

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on August 8, 2012 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 7:33 PM.

PRESENT: Supervisor Maas
Councilperson Larry Richardson
Councilperson Edwin Grund
Councilperson Richard Schulman
Councilperson Anna Story

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk
Kevin Esselman – Highway Superintendent
John J. Keating –Attorney
Greg Semenetz – CEO
George Walter –SPO entered at 7:49 p.m.

During the work session Dave Bodenstein rep: from Mike Preis Insurance gave a presentation on the FY 2012-2013 Insurance proposal for the town and explained same. The premium for this policy is less than the previous year. Town Board wanted coverage for location # 1 Building # 3 Fuel storage building, they also asked that Location # 4 Building # 4 be taken off (Gazebo), and the town only carries liability on this property (Cochection Ambulance Park).

RESOLUTION # 36

ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR FY 2012-2013 FROM MIKE PREIS INSURANCE

ON motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following resolution was RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Cochection hereby accepts for FY 2012-2013 the Insurance proposal presented by Dave Bodenstein for \$19,888.43 for coverage for Town of Cochection and Lake Huntington Sewer District

ADOPTED: AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Supervisor Maas
Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Schulman and Story

Regular meeting opened.

Supervisor introduced Allan Scott the rep: from IDA who made a presentation on projects before the IDA. There is a revolving loan funds thru the IDA and Economic Development. Commercial development could provide jobs in the County. There are many businesses looking to locate in Sullivan County. Most projects don't happen—not for lack of trying on the IDA's part

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to approve the minutes of July 11, 2012, and July 30, 2012 and be accepted as submitted. All voted in favor

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to approve for payment the bill on abstract # 8 in the following amount.

General Account	Voucher # 323-346	\$4,883.13
Debit Card Account	Voucher # 347	\$180.99
Sewer Account	Voucher # 358-352	\$1,989.44
Lighting District Account	Voucher # 360	\$502.07
Highway Account	Voucher # 353-359	\$77,526.79

Claim #'s 324, 326, 339, 347 and 356 are noted as splits between funds, same voucher.

Prepaid claims were paid on July 12, 14, 16 and 23rd, 2012

All voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Office of State Comptroller: Stating Municipalities are trying hard to keep their budget's under the 2% tax cap. This is difficult.

Time Warner Cable e-mail advising of their updates

NYMIR: reg. Insurance policies for Towns

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Claire Di Santo, State Route 52, Voiced her concerns regarding the noise level from the trailer at Gasko Meyer that is quite annoying. Runs 9 hours a day, is there anything available to rectify the situation. She was not the only one to voice their concerns. Attorney and CEO tried to address the issue. When the new Zoning Code was adopted there is nothing to address the existing, only address new applications before the Planning Board. CEO can not proceed without a law, can't just write a ticket. Attorney Keating mentioned there is no noise law. CEO said the trailer with the compressor is part of the business. CEO also mentioned that Mr. Nober has done everything that was asked of him, to try and reduce the noise. Councilperson Richardson asked if this was a proper use for storage. He was told yes it is.

Mrs. Matuszewski, Nearing Road, also voiced her concerns the noise is as loud across the lake as it bounces off the water.

Frank Leonardo, State Route 52, wanted to know if the State or Federal levels were in play—CEO always gets kicked back to the local level.

Tom Bonanza, CR 116, stated problem with sound it is toward the house, if below and angled toward the sky it might help. CEO said they already tried that –not enough to rectify the problem

There was more discussion.

No one else wished to comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

97 Pull Off: Councilperson Larry Richardson; nothing re: the pull off, but he had a sign, life jackets save lives, which he asked the HWY Superintendent to put up at the pull-off site. If anyone wants to put up a sign Eileen Hennessy has extras.

Youth Commission: Councilperson Edwin Grund reported the meeting held on the 6th. Wayne County Fair is today, Radio City trip planned for November 17th. There will be no rafting trip due to low water levels. Day on the Lake went well. Harvest Festival is planned for October 27, this is the Halloween Tricky Trunk; this year they are planning to hold it at the Ambulance Park- Playground. Asked the Town Board if it would be OK to have the cars for the tricky trunk parked in the lower parking lot at the Town Hall, and if they could use the bathrooms. Councilperson Richardson asked if someone was going to do a final inspection to make sure that everything was OK in the Town Hall. There will be several Youth Commission persons available to monitor the situation. Councilperson Grund will do the final inspection.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to allow the Youth Commission to use the lower parking lot at the Town Hall for parking the cars for the tricky trunk, and also they will be allowed to use the bathrooms. All voted in favor

