

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF COCHECTON, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochecton was held on September 10, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Cochecton 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 PM.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:
Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk Eileen Hennessy –Tax Collector
Karen Mannino --Attorney Michael Walter –SPO entered at 7: 43 p.m.

During the work session David Bodenstein made a brief presentation re: NYMIR and presented a check to the Town for their participation in the NYMIR Insurance program for many years,

The Town Board also discussed the increase for health insurance for the Highway workers.

Regular meeting opened

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was, to accept the minutes of August 13, 2014 and be accepted as submitted. All board members voted in favor

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Richardson, the following motion was to approve payment of bills on abstract # 9 in the following amounts.

General Account	Voucher # 446-480	\$28,733.12
Sewer Account	Voucher # 481-484	\$766.24
Lighting Account	Vouchers # 485	\$547.23
Highway Account	Voucher # 486-492	\$16,898.74

Voucher #'s 453, 461, 463 and 474 are noted as splits between funds, same voucher
Voucher #'s 446-460 are noted as PREPAID on August 15th, 20th, 27th, and September 2nd 2014
All board members voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

First National Bank of Jeff: notifying the town that they will have to pay for the maintenance going forward. The bank picked up the first year cost
Sullivan County DPW: notified that work being done in the bounds of the highway without a permit, and the property owners were fined \$250.00
UDC: Section 483-b of the NYS Real Property Tax Law, authorizing partial exemption for reconstruction or rehabilitation of historic barns
NYS Comptroller: NYS Common Retirement Fund earned a 13 % return last fiscal year
SLAC: next monthly meeting 9/26/14 at 10:00 a.m. in the legislative Hearing Room of the Sullivan County Gov. Center. Election of officers and reminder only dues paid members may vote on these issues
State of NY Dept. of Public Service: Lifeline Discount Telephone Service Program and encouraging eligible consumers to enroll
TWC: Programming notification
Mike Preis Ins: Rates for the 4th quarter

CORRESPONDENCE CONTINUES:

Div. of Homeland Security and Emergency Services: Letter requesting return of funds re: Project worksheet # 458v2, which town did not use all the funds appropriated and the check to return the funds has been received in the amount of \$37,829.10 therefore satisfying the FEMS deobligation
Delaware Valley Job Corps: Community Relations Council Meeting Sept.16, at the Delaware Valley Job Corps.
Cornell Co-op Extension: Celebration of our 100th Anniversary. Old Fashioned Chicken BBQ and barn Dance at Bridle Hill Farm in Jeffersonville

Allan Scott and Jennifer Flad representatives from IDA made a brief presentation, re: the IDA loan program. Jennifer mentioned that the Red Meat Facility in Liberty which has been in the works since 2007 has made progress. They have hired a contractor to build the facility

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one else wished to comment

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning: Councilperson Richardson – he mentioned the class held here was well attended although he wished he saw more planning and zoning board members. Also mentioned the National Park Service will hold a 3 day training session.

Youth Commission: Councilperson Grund reported on what the Youth Board has done and what they are planning for the future. Some of the events coming up are Oct. 18th a trip to Robas Farm, Oct. 25 tricky trunk, Nov. 8th trip to Great wolf Lodge, Dec. 6, Christmas party. Karen Grund is taking over as a member of the County Youth Board. He also mentioned they are looking for a replacement for Joan Ernst as she is stepping down

Web Site and Fire District: Councilperson Story –added August agenda, added Youth events and sign – up dates. Removed expired information from news alerts. Also added Town Board minutes and Preservation Society event. Worked 3.5 hours

Fire District meeting Sept. 8, 2014 Truck 1532 --advertised the permissive referendum and have not gotten any public reply to the referendum so the truck is approved to be sold. Town looking to buy the truck -their referendum expires on Sept. 15th. The other truck has not been advertised at this point. New fire truck is being built. Waiting for an expected delivery date . County is requiring new radio’s be purchased by fire depts. It will go out on a state bid. Have no idea how much these new radio’s will cost. Sept. 24our fire dept. is hosting a Fire Commissioners Meeting.

Oct.4th from 5-8 p.m. the fire dept. will be hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for a firefighter’s infant child. Addison Umbaugh is only 6 months old and has Glucose –Galactose Malabsorption which is a rare deficiency that makes it difficult to process foods. There are only a few hundred cases worldwide. Medical expenses and travel expenses to Golisano’s Medical Center in Rochester are adding up for this family and the firefighters would like to do something to help in this time of need.. She asked if it was OK to put this information on our website. The budget hearing is set for Oct. 21 at 7:00 p.m. An invitation to attend this hearing was extended to the town board.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

SUPERVISOR: (Gary Maas)

Supervisor’s report not ready. Gave an oral report
Transfers as needed, Budget to Actual presented to Town Board, 2 new telephone lines to be installed at end of the week, worked 91 hours. Spent \$260.00 and contractual balance is \$2,934.68
Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals to board

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: (Kevin Esselman) Not present

Submitted written report: Supervisor went over the report

- Been ditching around town.
- Out with the mower.
- Patched holes on both gravel and paved roads
- Started to go through our plows and sanders.
- Had a few repairs on some trucks.
- I’m in need of a new sander. Looks like the twin to the sander I replaced last year is on its way out. This sander is over ten years old and that’s about the life of them. I called Robert Green and he has one which is on state bid for 12,644.40. Got another quote from Bonham just to compare prices and his was 13,523.80. I would like to purchase this from Robert Green so we can start fabricating it to the truck. Also would like to put the old sander out on auction since we did well with the other one last year.
- Fuel
- Diesel – 673.6 gals del / 469 gals used
- Gas – 184.2 gals del / 124.5 gals used
- Worked 160 hrs
- Contractual Balance is 1,116.4

Councilperson Nearing asked after the problem with the sander last year, is there some type of safety plan in place to address this issue? Also asked about safety training in the Highway Department.

RESOLUTION # 51

PURCHASE NEW SANDER FROM ROBERT GREEN

On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following resolution was, WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent is in need of a new sander for winter maintenance, and WHEREAS, he has gotten 2 quotes, the lowest was from Robert Green for a Swenson EV 10’ stainless steel hydraulic w/chain adjusters to rear, grease lines to rear, 56” height for 6.7 YD cap in the amount of \$12,644.40 and he would like to be able to start fabricating it to the truck, and NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved the Highway Superintendent is hereby authorized to purchase the new sander from Robert Green for the quoted price of \$12,644.40

ADOPTED: AYES 5 NAYS 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Story and Nearing

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Councilperson Richardson has some concerns re: ditching, where the ditches are cut back right to the blacktop and there is no shoulder. There are not even signs indicating “No Shoulder”

TOWN CLERK: (Hollye Schulman)

Submitted a written report;

- Fees collected \$1,172.07 in month of August
- I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.
- UDC check #3863 in the amount of \$100.00 received 8/28/2014 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day
- I issue 2 permanent handicapped parking permits
- I was having trouble with the mouse for my computer freezing, Supervisor told me to order a new one, and so far it is working just fine
- Also handed out a blank building permit; as well as logging permits to be filled out.
- I helped property owner with questions and map information –after the Assessor had left for the day.
- Attended the OSTCA meeting on August 13, was for a BAS user group meeting before our regular meeting which was a round table discussion of the issues for all Town Clerks. We have decided to purchase name tags, since many clerks have retired since the last time they were ordered, and there are new clerks. Desiree (Woodbury) announced that as of January she will be President of NYALGRO (New York Association of Local Government Records Officers). There were some discussion regarding DEC licenses and the fact that some of the Clerk’s still don’t have the velron to print the DEC licenses for their customers
- I also took care of some NYS DOT info for payment vouchers etc. (Binghamton Office) faxed info and copies of checks- front and back. Information was to have payments for CHIPS projects reimbursed
- I provide telephone #'s for different departments. I’m still getting calls for the Justice Court, the Assessor, and Planning Board
- Worked a total of 118 1/2 hours
- Contractual balance \$2,435.99

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (Gregg Semenetz) not present

Submitted a written report: The Supervisor went over his report. Worked 80 hours, traveled 652 miles Issued 3 permits 0 renewals, 1 C of O’s issued, 0 Notices of disapproval, Municipal search letters 4, Appearance tickets issues: 0, Revenues \$980.00, Expenses \$408.60, Contractual Balance: \$2,047.09

Supervisor also mentioned that the CEO had 2 possibly 4 new homes. 1 permit has already been written, one for the spring, 1 on Mueller Road and one on Tyler Road. Owners on Cushetunk notified about building without a permit. Unsafe building on Stony Road, the children contacted CEO and they will have it removed. CEO has located 2 more unsafe buildings. 2 Solar projects 1 has been finished and inspected the other one needs an inspection.

TOWN ATTORNEY: (Karen Mannino)

- Submitted a written report
- Attended Town Board meeting, nothing new to report

She will look over the Rules and Regulations for use of Town Facilities.

TAX COLLECTOR: (Eileen Hennessy) not present

Submitted a written report. The e-checks program is up and supposed to be running. She has \$.03 cents in her account.

ASSESSOR: (Lorry J. King) not present

Submitted written report:

Old Business:

1. Field review of sales and new construction continues
2. I had two small claims hearings, on Thursday August 28th @ 9:00 AM here at our Town Hall.
3. Terri has completed the residential collection, and she is currently working on adding those photos into our system, and updating the property record cards. She will be working with me on the commercial properties.

New Business:

I received the decision from the hearing officer on the two small claims. One was no change and the other was reduced due to the wet lands present.

1. I will be attending the NYS Court Clerk Association conference from Sept 28-Oct 1st.

Assessor Hrs. 22.5 Clerk 0

August	1355.4	\$3,018.99		
Quill		\$59.96		
Mileage TF		\$22.00	Terri	84.5
Mileage LK		\$32.45		1102.73
Total Aug		\$114.41		\$18,804.21
Balance		\$2,904.58		

PLANNING BOARD: (Sharron Cardone Chairperson) not present:

No report and no meeting this month.

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SEWER OFFICER: (Michael Walter)

Submitted a written report:

- Average flow 25,974 for the month of August, Percentage of C.B.O.D. removal 90% for the month of August and Percentage of T.S.S. removal was 98% for the month of August. Worked 86 hours, expenditures \$1,389.451 Contractual Balance: \$1983.15

SPO said everything is in good shape at the sewer plant. He passed his test to run the plant. SPO mentioned that there was once again a large amount of grease in influent on August 15. Councilperson Richardson asked if SPO could plot over several months when there is grease.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: (Rosemary Barile) not present

Gave a report too late to be included in these minutes

HISTORIAN: (K.C. Garn) not present, no report.

UDC: (Larry Richardson)

Submitted a written report:

- The Council held its regular meeting on Thursday September 4
- Chairman Boyar opened the meeting with a presentation from Dean Frazier, Commissioner of the Delaware County Watershed Affairs and Sherri Resti, Executive Assistant for Friends of the Upper Delaware River. The presentation centered on the mission of bringing multiple stakeholders together to talk with “one mouth” in an effort to improve the river flows and as a result increase economic activities.
- Superintendent Heister reported that she had attended a design meeting with Penn DOT and the engineers are still planning on construction a causeway in the river during replacement of the bridge. It appears that there could be as little as 4’ of clearance between the causeway and the river. The UDC is drafting a letter stating that such as condition will create a hazard to river users.
- The Operations committee voted to change health insurance carriers since MVP is no longer offering coverage.
- The Project Review Committee has been notified of a proposal to create a solar generating system on the field near Lander’s Campground. The project would supply electricity to fire department, convenience store and Whistle Stop Café’ in Narrowsburg. The Committee was also advised that the Big Dog Sawmill along Rte 97 will require an area variance for the town. Sawmills are a permitted use within the river corridor.
- Although outside of the river corridor, the proposed white water park in Port Jervis is moving forward and the Mayor is planning on attending the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway meeting on October 27, to provide updates.
- Shannon Thol, a student in Penn State’s GIS Master Program has proposed to create GIS maps of the Upper Delaware, complete with zoning information as her final thesis. Part of the project will look at land cover and land use changes from the time period 1986-2014.
- A special UDC Project Review meeting was held Tuesday September 9th to review tag grant applications.
- Actions taken:
 - Approved payment for 2014 Tag Grants for Tusten, Shohola, Lumberland and Hancock
 - Approved a letter to Project Engineer Glenn Smith concerning the Knights Eddy Campground Project in Lumberland. *(The UDC offered no objections)*

TOWN BOARD:

(Councilperson Story)

Nothing to report

(Councilperson Nearing)

Nothing to report

(Councilperson Grund)

Nothing to report

(Councilperson Richardson)

Nothing to report

(Supervisor Maas)

Nothing more to add at this time

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Basement Completion –Facilities Use – Attorney will review and comment on the Rules and Regulations.
Nutrition Site plans to move Sept. 26 and plan to hold a Grand Opening on Oct. 30.
2. Unsafe Building –discussed earlier
3. Sewer Dept. –Pump House and SPEIDES permit – Paperwork sent in today. Working on it. State keeps asking for more information.
4. Route 97 Historical Sign –Within the next 2 weeks the state hopes to pour the concrete for the post.

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bulletin Board –We are waiting for the Ambulance Corp. to pass their resolution, then the Bulletin Board can be moved.
2. Budget 2015 –Presentation. Town Clerk presented the Tentative Budget to the Town Board.
3. EASL rate for Road Use Law –Had some discussion. EASL is presently 50 in spring, 200 in summer and 100 in fall. Consider one rate for all the seasons.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Matt Bernas and board members had some discussion about the EASL rate and damage on Bernas Road. Matt said he was willing to repair any damage he has done.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion, to change the EASL rate from the present numbers of 50, 200, and 100 during the various seasons of the year to be more uniform thru out the year with 50 EASL’s being the triggering number for the ROAD USE LAW of 2012.

ADOPTED: - AYES: 4 **NAYS: 1** Councilperson Nearing
 Supervisor Maas
 Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund and Story

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was that this Town Board will recess until Sept. 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Time 9:49 p.m.

ADOPTED: - AYES: 5 **NAYS: 0**
 Supervisor Maas
 Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Story and Nearing.

Councilperson Story assisted in preparing these minutes

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk