

A meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on June 10, 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)

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk
Karen Mannino –Attorney
Gregg Semenetz –CEO entered at 7:45 p.m.

Kevin Esselman –HWY Superintendent
Eileen Hennessy –Tax Collector
Michael Walter –SPO

During the work session Sue Rodrigues representative Cochection Youth Commission gave a presentation re: which youth can attend the Youth Commissions functions. Children that live in the Town can attend for free. Children that live out of the area can attend but must pay the reduced rate. The State and County do not allow children that live out of the County to attend. They try and have an event each month; so far this year they have held 9 events; they served 100 youth last year and approximately 125 this year. They will be holding a car wash and bake sale this coming weekend.

Supervisor Maas opened the regular meeting with the pledge to the flag.

RESOLUTION # 29

FUND LINE A1355.112 DATA COLLECTION

On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the FY 2015 did not fund line A 1355.112 Assessor Personnel – Data Collection and there is still a small amount of data collection to do, and WHEREAS, from the money that was originally taken from the re-valuation reserve fund, \$26,000.00, and there is still \$3,056.74 remaining and therefore, BE IT RESLOVED that budget line A1355.112 Assessor Personnel – Data Collection be funded in the amount of \$3,056.74 which is the remaining balance of the money that has been appropriated from the Re-valuation Capital Reserve Fund

ADOPTED – AYES 5 NAYS – 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Story and Nearing

At this time Lynn Killian re: Delaware Liquor License Services asked for a 30 day waiver for Henning's Local LLC dba Henning's Local for their application for a liquor license. This request was hand delivered to the Town Board this evening. Town Board members had no objection to this request

RESOLUTION # 30

GRANT THE 30 DAY WAIVER FOR LIQUOR LICENSE

On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following resolution was WHEREAS, Henning's Local LLC has made a notice of intent to file an application to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board for an On-Premises Liquor License and request a 30 day waiver of the notice, and WHEREAS, the Cochection Town Board has no objection to Henning's Local LLC dba as Henning's Local located at 6 Old County Road, Cochection Center, NY 12727 to this application for an On-Premise Liquor license and for a 30 day waiver, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cochection Town Board does hereby grant the 30 day Waiver for Henning's Local LLC dba as Henning's Local.

ADOPTED – AYES 5 NAYS – 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Story and Nearing

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to accept the minutes of May 13th as submitted. All Town Board members voted in favor

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to approve bills on abstract # 6 for payment as follows:

General Account	Voucher # 262-290	\$6,256.09	
Escrow Account	Voucher # 291	\$525.00	
Sewer Account	Voucher # 292-297	\$1,301.28	
Lighting District Account	Voucher # 265	\$174.19	included in the prepaid
Highway Account	Voucher # 298-307	\$29,447.59	

Claim #'s 267, 282, 285 and 288 split between funds, same voucher.

Claim #'s 262-271 are noted as PREPAID on May 14th, 21st, 28th and June 2nd and 4th, 2015

All Town Board members present voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NIMIR: Risk management techniques for law enforcement professionals Ju8ne 11, 2015 at Orange County Emergency Services Center

UDC: re: Narrowsburg, NY-Damascus Bridge Rehabilitation Project July Public Meeting—Narrowsburg Bridge Rehabilitation Project

NYS DEC Division of Lands and Forests Annual 23rd ReLeaf Conference: July 16-18, 2015 SAUNY ESF Syracuse, NY

UDC: Availability of FY 2016 Technical Assistance Grants Applications due by August 28, 2015

Letter from Senator Bonacic: Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council announced three upcoming Consolidated Funding Application workshops

Cohen Law Group:--Bid by Charter Communications to acquire Time Warner Cable: How it will impact your municipality

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to comment

FORMATION OF LITTER PLUCK COMMITTEE:

Members on committee will be Jerold Yavarkovsky, Joan Glase, Linda Pomes and Eileen and Carl Bruetsch

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was that the Town of Cochection moves to form a committee that will report monthly and shall be named Keep Cochection Clean. This committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Board. All town Board members voted in favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sullivan County Charter Commission and Scenic Byway: Councilperson Richardson

Sullivan County Charter Commission; The Commission held its meeting on May20.

The following speakers presented:

- Gene Benson, Legislator-District 7
- Cora Edwards, Legislator –District 6
- Chris Cunningham, former Chairman of the County Legislature
- Leni Binder, former Legislator

Gene Benson would support term limits. Feels the legislators in their capacity to represent their constituents should have access to Department Heads.

Cora Edwards feels a questionnaire should go out to as many as possible. Concerned about the “old boy” contracting procedure. Feels that all contracts of \$25,000 and greater should be reviewed. The county manager informally agreed to present contracts of \$50,000.

Mr. Cunningham stated that during his time as a department head and as legislator chair, the current form of government worked well. Feels the relationship between SUNY Sullivan and the county is unresolved to this day. Feels legislators should be able to talk directly to Department Heads.

Leni Binder feels that the people do not have faith in government from the Federal level on down to the local level.

Kathy LaBuda said that if term limits are set for legislators, there must be term limits for all elected county officials.

Joe Tadora said that when a County Executive takes over, all Department Heads are expected to submit letters of resignation.

The next meeting will be June 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Scenic Byway; The UDSB held a rescheduled meeting on June 1.

Discussion items:

- The need to upgrade the UDSB website to make it Mobile-Friendly. It was suggested that failure to make sites available with the most current technology will result in Google moving them lower in the search priority. Since the site was originally custom made by Wdesign, an upgrade could cost between \$6,000 - \$8,000 dollars. The site has 58 pages.
- Heather Jacksy discussed potential river valley projects that might qualify for grants.
- UDSB Promotional video project
- Applications for the secretary position (three applications were received).
- 2015 “Explore the Scenic Byway” color booklet prepared by the River Reporter
- UDSB Facebook page; Debra Conway and Glen Pontier are currently monitoring
- DOT response letter concerning terrible road conditions on much of Rte. 97. (A letter will be sent to the region administrators extending an invitation to address the group).
- Westfall Township’s noise complaint stemming from the Hawk’s Nest area.
- A letter to the Tusten Planning Bd addressing the solar array planned.
- Linking the Upper Delaware River Valley Express commercial bus service to the web site.

The distribution of 10 boxes of brochures through the North Country Brochure Distribution Service along I-81 and I-88

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund Nothing more to add after the presentation by Sue Rodriguez

Web-site and Fire District: Councilperson Story

Took care of the regular website maintenance, added agenda and resolutions with links, added town board and planning board minutes, reviewed minutes for Hollye, etc. Worked approximately 5 hours.

Fire District held their meeting on Monday. They will be going forward with the “I am responding” program so they will be purchasing an inexpensive computer for the program and TV screen for the Truck Bay. Hose is ordered. Field day is July 11 and Chicken will be served starting at 3:00. The fire department will be sealing the

driveway July 16 to 19. If they have an emergency, would it be ok to fill up their fire trucks with gas at the town hall and they will reimburse the expense. This will ONLY be done in an emergency.

Town board discussed the gas use and the fire department will be allowed to use the town gas pump in an emergency. Must contact Kevin Esselman for fill-up.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:
SUPERVISOR: (Gary Maas)

- Monthly Financial Report
- Bank Information:
- Deposited \$ 100.00 UDC check
- Deposited \$ 701.00 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$ 684.000 Judicial fees
- Deposited \$ 1,467.52 Town Clerk fees
- Deposited \$ 254.78.00 for Debit Card
- Deposited \$2,500.00 in Escrow-Planning Board – Stanzoni Project
- Deposited \$ 2,836.04 for Mortgage Tax
- Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals.
- Activity
- Received updated Sewer District Map from Engineering Properties. Application forwarded to DRBC.
- Meeting with Kevin Esselman, Jerry Yavarkovsky, and Kelly from the Red Cross. Historical Signs on CR 114 reinstalled. Went to Supervisors Meeting. Completed Efficiency Plan for Budget Office. Worked at Clean Up days with my fellow board members

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$271.17	\$ 3,728.83
Abstract#3	\$662.68	\$ 3,066.15
Abstract #4	\$212.50	\$2,853.65
Abstract #5	\$433.43	\$2,420.22
Abstract#6	\$108.99	\$2,311.23
Abstract#7	\$	\$
Abstract#8	\$	\$
Abstract#9	\$	\$
Abstract#10	\$	\$
Abstract#11	\$	\$
Abstract#12	\$	\$

Worked 97.5 hours

Kelly from the Red Cross would like to have a blood drive here sometime in late August

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to approve the Red Cross having a blood drive at the Town Hall sometime in late August. Date to be announced. All Town Board members voted in favor

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: (Kevin Esselman)

- Graded and rolled our dirt roads.
- Out ditching and changing pipes on roads to be paved.
- Had repairs on equipment
- .Met with Nicholas Pascale regarding NTP-B
- Attended the 70th annual School for Highway Superintendents. On Monday sat in on Bituminous Materials. Scott Harris and Joe Bambino, from Liquid Asphalt Distributors Association, gave an overview of asphalt emulsions and when to use them. Also took a class on Initial Emergency Response for Highway Superintendents. They touched on preparing yourself for disasters by preplanning. Going out and doing an initial assessment. Also having your local Fire Company and Utility on board with you. Later followed up with a class on Requesting Reimbursement to Large Disasters. On Tuesday went to a Road by Use class. They examined a municipality’s responsibility for highways by use. Also discussed abandonment by non-use and discontinuance along with seasonally limited use roads. Went to a Snow and Ice class where we reviewed activities done by highway departments. They touched when and where to use different materials and ways to manage them. That afternoon went to a crack repairing demonstration. At this time I would like to ask permission to attend my Fall school being held in Saratoga Spring, September 15 – 17.
- Diesel: 832 gals del / used 744
- Gas: 335 gals del/ used 112
- Worked 160 hrs.
- Contractual balance – \$1,357.97

HWY Superintendent mentioned he needed to place a legal notice to hire a worker for the Highway Dept. as Jay Powell is retiring at the end of July

MOTION: On motion by Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to have a legal notice placed in the River Reporter for applications for a new highway worker. All Town Board members voted in favor

HWY Superintendent and Supervisor's Associations are still pursuing getting tax revenue from the County when the Casino opens

HWY Superintendent mentioned he would like to purchase a new truck. Since the White truck is 14 years old and the Town has had it for 12 years and the undercarriage is in bad shape. HWY Superintendent had a price of \$38,480.00. Supervisor asked HWY Superintendent how he was going to pay for it. He replied out of the Capital Reserve. Councilperson Richardson asked why the town needs 2 pickup trucks. HWY Superintendent replied he was not going to use his personal vehicle, and sometime there is a need for 2 trucks. He would try and sell the old white truck at auction. Councilperson Richardson also asked the HWY Superintendent what was the next piece of equipment that would need to be replaced. HWY Superintendent said the backhoe which is 10 years old at a cost of \$30 - \$40 thousand dollars. Councilperson Nearing asked if a smaller truck could be used. This was discussed. He also asked if a notation could be made on the vouchers of what was purchased.

TOWN CLERK: (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report;
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.
- UDC check #1370 in the amount of \$100.00 received 5/29/2015 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day.
- Attended the OSTCA meeting held in Middletown on May 20th, we had a round table discussion. As our guest speaker had to cancel at the last minute. Town of Blooming Grove wants to change the offices of the Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent and Receiver of Taxes to appointed positions. The OSTCA disagrees with this position, as it takes many years to learn the job, and things are changing all the time. In essence their Town Clerk and Highway Superintendent as well as their Receiver of Taxes could change every two years. And would then be political appointments, the voters would have no say in who fills these positions.
- Issued 1 temporary handicapped parking permit and 2 permanent permits issued in May
- I provided telephone #'s for different departments. I'm still getting calls for the CEO, Assessor, Planning Board and Tax Collector. As well as the Justice Court, with people coming in to pay their tickets; needing forms to file small claims and eviction notices etc.
- Worked a total of 113 hours
- Contractual balance \$2,415.91

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (Gregg Semenetz)

- Submitted a written report: Worked 80 hours traveled 696 miles
- Issued 9 permits; no renewals, no C of O's, no Notices of Disapproval, no Municipal search letters, no appearance tickets
- Revenues of \$550.00, and expenses of \$436.28
- Contractual Balance: \$3,120.20

CEO mentioned he has issued 3 replacement permits for trailers. There was a plan to have someone remove one of the trailers on Shortcut Road. Another contractor to clean it up.

TOWN ATTORNEY: (Karen Mannino)

- Submitted a written report:
- Research ownership of Unsafe Building SBL 13A.-1-43.13
- Draft Proposed Notices, Resolutions etc. and emailed to Supervisor for Unsafe Building SBL 13A.-2-43.13
- Attendance at Board Meeting
- Telephone Conversation with County Attorney's Office; internet check of Egan property on County website; email

Attorney said to hold off on Unsafe building on Stony Road; it might go back to the County. County is looking into cleaning up ugly buildings. This was discussed

TAX COLLECTOR (Eileen Hennessy)

- Submitted a written report
- Balance as of June 10, 2015 \$825.81 Check # 357 to Supervisor Gary Maas \$825.80. needs to keep \$0.01 to keep the account open
- Contractual balance \$2,451.33
- Worked 4 hours in May

ASSESSOR: (Lorry J. King) Not present

- Submitted written report: Supervisor went over the report

Old Business:

1. The County is looking at changing the Veterans exemption to include the Gold Star Parents. All towns are being asked to also adopt this exemption as well. I will provide any updates as they are available.