Office of the Aging: Councilperson Richard Schulman, on Oct. 17th, the Fallsburg Police Dept. is sponsoring a hearing on scamming and what to look for and how to avoid being scammed at 9:00 a.m. To receive coupons for the farmer's markets, the income guide lines have been lowered to \$1,722.00 for 1 person, \$2,333.00 for 2 persons and \$2,943.00 for 3 persons. Monthly documentations of income is required to receive coupons; 700 booklets were handed out, but only a 58% redemption rate. The redemption rate was disappointing. The Office of the Aging is trying to get a Senior Citizen discount @ Bethel Woods. On August 31, there will be a presentation on climate change. 2012 has been the warmest year ever

Website: Councilperson Anna Story – updated website as necessary, removed and added information as needed, Planning Board minutes have been added to the website. Youth events and calendar updated. Revised the supervisor's letter on the home page. Made date change to agenda and added notice to news alerts for rescheduled meeting. Worked 7 hours

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

Submitted a written report:

1. Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

Deposited \$ 100.00 UDC check
 Deposited \$2,060.00 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$ 775.00 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$1,166.56 Town Clerk fees
 Deposited \$1,000.00 State Youth Aid
 Deposited \$ 3,513.42 first FEMA payment
 Made transfers and deposits as needed

2. Activity

Calls with Claire Di Santo, Dave Bodenstein, George Conklin, Sharon Cardone

Meetings with CEO, Attorney, Dave Bodenstein, Tom Bose, Dan Sturm, Michael Richardson,

CONTRACTUAL		\$ 5500.00
Abstract #1	\$ 0.00	
Abstract #2	\$ 456.88	\$ 5043.12
Abstract#3	\$ 634.15	\$ 4408.97
Abstract #4	\$ 225.08	\$ 4183.89
Abstract #5	\$ 655.07	\$ 3528.82
Abstract#6	\$ 58.00	\$ 3470.82
Abstract#7	\$ 106.60	\$ 3364.22
Abstract#8	\$ 139.50	\$ 3224.72

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: (Kevin Esselman)

- Submitted written report, finished up paving, and continue to patch both our paved and gravel roads
- Continue to ditch and mow the right of ways
- Started to service the trucks
- Spent time researching information on chippers
- We had several trees come down in the storm that hit the end of the month. All roads were opened by the next day. Also would like to thank the Town of Lumberland who sent up three guys and their chipper. With the extra hands and the machine they had, made the clean up a lot quicker. That storm goes to show another reason the Town needs a chipper
- Worked 160 hours
- Contractual Balance: \$774.60

Highway Superintendent mentioned he needs to place legal notices for fuel and sand.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to have the Town Clerk place the legal notices in the Sullivan County Democrat for fuel and sand. All voted in favor.

Highway Superintendent also mentioned that the mig welder for the shop is in need of repair, took it to Wahl's and it will cost \$800.00 to fix it and it is 20 years old. A new one cost approx. \$1,500.00. It was decided the HWY/ superintendent should get some other quotes, and he is authorized to purchase a new one. He also mentioned that the Sullivan West Central School would like to use the Town gas pumps. Perhaps we could charge 5cents a gallon plus the price of the gas per gallon. It would be one way to consolidate services. The Fire Dept. and the Ambulance are also interested. A card would be needed for each vehicle. . This was discussed.

The Attorney thought it would be easier to work something out with the School, doesn't think the ambulance and fire dept. would work, but will look into this issue. The Supervisor is having a meeting with the new Superintendent of Sullivan West Central School and will have more information for the next

meeting. HWY Superintendent mentioned that the FCC is changing from hi band to a narrow band radio frequency as of Jan. 1, 2013. Only 3 of our radios are compatible and 9 are not. The cost of a new radio is \$341.00 and we will need 9 of them. This was discussed

TOWN CLERK: (Hollye Schulman)

- Re: monthly report
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk
- There was no OSTCA meeting held in July
- The UDC check # 2556 in the amount of \$100.00 received 7/26/2012 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day
- Issued one marriage license, one certified transcript of marriage in July
- There were 3 handicapped parking permits and 1 temp issued in the month of July.
- There is a state wide ban on residential burning due to the dry conditions -- issued on July 13th by the Governor; the ban is in place for 90 days.
- I provide telephone #'s for different departments. I have received telephone calls for the Tax Collector, Assessor, CEO, Bookkeeper and Justice Court and the Highway Superintendent. There was a call re: bears in the backyard at the Summer Community
- Worked a total of 120 hours in July
- Contractual balance: \$4,786.82

Town Clerk also mentioned that she sent out the 2013 budget request.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (Gregg Semenetz)

- Submitted a written report:
- Worked a total of 80 hours
- Total mileage 653
- Permits issued: 9 Renewals: 0, C of O's issued: 8 Notice of Disapproval: 0, Municipal search letters: 3
- Appearance tickets: 0
- Revenues: \$942.00, Expenses: \$444.83
- Contractual balance: \$1,943.83

CEO mentioned that most unsafe structures have been taken care of by the property owners. There are still a few that need to be addressed.

