

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on February 11, 2015 at 7:00 PM 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 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas  
Councilperson Larry Richardson  
Councilperson Edwin Grund absent  
Councilperson Anna Story absent  
Councilperson Sean Nearing

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk Gregg Semenetz –CEO entered at 7:49 p.m.  
Kevin Esselman – Highway Superintendent Eileen Hennessy –Tax Collector  
Karen Mannino --Attorney

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015 and be accepted as submitted. All present board members voted in favor

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to approve the bills on Abstract # 2 in the following amounts:

General Account	Voucher # 31-72	\$12,343.03
Debit Card Account	Voucher # 73	\$675.91
Sewer Account	Voucher # 74-77	\$1,055.63
Lighting Account	Voucher # 78	\$1,106.42
Highway Account	Voucher # 79-88	\$37,431.76

Claim #'s 46, 51, 59, 64, 69, and 73 are split between funds/same voucher

Prepaid claims were paid on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> 2015.

Note: General Accounts for 2014 are \$2,033.55 General accounts for 2015 are \$10,309.48.

Debit Card for 2014 \$0.00 and Debit Card for 2015 are \$675.91

Sewer District totals for 2014 are \$0.00 and Sewer District for 2015 are \$1,055.63.

Lighting District Accounts: for 2014 \$655.98, and Lighting Accounts for 2015 \$450.44.

Highway Accounts for 2014 \$0.00 and Highway Accounts for 2015 \$37,431.76.

All present board members voted in favor. Councilpersons Grund and Story absent

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to approve payment to Attorney Alexandra Bourne for her December appearance at the Justice Court s Vehicle and Traffic session. All present board members voted in favor. Councilpersons Grund and Story absent

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Sullivan County Professional Women,: Honoring Ann Prusinski Commissioner, Sullivan County Board of Elections as Woman of the Year, and Distinguished Service Award recipient is Diane Riegal, Associate Professor of Business and Culinary Arts

DEC: Terms and Conditions for use of the NY-Alert System to implement the Sewage pollution right to know act. There are some quirks that need to be worked out with the roll out

e-mail from Liberty Supervisor: thinks it is time to raise the issue with the county for sharing the county sales tax revenue with the towns . Part of the casino deal the host municipality (Thompson) and the host county will be splitting substantial casino generated revenue

Letter: Cheers renewing their Liquor License

e-mail from Ross Winglovitz: Re: DRBC information he received from Bipkin Gandhi re: after receiving vendor information he will inspect the site (sewer plant) and review information with the plant operator/Town Supervisor and then finalize work submission for the DEC

SLAC: January 2015 newsletter- New York Health Bill that would provide expanded Medicare type coverage for all.

UDC: Thanking the town for the \$1,000.00 municipal contribution and continued support

Letter Governor's Office: Federal E-Grants EMMIE Files re: Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee FEMA Public Assistance projects

Sullivan County Office of Real Property Tax -- Correction of Errors unlawful entry on the taxable portion of the tax roll of assessed valuation of real property which is wholly exempt

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Planning Board:** Councilperson Richardson spoke to Planning Board Chair Sharron Cardone regarding the Planning Board appointing an Attorney for their Board.

**Scenic Byway:** several meetings have been cancelled due to the bad weather. An internet poll was conducted to get approval to pay pending bills after which I did just that. Need to replace the clerk who has resigned. Sullivan County Charter Commission: The first "get to know you" meeting was held on Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Next meeting is Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. Stephen Acquario, NY State Association of Counties Executive Director has agreed to be the guest speaker. Meeting are open to the public.

Commission members: Paul Burckard, James J. Hanson, Nadia Rajs, Bill Liblick, Bruce Ferguson, Steve Altmen, Mathew Migliaccio, Ken Walter, Dave Forshay, Peggy Harrison, Ray Nargizian, Sandra Johnson Fields and Larry Richardson

**Youth Commission:** Councilperson Grund not present; no report

**Fire District and Web Site:** Councilperson Story was not present. Supervisor went over her report. – Website Report – January, 2015

- Website maintenance. Changed term expiration dates, added names and contact information
- Added tax collector’s notice to tax collector’s page
- Removed expired information
- Added meeting minutes
- Added youth board events
- Added legal notices
- Added Site Plan application to Code Enforcer and Planning Board pages

Total Hours Worked: 5 3/4 hours.  
There was no Fire District Report.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**SUPERVISOR:** (Gary Maas)

Submitted a written report:  
.Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

- Deposited \$100.00 UDC check
- Deposited \$1,134.00Judicial fees
- Deposited \$1,587.50 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$1,120.55Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$171.07 Debit Card
- Deposited \$1,196,827.02 from Tax Collector –in 6 payments
- Deposited 2 checks for sewer rent. Each were \$463.12 Blaso and Dietz Rent
- Deposited \$15,000.00 Transfer Station Rent
- Deposited \$267.74 Stumpage
- Deposited \$12,967.40 for sewer rent Sullivan West
- Made transfers and deposits as needed

Activity:

Calls or e-mails to Nancy Buck regarding Tax Bill for New Town Hall, Engineering Properties, Copper Arias. Meeting with Kevin Esselman, Meeting with Nicholas Pasquale, Worked on SPEDES Permit, and Lawsuit Documents. Also have worked on application for Sewer Plant with DRBC. Finished work permit on pull off with NYSDOT. Contract signed with Intergys. Called NYSE&G and got street lights fixed in lighting district

CONTRACTUAL		\$4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$271.17	\$3,728.83
Abstract #3	\$	\$
Abstract #4	\$	\$
Abstract #5	\$	\$
Abstract #6	\$	\$
Abstract #7	\$	\$
Abstract #8	\$	\$
Abstract #9	\$	\$
Abstract #10	\$	\$
Abstract #11	\$	\$
Abstract #12	\$	\$
Abstract #12-A	\$	\$

Worked 90 hours

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Kevin Esselman)

Submitted a written report:

- Trucks out plowed and sanded as needed.
- Filled some pot holes.
- Did repairs on equipment as needed.
- Would like to thank the Towns of Tusten and Highland for lending us parts for our sander till our parts came in.
- Diesel Del – 1,357.2 gal / Used – 1,515 gal
- Gas Del – 275.1 gal / Used – 175 gal
- Contractual Balance is \$2,607.32
- Worked 160 HRS

Also mentioned he met with Lawyer Re: Lawsuit. Men have been out plowing and sanding 17 out of the last 32 days.

Highway Superintendent report continues:

He has been elected President of the Sullivan County Highway Superintendents Association; they are also going to send a letter to try and get some tax revenue from the casino. He also asked permission to attend the 2 Superintendent of Highway Schools. One is in June and one in September

Councilperson Richardson said he would be OK with that, Kevin should come back with more information

Highway Superintendent also mentioned that it is illegal to push snow into the road, and the fine can be up to \$1,000.00

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

Submitted a written report;

- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk
- UDC check #1174 in the amount of \$100.00 received 1/30/2015 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day
- Sewer rental checks received from Irene Dietz January 5, 2015 in the amount of \$463.12 and Lakeview Cottages January 30, 2015 in the amount of \$463.12 and Sewer usage Sullivan West Central School February 3, 2015 in the amount of \$12,967.40. Turned over to the Supervisor same day received
- 1 permanent and 1 temporary handicapped parking permits issued in January
- I provide telephone #'s for different departments. I'm still getting calls for the CEO, Justice Court, Assessor, and Planning Board and Tax Collector. Also have people wanting to know the hours for the Tax Collector and people asking about homes that are in foreclosure. Helped people look up their tax bills to make sure they were paid. (Most elderly people don't have computers).
- Worked a total of 105 ¼ hours
- Contractual balance \$3,857.83

At this time I would like permission to attend the NYSTCA Training/Conference School in Rochester April 26<sup>th</sup> –April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**RESOLUTION # 16**

**TOWN CLERK AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND NYSTCA CONFERENCE/TRAINING SCHOOL**

On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to allow the Town Clerk to attend the NYSTCA Conference/training school in Rochester, NY from April 26-April 29, 2015

**ADOPTED: AYES: 3 NAYS: 0** Councilpersons Grund and Story absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, and Nearing

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

Submitted a written report:

- Worked 80 hours, mileage 768, permits issued 4, renewals 0, C of O's issued 1
- Notice of disapproval 1, Municipal search letters 0, Appearance tickets 0
- Revenues \$505.00, Expenses \$670.40
- Contractual Balance: \$4,892.60

2 large projects are coming up. Stop work order for building on CR 114 has been taken care of and proper permits have been issued. The issue of including junk cars in our zoning if the town has to remove them; the Attorney said the language is in the town Zoning Law under § 240-30 Sub M under Junkyard and salvage operations. Councilperson Richardson asked to be included in the e-mails from the attorney

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** (Karen Mannino)

Submitted written report:

- Audit response/email to G. Maas
- Attendance at Board Meeting
- Contracts and email to Supervisor
- Phone call with Nancy Buck re: tax bill
- Email to Supervisor re: tax bill
- Research into possible amendment of Junkyard Laws

**TAX COLLECTOR:** (Eileen Hennessy)

Submitted a written report submitted:

- Tax money Monies collected \$ 2,098,983.97
- Paid to Supervisor \$1,196,827.02 Gary Maas
- Paid to County \$900,000.00 Treasurer Nancy Buck
- Worked 90 hours in January Contractual Balance \$2950.00

Tax Collector also mentioned that in tax year 2014 she had collected 83.61% at this same time, and so far for tax year 2015 she is at 70.56% and collected over 16K on credit cards.

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

Submitted a written report. Supervisor went over her report

*Old Business:*

1. Renewal exemption forms are mailed out and are due back March 1, 2015

*New Business:*

1. On Thursday March 19, 2015, I will be at training in Montgomery, NY. This class is sponsored by the NYS Assessors Association, and part of the Continuing Education as required by law.

2. The Governors proposed 2015-2016 budget items that may have effect on us in the future with the STAR exemption again. He is proposing a tax credit on our personal income tax! I will be following this proposal, and will provide any updates when received.

**Data Collection Project Balance:**

	Jan.-2015	
Terri	21	\$284.00
Total: Jan.		\$284.00
Hours:	Assessor: 33 ½	
	Clerk: 35	

**Jan. -2015 A1355.400 \$3,600.00**

SCAA \$40.00

NYSAA \$100.00

Expenditures \$140.00

Contractual Balance: \$3,460.00

**PLANNING BOARD CHAIR** (Sharron Cardone) not present  
Planning Board Chair did not submit a report, Supervisor read the Planning Board Clerk minutes.

- SEWER OFFICER:** (Michael Walter) not present  
Submitted a written report:
- Average flow of 25,141 gallons per day for month of January
  - Obtained 96% C.B.O.D. and 95 % T.S.S. removal for January
  - Spent a total of 72 hours attending to sewer district affairs in January
  - Expenditures \$1,055.63
  - Contractual Balance: \$23,944.37

Supervisor mentioned that George Walter met with Sewer Plant operator and Bipkin Gandhi and discussed size of building, how far down footers should be, should have 3 separate systems, (2 units to cover maximum volume and 1 as the back up). This was discussed

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** (Rosemary Barile) not present  
No report submitted

**HISTORIAN:** (K. C. Garn) not present  
Submitted an email report  
Received an Email from Mark Edelman and he responded after seeing the Historian’s report online from March 9, 2011, Valentine Edelman was his great grandfather, married to Sophia Barwigon August 15, 1935 and then later George ran the Barwig House. His father Fred had the Edelman’s Log Cabin also in Fosterdale. The Edelman family was in the hospitality business. Mark Edelman also included pictures for the Historian

- UDC:** (Larry Richardson)  
Submitted a written report:  
The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday February 5.
- Following the Roll Call, the first order of business was the swearing in of officers for 2015. As noted previously, taking office are:  
Chairperson: Al Henry (Berlin Township)  
Vice-Chairperson: Susan Sullivan (Tusten)  
Treasurer: Jeffrey Dexter (Damascus Township)
  - Due to un-cooperative weather, the three standing committees held abbreviated meetings just prior to the Council meeting. The following representatives were elected:  
Operations Committee: Chair Al Henry, Vice-chair Harold Roeder; Project Review Committee: Chair Larry Richardson, Vice-chair Debra Conway; WURM Committee- Tony Ritter, Vice-chair-Pat Jeffers.
  - **DEC Representative Bill Rudge** reported that 9 eel harvesting permits are available (same as last year) with no limit on the harvest. He also noted that the DEC has extended the public comment period on revisions to the *Species of Greatest Conservation Need* (SGCN) list available on their web site until March 9. Comments can be e-mailed to [swapcomments@dec.ny.gov](mailto:swapcomments@dec.ny.gov). Mr. Rudge also noted that registration is now open for the DEC 2015 Summer Camp Program. Attendance fee is \$350 per week. Information is available on their web site: [www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html).
  - **DRBC Executive Director Steven J Tambini** reviewed the monthly hydrological report. The reported snow pack around the City reservoirs is slightly more than this time last year. However the observed water storage is below the long term median.
  - **NPS Superintendent Heister** presented a summary of Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River: Purpose and Management Goals. This document will serve as the basis for planning and management decisions going forward. Superintendent Heister also presented a summary of Executive Order 13658.This order sets the minimum wage at \$10.10 per hour for federal workers and employees of a concessionaire, CUA holder or lessee. Enforcement and questions will be handled by the department of Labor. A list of frequently asked questions can be found on: <http://www.dol.gov/whd/flsa/eo13658/faq.htm>.

- Actions taken:
- Confirmed the UDC event dates: Annual Awards Banquet is April 26, River Raft Trip is August 2.

**TOWN BOARD REPORTS:**

(Councilperson Nearing) nothing to report

(Councilperson Richardson) Asked if the Board wanted to discuss Fire Works permits – not at this time

(Supervisor Maas) Nothing new to add

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Unsafe buildings –discussed earlier
2. Sewer Dept. –SPEDIES permit and DRBC permit – covered earlier -- DEC chlorine limit now is 2.0 and they want to reduce that to .01

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Bulletin Board –pending
2. Corduroy Road –discussed. Attorney will research what is necessary and bring information back to the board. Councilperson Richardson explained why he wanted the information. Would like to have hiking trails etc. open to the public

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one wished to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to adjourn this meeting. Time 8:50 p.m. All board members present voted in favor.  
Councilpersons: Grund and Story absent

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