas Road, Support for Youth Commission \$2,000.00 would depend on what the town gets for the County.  
No one wished to comment.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****County Charter Commission** - Larry Richardson – No report no meeting was held**Upper Delaware Council and Byway**- Larry Richardson—(Byway – no report)

- The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday January 5.
- The first order of business was election of officers; elected were Jim Grier-Chairman, David Dean-Vice Chairman and Al Henry re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer.
- Next up we heard a presentation from Shippensburg University discussing GIS mapping and the capabilities. Although this program is geared toward the River Corridor, the program will cover all properties in the member towns and townships. It was good to see Cochection residents; Earl Bertsch, Peter Grosser and Mike Attianese in attendance.
- Executive Director Ramie noted that the Federal Government has authorized a continuing resolution that extends through April 28, 2017.
- It was noted that although we had some recent precipitation the dry conditions have not been restored to normal. Currently our area is about 20% behind normal rainfall.
- The national park service is reviewing its commercial fee schedule to more closely cover the actual costs associated with administering the program. Superintendent Heister noted that the upper Delaware River area issues more commercial use permits than any of the eastern Parks with the exception of Acadia National Park.
- Actions taken:
  - Approved the contract with Eckersley and Ostrowski for the 2017 financial review.
  - Approved new signatories for the council's bank accounts in 2017.
  - Approved a letter of support for Equinunk Watershed Alliance growing greener grant application.

At the next project review committee meeting we are anticipating having the National Park Service provide a demonstration of how to use the GIS discs recently distributed. That meeting will be held on Tuesday January 24 beginning at 6:30 PM.

**Youth Commission – Councilperson Grund** no report**Website and Fire District– Councilperson Story**

- Added December agenda and resolutions
- Added November (approved) minutes to board page
- Reviewed Minutes for Hollye
- Removed Expired Legal Notices (Fire election and Budget hearing)
- Removed expired information in News Alerts Box
- Added Fire Department Chicken BBQ notice
- Added Tax Collector's Legal Notice
- Added Re-Organizational Meeting Legal Notice

Total Hours Worked: 3 1/2 hours

**Fire District** – The meeting was held on Monday, January 9, 2017

- Re-organizational meeting was held. Officers are:  
 Chairman- Ed Kraack      Vice chair- Herb Sawall  
 Secretary- Jim Farrell      Treasurer- Maureen Lowitz  
 Meeting: same, banks: same, and newspaper they will alternate like the town board.
- Minutes were approved
- Bills were paid
- New tires were put on the donated Ford truck
- Made minor repairs to the generator
- Jason reported that emergency system will hopefully be up and running by May  
 It works now for communication but the radio frequencies are still being worked on
- **Advisory Board** Application needs to be sent in
- Dick Martincovic has retired and John Hauschild is taking his place
- **Physicals** discussed – Partners in Safety will come to firehouse with 20 people. Does town want to have our highway guys join in so they don't have to drive to Middletown?

**Seniors:** Councilperson Salzberg – no report**Keep Cochection Clean:** Jerold Yavarkovsky –no report**DEPARTMENT HEADS:****SUPERVISOR:** (Gary Maas)

Submitted a written report, bank information:

- Monthly Financial Report
  - Bank Information:
  - Deposited \$100.00 UDC check
  - Deposited \$756.00 Judicial fees
  - Deposited \$1,296.00 Judicial fees
  - Deposited \$671.03 Town Clerk fees
  - Deposited \$160.48 Debit Card General
  - Deposited \$1,196.24 Debit Card HWY
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals to board  
 Activity—worked on yearly audit and Security

**Supervisor’s report continues:**

CONTRACTUAL		\$4,000.00
Abstract # 1	\$ 0.00	\$4,000.00
Abstract # 2	\$ 97.11	\$3,902.89
Abstract # 3	\$723.32	\$3,179.57
Abstract # 4	\$180.00	\$2,999.57
Abstract # 5	\$189.60	\$2,809.97
Abstract # 6	\$124.00	\$2,685.97
Abstract # 7	\$192.78	\$2,493.19
Abstract # 8	\$119.31	\$2,373.88
Abstract # 9	\$210.99	\$2,162.89
Abstract #10	\$ 90.21	\$2,072.68
Abstract #11	\$128, 50	\$1,944.18
Abstract #12	\$104.00	\$1,840.18
Abstract #12A	\$000.00	\$1840.18

Worked 87 ½ hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman)

Submitted a written report:

- December Report 2016
- Out plowed and sanded as needed
- Cut brush
- Patched potholes
- Had a few repairs
- Diesel 574.7 gals del / used 1,290
- Gas 222.9 gals del / used 249
- Worked 160 hrs
- Contractual balance – \$847.62
- 

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to accept the Highway agreement # 248 as submitted by the Highway Superintendent. All Town Board members signed agreement

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

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Story, Nearing, Salzberg and Grund

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report
- Re: Monthly report
- I am still working from 9:30 am through 1:30 pm Monday, Tuesday Thursday and Friday
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.
- UDC check # 281 in the amount of \$100.00 received 12/23/16 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day
- I attended the OSTCA meeting on December 7; we had a round table discussion.
- Issued 2 permanent handicapped and 1 temporary parking permits in December
- I provided telephone #'s for different departments. I'm still getting calls for the CEO, Assessor, Tax Collector, as well as the Justice Court, people wanting to pay their fines and some saying they sent their tickets in to the Court and have heard nothing back.
- Worked a total of 87 ½ hours in December
- Contractual balance \$253.82

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** (Gregg Semenetz)

- Submitted a written report:
- Worked 80 hours, traveled 709 issued 2 permits 0 renewals
- C of O's issued 0 Notices of disapproval 1
- Municipal search letters 5 Appearance tickets 0
- Revenues: \$675.00 Expenses: \$489.62
- Contractual Balance: \$180.84

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** (Karen Mannino)

Submitted a written report:

- Review of FOIL request/responsive email
- Attendance at Board meeting
- Review of Proposed Solar Local Law PILOT; research PILOT issue; email to Supervisor

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

Submitted a written report:

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Nothing to report

**N New Business:**

1. Exemption renewals have been mailed to our Seniors and Star Enhanced taxpayers, as well as our not for profits. All exemptions are due in my office by March 1, 2017.
2. I would like to have a spot to put blank exemption forms for the convenience of our taxpayers. Possibly a wall unit affixed to the wall would help!
3. Happy Healthy New Year to all!

Assessor Hours: 22.00 Clerk Hours: 24.00

Contractual Balance: \$2,383.76 for December 2016

**SEWER OFFICER:** (Michael Walter)

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 39,848 gallons per day for month of December
- Obtained 98% C.B.O.D. and 99 % T.S.S. removal for December
- Spent a total of 69 1/2 hours attending to sewer district affairs in December
- Expenditures: Not given
- Contractual balance Not given

Nothing new to report. The roof of the main building will need to be replaced the roof now is steel and it is weak in spots.

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

Submitted a written report; No meeting held in December

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

Submitted written report of her contractual balance, which is \$37.08

Worked 6 hours in December

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

Submitted a written report: This past month, I received an inquiry from a lady for information about family members in various cemeteries in Cochection. I gave her copies of the records in my possession. She also visited my home and looked through additional Civil Wars records to see what her ancestors' involvement in that conflict was. I also received an inquiry looking for photographs of the Fosterdale Post Office when it was located across the street from Katy's Bed and Breakfast. I have no photos of the Post Office in that location. There were no other inquiries.

Supervisor will try and see if he can get any information from Mr. Morgan's son Richard

**TOWN BOARD:**

**(Councilperson Story)**

Nothing to report at this time

**(Councilperson Nearing)**

Nothing to report at this time

**(Councilperson Salzberg)**

Nothing to report at this time

**(Councilperson Grund)**

Nothing to report at this time

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Alarm and Security for Town Buildings: meeting with the alarm representatives at 4:00 pm on Friday
2. Commercial Solar Zoning Law: there are 3 options: do nothing, opt out or IDA Pilot program. It is the opinion of the Town Board to opt out. The assessor would assess the property and the town would receive whatever taxes are due on the property. This was discussed and all Town Board members want to opt out. Wording for the Solar Zoning Law was discussed and a few minor changes were made in language.
3. Contract for Transfer Station: The contract agreement for 2017 has not yet been received

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. New Unsafe Buildings- 2017 CEO and Supervisor will look into this matter to see what buildings might be addressed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to adjourn this meeting. Time 8:45 p.m. All voted in favor

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