Regarding the Cell Tower on Muller Road, they are preparing the road for the site. They don't need a driveway permit as there is an existing access to the site already

ATTORNEY: (John J. Keating)

- Submitted a written report:
- Prosecute Justice Court matters (three dates)
- Prepare Local Law 1 of 2012
- Assisted CEO various pending matters

Will need to have a Public Hearing re: Local Law # 1 of 2012

TAX COLLECTOR: (Eileen Hennessy)

- Submitted a written report: as of August 8, 2012
- Checkbook balance is \$0.13
- Worked 4 hours in month of July
- Contractual balance: \$3,201.69

ASSESSOR: (Lorry King) not present

Submitted a written report; Supervisor went over the report

Old Business: Field review of sales and new construction continues

New Business: Discussed the recent permits and CO's from Building Dept. with CEO

Assessor's report continues:

The final roll has been filed and it is also online on our website. Once again, the Town is in compliance, as our final roll appears on the home page. Linda will be having outpatient surgery on August 21st on her hip. At this time, she said she will not be missing work

The County reports for Agriculture and Forest are completed and have been sent to the County. Linda and I will be attending the blueprint course being offered by the NYSAA on Monday Sept. 10th in New Windsor

Received our final equalization rate from the State (copy attached). Received from Supervisor Maas, a homeowners guide for home improvements that are not subject to assessment increases and also improvements that are subject to increase. I will make my comments and return it to him for his Supervisor meeting

On Tuesday August 21st I will be attending a meeting on Countywide Assessing in Monticello. It is my understanding that the County is once again pushing for consolidation of services. The invited guests are Treasurer Ira Cohen, Jonathan Drapkin and other County employees

Worked 26 hours and Clerk worked 24 hours

Expenses \$81.21

Contractual Balance: \$2,616.68

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR: (Sharron Cardone) not present

No report submitted.

SEWER OFFICER: (George Walter)

- Average flow of 21,798 gallons per day for month of July
- Obtained 96.4 % C.B.O.D. and 97.2 % T.S.S. removal for July
Spent a total of 68 hours attending to sewer district affairs in July
- Expenditures: \$424.60
- Contractual Balance: \$16,081.01

SPO also mentioned the pump station has been repaired. Lang pulled and fixed the pumps one was clogged and one would run for a short time and then cut out. There are a lot of trees that need to be cut down.

HWY Superintendent will take a look at the issue.

SPO is planning on retiring December 1, 2012. Cochection Oil will put another tank on the property as there is a need for more gas to run the generator, this last storm the electric was out for several days, the a 1000 gallon tank would last 4 times as long as what is there now. This was discussed.

Attorney will work up a notice for a candidate to fill the position.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: (Rosemary Barile) not present

Submitted a written report; 3 dogs lost: 1 dog at large: 1 Court Case re: dog at large.

Follow up inspection completed

Contractual Balance: \$423.60

Enumeration Contractual Balance: \$1,000.00

HISTORIAN: (K. C. Garn) not present

Supervisor went over the report.

I was contacted, a couple weeks ago, by a writer doing a story for a paper in Pennsylvania and who was seeking information. She was writing about old postcards and she had one of the original "culvert" in Cochection. She wanted information on the culvert's history which I provided for her. Its pretty brief, as far as I can tell. The Erie Railroad line between Port Jervis and Binghamton (which passes over the "culvert") was completed in 1848. The original railroad bridge/culvert was replaced (and the road lowered) in 1991, at a cost of 4.2 million dollars. The original height of the bridge was only 10 feet, so truck traffic couldn't very well use it to get to Pennsylvania. That's what my research indicates, although the efforts to replace the bridge probably went on for years before it was started. The information is from an article in one of the "Cochection Papers" from the 1970's.

A lady named Adele called me for information. She claimed to be the owner of the house (the one with the new deck/porch) across from Tony's On The Lake and wanted to know if I had any old photos of the place. She said Solly Katzoff had shown her photos, years ago, in a "book" he had. I took a look around and couldn't find any pictures of it.

Historian's report continues:

Along with my report, I'm giving the Board some old Town of Cochection tax receipts, in a frame, which were given to me by Tony Leone of Fosterdale. My recollection is he told me he found them in his house and wanted the Town to have them.

Hope you're all well and enjoying the Summer. All the best,

UDC: (Larry Richardson)

- The Upper Delaware Council held its regular meeting on Thursday August 2. The Water Use/Resource Committee (WURM) has decided to expand its information sources by inviting none members who have a particular knowledge about a subject to address the meetings. The question was asked who or what entity actually directs the city on matters or water release into the Delaware. The DECREE parties have agreed that the U.S. Geological Services will make the calls.
- The use of motorized watercraft on the Delaware has come up again for discussion. Other than the ban on personal watercraft, there are no other boats banned. However, the safety rules that are in place, such as distances from swimmers, other watercraft, docks and of course rocks makes such use impractical.
- The NPS reported that their KIOSK at Skinners Falls was destroyed when a tree fell on it during the last storm. They also noted that the trash left by visitors and perhaps some locals is becoming unbearable. They are working with Landers to try to come up with a workable solution
- The Park Service has been pushing heavily for the use of life jackets when on or in the river. They have some roadside posters available. I will pick one up. Perhaps we can place it near our informational display at the pull-off.
- Chuck Barscz was in attendance at the Project Review Committee meeting. Barscz over- sees 15 Wild and Scenic rivers in the Northeast as part of the National Program. Many of these river management plans are modeled after the Delaware's.
- The Council has decided to re-advertise for Dave Soete's position since most of the respondents emphasized their biology and science backgrounds when the Council is looking for planning experience.
- A special Personnel Committee will be held to make recommendations to the Operations and the Council. (Committee: Nadia Rajs, Fred Peckham, Jack Niflot and myself)
- Actions taken:
- Adopted a draft response letter to Town of Lumberland concerning a variance request.

TOWN BOARD:

(Councilperson Story) – Nothing to report
 (Councilperson Schulman) – Nothing to report
 (Councilperson Grund) - Nothing to report
 (Councilperson Richardson) - Nothing to report
 (Supervisor) – Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS:

1. MMFT update – Tom Bose holding a conference call with Supervisor and Attorney
 2. Pull off Rte. 97 for byway – still waiting for a work permit
 3. Basement completion – The CEO will be working on this
 4. Unsafe Buildings – discussed earlier
 5. NIMS – Supervisor is having a meeting this week with the new Superintendent of the Sullivan West Central School ; there are new people and hopefully the meeting will be sometime in September
 6. Phone Service –pending, did not hear back from Mike Egan (Universal TeleConnections) we most likely will go forward with Time Warner Cable. Need to have someone to do the modem
 7. Operation of Sewer Plant – George is retiring December 1, 2012. He has been the SPO since 1971.
- Old Business continues:
8. Workers Compensation –looking for outside source to save money- no decision until next year

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Local Law # 1 of 2012 – pending this law has been introduced already. Copy available at the Town Clerk's office and also on the website
2. Health Insurance – MVP – Town Board members received information for their review

New Business continues:

3. Generator - New Town Hall –Supervisor looking into this issue – 600 amp switch cost approx. \$4,000.00 Town Board doesn't think we need anything that big
4. Codifying Local Laws – discussed earlier – General Code should have a quote sometime next week, this quote will be used as the request for the UDC Tag Grant 2012-2013 to start the Codifying of the Town of Cohecton Laws. This most likely will be a 2 year project.
5. Gas Tank at the Highway Dept. – Fire Dept and the Sullivan West Central School looking to possibly use for their vehicles – this was discussed. The Attorney feels working with the school will be easier than trying to work with the Fire Dept.
6. Ad for Sewer Attendant--Attorney will work on the display ad for a candidate to fill the position. Supervisor will get additional information for next month's meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peggy Richardson, Bernas Road, thanked Kevin (Highway Superintendent) for sign on Devils Road. Councilperson Richardson thanked everyone in attendance this evening, several new faces. No one else wished to comment

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to move into executive session to discuss labor negotiation. Time 9:30 p.m. All voted in favor.

Others present: Town Clerk Hollye Schulman

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to move out of executive session. Time 9:37 p.m. All voted in favor.

While in executive session no decision was made

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to adjourn this Town Board meeting. Time 9:38 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk
