

A meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on June 8, 2011 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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk  
Gregg Semenetz –CEO

John J. Keating –Attorney.

Supervisor Maas opened the Meeting with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

During the work session Scott Evans representative from Kristt Co. presented a proposal and explained how a network system would function for all the Town Computers

**RESOLUTION # 30**

**TOWN OF COCHECTON PARTICIPATING MEMBER OF THE MULTI MUNICIPAL GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE**

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Cochection is a participating member of The Multi-Municipal Gas Drilling Task Force, which Task Force consists of the Towns of Tusten, Cochection, Bethel, Callicoon, Delaware, Highland, Lumberland and Rockland (collectively, “the MMTF”), all being located in Sullivan County, New York; and

WHEREAS, the MMTF has engaged Delta Engineers & Architects, P.C. (“Delta”) and Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP (“WOH”) to develop a proposed local law and permitting program to be considered for enactment and administration in each of the MMTF member Towns for the purpose of preserving local roads; and

WHEREAS, enactment and administration of any such local law would be considered an Unlisted Action for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the member Towns determined to act as Co-Lead Agencies for the SEQRA review of the proposed road preservation and restoration program and determined that the adoption of laws for the preservation and restoration of roads may have a significant effect on the environment requiring the preparation of a DGEIS and, thereafter, published notice of its positive declaration in the Environmental News Bulletin; and

WHEREAS, the member Towns intend to assess the potentially adverse environmental impacts which may be attributable to any such law through the preparation of a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (“DGEIS”); and

WHEREAS, the MMTF, with the assistance of Delta and WOH prepared and submitted to each of the MMTF and each member Towns a draft Scope to guide the preparation of the DGEIS; and

WHEREAS, notice of scoping was published in The River Reporter, the Sullivan County Democrat and the Environmental Notice Bulletin, and public comment on the draft Scope was accepted in person at a public scoping session held on July 22, 2010, and in written form through August 2, 2010; and

WHEREAS, no involved or interested agency comments, or public comments were received by the MMTF or member Towns on the draft Scope; and

WHEREAS, each of the member Towns of the MMTF received a copy of the Final Scope for the DGEIS and adopted the same; and

WHEREAS, the MMTF and the member Towns have been advised by Delta and WOH that the DGEIS has been prepared and is adequate with respect to its scope and content for the purpose of commencing public review, pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.9;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Town of Cochection hereby determines that:

1. the DGEIS is complete and hereby accepts the DGEIS as adequate with respect to its scope and content for the purpose of commencing public review, pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.9; and
2. Pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.9(a)(3), written comments on the DGEIS will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on July 18, 2011 at the offices of Whiteman Osterman and Hanna LLP, One Commerce Plaza, Suite 1900, Albany, NY 12260 Attn: Mark Sweeney, Esq. or by fax at (518)487-7777 or email at [msweeney@woh.com](mailto:msweeney@woh.com) or at any Town Clerk’s office of the member Towns; and
3. The member Towns and the MMTF will hold a public hearing on the DGEIS, the proposed local law for road preservation and restoration and road use agreement templates on **June 30, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.** at the Sullivan West High School, located at 6604 State Rt. 52, Lake Huntington, NY 12752, at which time the hearing will start with a public information session on DGEIS document, followed by an opportunity to comment on the DGEIS, the road preservation and restoration program as well as the proposed template laws and road use agreements to be adopted; and
4. A Notice of Completion of the DGEIS and Notice of Public Hearings shall be filed with involved and interested agencies and published in accordance with the requirements of 6 NYCRR §617.12 and the member Towns’ local laws; and
5. The Town Clerk of each Town is directed to file, publish and distribute the DGEIS as required by 6 NYCRR §617.12.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFIED: *Hollye Schulman* DATE: June 8, 2011

Town Clerk, Hollye Schulman

**ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0** Councilperson Schulman absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

#### **RESOLUTION # 31**

##### **COCHECTON TOWN BOARD WHEN ADOPTING 2011 BUDGET**

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

WHEREAS, the COCHECTON TOWN BOARD when adopting the 2011 budget was unaware of additional expenses (hot air furnace and garage door) for a total of \$6,055.00 that could not be accounted for in line A 5132.400 (HIGHWAY GARAGE) needs to fund the line with additional funds for current and future bills, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that budget line A 1990.400 (CONTINGENCY ACCT.) in the amount of \$6,000.00 be transferred to line A 5132.400 HIGHWAY GARAGE so that line shows \$18,000.00 and line A 1990.400 (CONTINGENCY ACCT.) shows \$7,800.00

**ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0** Councilperson Schulman absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

#### **RESOLUTION # 32**

##### **CORRECTION TO ABSTRACT # 5**

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

WHEREAS, abstract # 5 had an error in math on voucher # 221 in Line A 1355.400 (Assessor Contractual) which read \$244.40 when in fact it should have been \$243.21 causing an overpayment of \$1.19, and

WHEREAS, Abstract # 5 Total General Funds reads \$10,157.79 and after making the correction the Total General Funds should read \$10,156.60 to correct the error

**ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0** Councilperson Schulman absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to hire Michelle Albrecht as the part-time Justice Court Clerk. All board members present voted in favor.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to accept the minutes of May 11, 2011 as submitted. All voted in favor.

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

General Account	Voucher # 258-289	\$10,222.43
Capital Town Hall Account	Voucher # 290-291	\$33,665.75
Sewer Account	Voucher # 292-294	\$514.50
Lighting District Account	Voucher # 295	\$636.70
Highway Account	Voucher # 296-300	\$22,828.36

Voucher #'s 268 split between funds, same voucher.

Voucher #'s 258-267 are noted as PREPAID on 5/17/11

All voted in favor.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Sullivan County Paving –quote for both upper and lower parking lots – type # 3 binder \$35,000.00 top coat \$21,900.00 – equipment and labor \$13,000.00 for a total of \$69,900.00. Supervisor would like exact square footage for the upper parking lot. He will try and get this information by the next meeting.

US Census Bureau information received

Sullivan County Management looking to negotiate health insurance, and wanted to know if the town was interested in being a part of the negotiating. Our Health Insurance is in effect until the end of 2012.

NYS Office of Real Property -2011 Tentative State equalization rate; Town of Cochection tentative rate is 75%.

Letter of resignation from Part-time Justice Court clerk Elaine Loewe

Cornell Co-op Extension re: weatherization of homes – will be presented on June 14, 2011 from 5:30 -7:30 p.m.

Time Warner – program changes

Supervisor was invited to attend a tea party meeting

NYS property rate adjustment 15% decrease

Sullivan County re: reclassification for the CEO/Building Inspector

NYMIR –year end values

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Allan Rubin, New Turnpike, hoped that Highway Superintendent would be here, wanted to thank him and his workers for doing a great job cleaning up the trees after the storm. He also, wanted to know if they were going to clear the ditch, as they created a bump which will allow the water from the driveway to flow into the road.

No one else wished to comment.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund reported there will be a bake sale, car wash, and flea market on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the fire house. Also reported on upcoming events.

Office of the Aging: Councilperson Schulman, absent no report.

Planning Board: Councilperson Richardson, waiting for the UDC comments for the Public Hearing scheduled for June 16, 2011 at 7:00 p. at the Town Hall

Litter Pluck: Councilperson Story – gave a report on how much litter was collected and what roads, and persons that participated.

Web Site: Councilperson Story – has updated some of the web site and has posted the Town Board minutes on the site, and if anyone sees anything else that needs to be updated or corrected please contact her. Has not had a chance to get in touch with the Planning Board Clerk to get the Planning Board minutes to post to the website

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:****SUPERVISOR:** (Maas)

Submitted a written report:

1. Monthly Financial Report
 

Bank Information:

Deposited \$100.00 UDC check

Deposited \$805.00 Judicial fees

Deposited \$480.00 Judicial fees

Deposited \$988.75 Town Clerk fees

Deposited \$1.20 refund U S Treasury

Deposited \$50.00 rebate laptop

Deposited \$2,212.31 Mortgage Tax
2. Activity
 

Meetings & calls with contractor, Highway Supt., Engineer, Tom Shepstone and Attorney

Calls to Dean Smith on pull off on Route 97

Made deposits and transfers as needed

Attended Supervisor's meeting

Worked Cleanup day

Worked on final payment for New Town Hall building

Attended web site training with Anna Story

New Town Logo completed by Crain Stewart

Looked into pricing of shed and mower
3. CONTRACTUAL \$5,500.00

Abstract #1		
Abstract #2	\$701.54	\$4,798.46
Abstract #3	\$457.34	\$4,341.12
Abstract #4	\$111.71	\$4,229.41
Abstract #5	\$850.35	\$3,379.06
Abstract# 6	\$268.74	\$3,110.32

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** (Brian DuBois) not present

Report (Was received the day after the meeting) which I am including in these minutes)

Repair and maintenance as needed

Town Roads – Crusher run grading completed

Cut rebates preparing for blacktop paving

5/26/2011 bad wind storm; many trees blown over town wide.

Contractual Balance: (\$990.27)

**TOWN CLERK:** (Hollye Schulman)

- Submitted a written report; collected \$1,175.12 in fees for May
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk
- I attended the OSTCA meeting held in Bloomingburg, NY on May 18, 2011. We discussed training school held in Buffalo, Flo Santini has accepted the position of District 2 Director, and she will be responsible to get information from the NYSTCA back to Town Clerks in the district. She will also be responsible for putting information from the district in the Recorder.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT CONTINUES:**

- The organization will send a fruit basket to Joanne Nagoda, our recording secretary as her mother-in-law passed away.
- Our June meeting will be in Middletown and the guest speakers will be from NYS Archives to discuss Records Retention of Court Records; we will invite the Court Clerks from both Orange and Sullivan to attend. When a judge retires his records are supposed to be turned over to the Town Clerk.
- The Town Clerk from Blooming Grove will be retiring June 29<sup>th</sup> after 32 years as the Clerk.
- We also discussed taking a trip to Albany to see what our representatives do. Janet Brahm suggested a trip to the NYS Archives. There will be further discussion at a later date.
- The UDC check # 1798 in the amount of \$100.00 received 5/27/2011 turned over to the Supervisor 5/31/11
- I issued one renewal handicapped parking permit and two temporary parking permits.
- I 'm still receiving telephone calls which are for the Assessor, Justice Court, CEO, Planning Board.
- As of May 15<sup>th</sup> you are now allowed to burn - information for the burning regs. can be found on the DEC web site.
- I have helped the Highway Superintendent register his Ford Fleet identification # so he can receive the new truck that was ordered. I also helped him register with the Office of Government Services so he can order salt needed to maintain the roads during the winter months. The salt orders need to be placed on line, they will not be accepted as faxed or written orders.
- I'm still waiting for shelves in the vault and in my office.
- Contractual balance: \$4,229.69

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

- Submitted a written report: Worked 80 hours traveled 644 miles
- Issued 4 permits; no renewals, 3 C of O's, 2 Notices of Violations, 2 Municipal search letters, no appearance tickets
- Revenues of \$1,013.00, and expenses of \$415.38
- Contractual Balance: \$3,032.15

CEO mentioned that permits are up so far for June. Unsafe building on Route 52 – property owner will have removed. The violation re: the trailer on CR 116 pending. Violation on Green building on CR 116 didn't get a response – Town should condemn 600, CR 116.

**TAX COLLECTOR** (Eileen Hennessy) not present

No report submitted, reported on her monthly expenditure sheet she worked 10 hours and her Contractual balance \$3,053.39

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

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

I did not receive any inquiries or requests for information this past month. There is very little else to report as I've been on vacation for the past week.

I'm currently looking into the history of Skipperene Road and its connection to Bartley McGoey. In 1857, Mr. McGoey bought 70 acres near the intersection of Skipperene and Route 97 and then 50 acres more in 1860. I plan to read his property deeds and see what the road was called back then. Only a handful of other people lived along that road at the time and so I'll look into their property deeds as well and let you know what I'm able to find next month. I suspect that Mr. McGoey, born in Ireland, may have had a hand in naming the road.

I will have a copy, framed, of an 1875 map of Cochection for you by next month's meeting. Hopefully, it will find a home somewhere in the new Town Hall.

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** (John J. Keating)

- Submitted a written report:
- Attended monthly meeting
- Prosecuted Justice Court matters
- Worked on Local Laws # 1, 2 and 3 of 2011

Supervisor read the Order re: Closing of the Road for the Day on the Lake event. This ORDER is on file at the Town Clerk's office if anyone needs to review it

**RESOLUTION # 33****ORDER OF TOWN BOARD- ROAD CLOSING "DAY ON THE LAKE" EVENT**

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Cochection is sponsoring an event called "Cochection Day on the Lake" on July 23, 2011, and

WHEREAS, In order to protect the assemblage and activities, it is necessary to close off to traffic State Route 52, between Short Cut Road and County Road 116, in the Hamlet of Lake Huntington, during the event.

NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs that an Order be entered to this effect, pursuant to Vehicle and Traffic Law Sec. 1660.

**ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0** Councilperson Schulman absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

Worked on smoking issue for the Town Board review; if board approves, a Public Hearing will be set for July 13, 2011 meeting.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to advertise a Public Hearing for proposed Local Law # 4 of 2011 to be held on July 13, 2011 at Town Hall located at 74 Smales Road, Lake Huntington, NY at 7:30 p.m. All present voted in favor.

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

Submitted written report: The Supervisor went over the report. Old Business: Field review of sales and new construction continues. I attended the Board of Assessment Review training in Monticello. All my requests to Dorene Warner re: the web site corrections have been completed.

New Business: I received our equalization rate from the state (75%) which the Supervisor has a copy of. I will be in Albany attending a conference on Friday June 24, 2011. I will post a notice on the answering machine and door for the taxpayers. Linda had back surgery on Friday May 27<sup>th</sup>; she will be out for a few weeks. At this writing, she is still in the hospital

Contractual Balance: \$2,847.56

**PLANNING BOARD CHAIR:** (Sharron Cardone) not present

Submitted a written report: Supervisor Maas went over the report:

Old Business: Cuddy & Feder represented by Neil Alexander for AT&T presented additional information on the proposed cell tower on Mueller Road. Went over a brief history of the cell tower including proposed cell tower in the area and again the height that they proposed for this tower 195'. Stacy Calta of HDR went over the proposed screening for the dwelling on Lounsbury Road that would most be affected by the cell tower view. Evergreens would be planted that grow rapidly around 20' in 5 years. Other members of the board suggested other types of trees that would grow quickly. Finally information on the landscaping would be presented at the next meeting. Question on tower abandonment was raised by Earl and suggestion that we would work out these details with Ira. Neal wanted more information on site distance for the driveway and HDR will address this. We have an extension on the 62 rule as far as making our final decision is concerned. I made a statement that I wanted to wait until more board members were present. I asked Lauren to send out emails to members to advise them that it is important to attend the meetings. I am waiting to receive the additional escrow monies from Cuddy & Feder

**SEWER OFFICER:** (George Walter) not present

Submitted a written report:

Average flow of 80,956 gallons for month of May; Obtained 97.5% C.B.O.D. and 85.7%, T.S.S. removal for May  
Spent a total of 78 hours attending to sewer district affairs in May

Expenditures were \$219.50

Contractual Balance: \$17,394.91

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

Submitted a written report. 2 lost dog calls, 2 dog at large calls, worked 8 hours

Contractual balance: \$1,460.61

**UDC:** (Larry Richardson)

- The Upper Delaware Council held its regular meeting on Thursday June 2. Various committee reports were presented. Phil Chase reported for the WURM Committee that the Decree Parties had agreed to a new Flexible Flow Management Plan (FFMP). The duration of the plan is for one year. This is a very important move by the Parties since it is the first time they formally provide for a 10% and 1 5% void in the Reservoirs to provide for flood protection. It will also allow for greater water releases throughout the year.
- Phil also noted the improvement in the Neversink River. When he wrote an outdoor column back in the '70s, the flow in the Neversink averaged 15cfm's. With most of that being sewage discharges. It now is close to 140cfm.
- It was noted that Carol Coney a long time office manager for the UDC retired. She was a great asset to the Council for 19 years. We are currently advertising for a replacement. The position pays a good hourly rate with health insurance for the individual and retirement benefits.
- NPS was saddened to report a drowning in the River. As is so often the case, this person was not wearing a life preserver.
- Carol Collier Executive Director of the DRBC said that the Board will decide at their July meeting whether to withhold approvals for water withdrawals until NYS DEC issues their regs. She also said they had received 58,000 comments during their public hearings for proposed Gas Drilling Regulations.
- New UDC Tag Grant Applications are available. Details are on the UDC website. It must be remembered that all projects must be completed and the necessary paper work submitted in about a 10 month time frame. No extensions can be granted.
- A member from the audience offered that she had testified in Albany at a subcommittee hearing dealing with the public health issue as it relates to the activities surrounding horizontal gas extraction.
- Actions taken:
- Approved Draft Resolution 2011-04 Accepting new Empire BC/BS Stepped Plan for Employee Health Insurance Commencing in June.

Federal Highway Administration opened grants for Byway projects. Town would have to pay 15% in kind –grant \$15,000.00; power outage negated project. Councilperson Richardson gave a report on proposed Town of Cochection Route 97 pulloff.

**TOWN BOARD:**

**(Councilperson Richardson)**

Will not be at the July 13, 2011 meeting

**(Councilperson Grund)**

Nothing to report

**(Councilperson Schulman)** not present

**(Councilperson Story)**

Nothing to report

Councilperson Richardson mentioned that Mr. Manaseri has been waiting for some information. When the Ambulance Corp. granted the town the ROW for the sewer through their property they were told that the dirt pile would be taken care of. Mr. Manaseri has a bulldozer, and he would need a chipper. He was told the town doesn't own a chipper it belongs to the Highway Superintendent. The dirt pile will be taken care of on Monday. There was more discussion.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. New Town Hall -landscaping – pending
2. Comprehensive Plan and Zoning update – Public Hearing – will be June 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall
3. Town Web site – up and running – charges in the future for the domain servers will be billed to the town debit card
4. New Town Hall Furnishings – blinds, the ones ordered and delivered are up and looking good. There are more blinds that need to be ordered (a triple for the meeting room and a single for one of the board rooms.
5. Transfer Station lease – nothing at this time
6. MMTF update – discussed earlier. Public Hearing will be June 30, 2011 at the Sullivan West Central School
7. Pulloff on Route 97 for Byway – discussed

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Levy garbage pick up – just a reminder
2. Waterfront Revitalization alternate – nothing yet
3. IDA - grant money – pending
4. Clean up Days – Sullivan First – worked out really well, did less this year than last year
5. Lawn mower and shed – Supervisor has prices – 52” mower cost \$1,995.00 with 20 % off would be \$1,662.50 this mower is a lesser quality. a 54 “ mower with a fabricated deck cost \$2,582.50 with the discount.

**RESOLUTION # 34****PURCHASE THE 54” MOWER FOR \$2,582.50**

On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following resolution was WHEREAS, the Town is in need of a lawn mower for the new Town Hall site, and WHEREAS, the Supervisor has received several quotes from John H. Eschenberg, and the mower decided on by the Town Board is the 54” and cost \$2,582.50, and NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 54” mower will be purchased from John H. Eschenberg for the price of \$2,582.50

**ADOPTED – AYES 4 NAYS – 0** Councilperson Schulman absent

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

**MOTION:** On motion of Supervisor Maas, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to authorize the purchase an Echo straight shaft trimmer from Home Depot for \$219.95. All members present voted in favor

6. Network protection – presentation was made earlier during the work session- supervisor will get another quote
7. Road Closure, insurance, and \$1,000.00 for Day on the Lake- this has been done
8. Smoking on town property – discussed earlier – Attorney will have something for a later meeting.

At this time the purchase of a shed to house the equipment for the new town hall site was discussed. The Supervisor said the best deal was from Delaware Valley Farm and Garden for a high wall mini barn. This was discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one left to comment

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to adjourn this meeting. Time 9:56 p.m. All board members present voted in favor.

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