New Business:

1. Grievance day was held on 5/26/15, Present were Pauline Johnson & Tony Leone. The board heard 4 grievances and signed off on the Stipulations and Corrections to the roll. They provided me with the certified changes.

Assessor's report continues:

2. I attended the Sullivan County Assessors meeting this month, and also the Board of Review training at the Government Center.
3. At our most recent meeting, we discussed the Aged exemption limits. They haven't changed since 2003. As of roll year 2015 we have 31 currently eligible taxpayers. And to the best of my recollection, I denied 3 for over the income limit of \$23,199.99. The Sullivan West School Aged exemption limit is \$25,899.99 for a 5% reduction, and the Town and County limit is \$23,199.99 for a 20% reduction. (See attached sheets).

Assessor Hours: 40.95

Clerk Hours: 34.25

May contractual balance: A 1355.400 \$3,330.20

Expenditures \$89.39 May

Contractual Balance: \$3,240.81

Data Collection May: Terri 17 ½ hours. Contractual Balance \$3,453.43

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR: no one present from Planning Board

No report—just submitted the minutes from April 30th this report is on file in the Town Clerk's office if anyone wishes to review it

SEWER OFFICER: (Michael Walter)

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow of 24,643 gallons for month of May; Obtained 95% C.B.O.D. and 85%, T.S.S. removal for May
- Spent a total of 73 hours attending to sewer district affairs in May
- Expenditures were \$1,301.28
- Contractual Balance: -\$17,982.66

Had the Imhoff tank serviced. All else is good

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: (Rosemary Barile) not present

Submitted a written report: traveled 176 miles (to check trap twice daily to Skipperene) for dog at large

Worked 32 hours

Contractual balance: \$1,257.78

HISTORIAN: (K. C. Garn) not present

A written report was submitted. Supervisor went over the report;

This was the month for inquiries regarding "Station Rock". No less than two individuals emailed me for information on it and I provided them with any information I had.

Another inquiry was from a descendent of the Koberlein family, looking for a death certificate or other information on a "Margaretha Koberlein". I provided them with all the information I had and some more that I found in the County Clerk and Surrogate's Office. She committed suicide in 1899 by drinking Paris Green. We have no record of her being buried in Cochection, but she did purchase 70 acres of land on Daub Road in 1874. Incidentally, that farm remained in the Koberlein family until 1957. Enjoy your meeting... and the warm weather

UDC (Larry Richardson)

- Submitted a written report
- The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday June 4.
- Following roll call, the council heard a presentation from Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. on the operation of the Masthope Mountain Community Wastewater Treatment Plant in Lackawaxen Township. The presentation was in response to allegations that at times during holiday weekends, the wastewater discharges are not properly treated. It was acknowledged that there may be times when high water infiltration causes problems. I asked if users were allowed to connect basement pumps into the sewer line. They are not, but finding who might be illegally connected is very difficult, since they have backflow preventers installed and smoking the lines would not reveal much.
- At the July Council meeting, there will be a presentation from PA and NY law enforcement people to discuss what is and is not permitted at the state access sites on the Delaware.
- Chairman Al Henry in his Operations Committee presentation mentioned the use of outside contractors. In the past, the UDC has been led to believe that any moneys from one year's budget must be spent within that year. Since the council has only three staff members (in the past we had four and the River Management Plan provides for five), it is recognized that some tasks will need to be performed by outside consultants. We are now being told that the council could contract for work that could extend from one budget year into the next.
- The DRBC is discussing changes in their permitting processes. Being discussed is retaining the right to issue water withdrawal permits, but allow the wastewater discharge permits to be issued solely by the states. However the most stringent regulations will be used.
- NPS Superintendent Heister noted that a location where trash had been dumped down an embankment was reported. Park service personnel had to repel down to remove the trash, the perpetrator was identified and paid a \$1500 fine.
- **Tag grant** applications are now available. The council has budgeted \$35,000 for this year. Apps must be in by August 28.
- DCNR representative Tim Dugan talked about the devastation being caused by the Emerald Ash Borer and PA. plans to save about 150 trees. Treatment is inoculating targeted trees with the aim of having trees capable of reseeding once the infestation has died out.

Actions taken:

- a. **Approved** : A Health Insurance Buyout for a staff member

TOWN BOARD:

Council members had nothing new to add

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Unsafe Buildings –discussed earlier
2. Sewer Dept. – DRBC Permit—doe just keeping it on the agenda until I hear back from them

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business at this time

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joan Glase, Cross Road, Mentioned that Sullivan West Central School does a blood drive several times a year.

Could they coordinate?

No one else wished to comment

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was to adjourn this meeting. Time 8:40 p.m. All Town Board members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____

Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk