

A regular meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on October 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Cochection Town Hall. (Between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM for the purpose of auditing bills)

The following members present:

- Supervisor Gary Maas
- Councilperson Anna Story
- Councilperson Sean Nearing
- Councilperson Paul Salzberg
- Councilperson Edwin Grund

Others present: Karen Mannino --Attorney
Deputy Town Clerk Margaret Richardson

Supervisor Maas recognized a new person in the audience and asked who he is and if he had concerns. Since the work session was over by 7:15pm, Supervisor Maas skipped over agenda to allow Ezekiel Miller of Cochection to speak. His concern is the sharp turns on CR114. He feels that a recent accident could have been avoided if there were "sharp turn" warning signs in place. Attorney Mannino advised him to contact the DPW as this is not the town's responsibility. Mr. Miller also asked if it would be okay for him to weed whack the short walkway at the bridge connecting to Damascus, PA. Supervisor Maas stated that the Town Board does not have authority to approve. A woman, name unknown, asked when the school tax bill will be available. Supervisor Maas gave her information of who to contact.

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 PM. Supervisor Maas requested a moment of silence in the honor of past Town Board member and community leader, Ethel Rohrmann Hulse who passed away October 8, 2016.

RESOLUTION # 53: On motion by Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was made to pay OCL Analytical Services' invoice of \$154.00 as a prepaid on Abstract #11 in order to make a timely payment.

APPROVED – AYES 5 NAYS – 0

Supervisor Maas
Councilpersons: Story, Nearing Salzberg and Grund

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to accept the minutes of September 14; all board members voted in favor.

On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, the following motion was to accept the minutes of September 28, 2016 and be accepted as submitted. Three board members voted in favor; Councilperson Story abstained.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Nearing, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to approve bills on Abstract #10 for payment as follows:

Prepaid: Claim #478 -500

General Accounts: Claim #'s 501 -510

Total General Funds: **\$5,683.52**, including prepaid

Debit Card Account: Claim # 511

Total Debit Card Funds: **\$112.73**

Sewer Accounts: Claim #496, 497, 498 (prepaid), 500, 512 and 513

Total Sewer Accounts: **\$129,167.06** including prepaid

Lighting District Accounts: Claim # 488 and 492 (prepaid)

Total Lighting District Funds: **\$557.88**

Highway Accounts Claim #'s 514 -528

Total Highway Accounts **\$22,493.15** including prepaid

Claim #'s 491, 492, and 519 split between funds same voucher.

PREPAIDS were paid on July 14, August 9, September 8, 16, 20, 22, 23 and October 6, 2016

CORRESPONDENCE:

- DOT reported update on Roebling Bridge repair
- Letter from NYS Environmental Protection regarding Environmental Impact
- Letter from UDC regarding supplemental emergency notification
- Shelter inspection report; our shelter passed inspection
- Letter from Sullivan West School emergency drill on October 7, 2016.
- UV system and building passed the inspection by Agriculture and Markets
- Email from Stephen Stuart regarding Solarize Sullivan. The deadline for residents to sign up for discounted opportunities is October 31, 2016. Mr. Stuart asked for the Town Board endorsement to raise awareness of the NYSERDA rebates program. Solarize Sullivan will cover cost to mail letters to town residents. Tabled
- The Youth Commission Contract is now filed for 2017.
- Letter from Principal Nancy Hackett regarding \$98.7 million funding for school transportation, projects and programs.
- UDSB letter requesting \$1,000.00 budgeted for 2017

Correspondence continued from page 1:

- SLAC meeting schedule 10/28/2016 10am at Government Center
- Letter from UDC regarding their position on large scale commercial solar plants in the River corridor

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SULLIVAN COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION: Larry Richardson

The Commission held its regular meeting on Wednesday September 21. The meeting was chaired by Peggy Harrison. Attorney William Brenner addressed the committee and recommended that it consider returning to a Board of Supervisors form of government. The meeting continued focusing on documenting reasons for an elected County Executive. This effort is continuing into this month's meeting. There was some discussion on what actions might be available if the Legislature chooses not to act on the final recommendation.

As mentioned previously the Legislature would like to see the commission finalize its work by December 31.

The next scheduled meeting will be October 19th at 6:00 PM at the government center.

I will have the honor of chairing the next meeting.

As always should anyone have comments or suggestions for the commission, they can call me or email me through my town email address: lrichardson@townofcochectonny.org.

Scenic Byway; The UDSB held its regular meeting on Monday September 26, 2016.

Topics of Discussion:

- Town of Highland wishes to retain ownership of the popular Monarch Butterfly Brochure
- 2017 Sullivan County Travel Guide ad-reprinted (1/4 page)
- Renewed contract with Catskill-Delaware Publications for the travel guide brochure distribution (\$300).
- No word on the County application for the Scenic Byway Visitors Center grant.
- Continuing documentation of Scenic Byway roadside attractions.
- Cochecton Preservation Society's annual Coffee, Tea & History presentation was the most successful yet with SRO!

Actions taken:

- Approved a \$100 check supporting the Monarch Butterfly Bike Ride organized by the Greater Barryville Chamber of Commerce to be held on Saturday Oct. 15th 10:00-noon. It is a 4.6 mile ride. Registration is \$10.00 and includes 1 bag of Sunshine SeedRZ. At the time of this writing 17 businesses had signed on as supporters.
- Approved a letter to Sullivan County Legislature asking that the Cochecton Transfer Station be kept open in an effort to reduce potential roadside trash.

The **Upper Delaware Council** held its regular meeting on Thursday October 6.

Following roll call, Loren Goering, Chief of Facility Management for UDSRR presented a power-point presentation on scheduled repairs to the Roebling Bridge.

The following is a partial list of topics discussed:

- Health Insurance Premium increase +16%; the Council agreed to pay for the increase for employees(10% had been budgeted)
- Federal Government Continuing Resolution; the NPS is working on a slightly reduced budget from 2016 and the amount of money available to UDC will be approximately 19% of our \$300,000.00 dollars through December.
- Large scale solar systems within the Corridor; Shohola and Deepark would like to see the decision left in the hands of the Planning Boards as special use permits. The boards could then make sure that potential impacts contrary to the Land & Water Use Guidelines would not be permitted. The UDC is waiting for responses from the other towns & townships. The comments on the draft position mailed by the Council should be returned by the end of December. *It should be noted that non-commercial solar systems are permitted.*
- Water conditions within the Upper Delaware Basin; the Upper Basin area is in a drought watch by the DRBC. It was noted that Sullivan County has a rainfall deficit of just under 8" YTD.
- NPS job openings; There are two permanent and 1 part-time positions open in the maintenance depart at the NPS. If you know of anyone interested, please have them call Kris Heister.
- Tourism impact; attached is a summary of the impact of tourism in the Delaware River area. In a study conducted in 2014, it was estimated that visitation to the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway generated \$17 million into the local economy and jobs to go with it.

Actions taken:

- Approved resolution 2016-10 approving the Tag Grant applications as recommended by the Project Review Committee
- Approved a letter to Heather Jacksy as coordinator of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program asking that the signage on the Narrowsburg Bridge reference Darbytown, PA rather than Beach Lake.

Economic Impact of Tourism Statistics

National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River - 2015

- 243,246 visitors spent \$10.2 million in recreational dollars (2014 = \$9.5 million)
- This visitation supported a total of 117 jobs (2014 = 108 jobs)
- Generated \$5.3 million in labor income
- Generated \$8.1 million in value added
- Generated \$12.1 million in economic output to the gateway communities surrounding the Upper Delaware unit of the National Parks System

UDC/NPS Tourism stats continued from page 2:**Estimate of Tourism Visitation to Upper Delaware Scenic Byway (July 2014 Fairweather Consulting Report)**

- * Designated portions of New York State Route 97, Hancock to Port Jervis
- * 283,000 leisure travelers came to the byway for outdoor recreation activities
- * At an average spending rate of \$60/day, that generated \$17 million in output

Upper Delaware River Cold Water Fishing & Boating Economic Impact Study (April 2014 Shepstone Consulting Report commissioned by the Delaware County Department of Economic Development and Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc.)

- * Study area: Deposit to Callicoon in parts of 4 counties, main stem & tributaries
- * These activities generated a net value of \$414 million (\$305 in economic activity and \$109 in associated second home real estate value)
- * Every dollar spent at a fishing destination by anglers is accompanied by another 61 cents spent in route to the location, for \$186 million outside the area

Catskills Region (Delaware, Sullivan, Ulster & Greene Counties)

- * 4 million visitors for tourism activities in 2015
- * Generated \$1.1 billion in economic impact
- * Supported 17,000 jobs — more than 15% of the region's employment

Socioeconomic Value of the Delaware River Basin in Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania (October 2011 Kauffman Report)

- * The river basin encompasses 13,000 square miles and has 8.2 million residents
- * Provides drinking water to 5% of the U.S. population, over 15 million people
- * Contributes \$25 billion to the region's economy through jobs in the maritime, agricultural, tourism, hunting, fishing, and wildlife industries
- * Contributes \$21 billion worth of ecosystem goods and services each year
- * Directly/indirectly responsible for 600,000 jobs with \$10 billion in annual wages

YOUTH COMMISSION: Councilperson Grund

- Tricky Trunk is 10/29 at the Town Hall parking lot; 19 cars and 39 children are signed up
- Scranton Coal Mine Tour is planned for 10/22
- Raffle tickets with great prizes are being sold to be drawn on the day of Tricky Trunk, 10/29. Prizes include: 1 week at Villa Roma; 1 night at Aquatopia; \$100 Walmart gift card; dinner for two at the Club Villa Roma; Landers River Trip for Two; plus many more prizes.

Website Report – September, 2016

- Added September agenda
- Review and corrections to Sept. Minutes for Peggy
- Added August minutes to board page
- Removed expired youth events and added new events
- Removed Expired Legal Notices
- Removed expired information in News Alerts Box
- Added Fire Company French Toast Breakfast to news alerts

Total Hours Worked: 3 hours

Fire District – The meeting was held on Monday, October 10, 2016

- Minutes were approved
- Bills were paid
- Approval was given to order remaining radios and pagers to conform to the new system
- Dix Hills (Long Island) Fire Company donated a Chief's Truck to Lake Huntington
- Budget Public Hearing will be on October 18 at 6:30 pm
- Fire Company French Toast Breakfast Oct. 23 from 7am till 12 noon.

SENIORS: Councilperson Salzberg nothing but will comment later.

KEEP COCHECTON CLEAN: Jerold Yavarkovsky – not present A clean-up day has been set for Oct. 15.

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

Monthly Financial Report

Bank Information:

Deposited \$ 100.00 UDC check
 Deposited \$ 2,192.34 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$ 1,568.00 Judicial fees
 Deposited \$ 929.01 Town Clerk fees
 Deposited \$ 4,385.24 Mortgage Tax

Made transfers and deposits as needed and gave budget to actuals to board

Activity:

- Sewer UV system became operational September 1, 2016
- Worked on tentative budget for 2017.
- Assisted Lake Huntington committee on addresses for home owners.
- Meeting with Ed McAndrew on Transfer Station and with DPW committee tomorrow, September 15, 2016.

Supervisor continued from page 3:

CONTRACTUAL	\$ 4,000.00	
Abstract #1	0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Abstract #2	\$ 97.11	\$ 3,902.89
Abstract #3	\$723.32	\$ 3,179.57
Abstract #4	\$180.00	\$ 2,999.57
Abstract #5	\$189.60	\$ 2,809.97
Abstract #6	\$124.00	\$ 2,685.97
Abstract #7	\$192.78	\$ 2,493.19
Abstract #8	\$119.31	\$ 2,373.88
Abstract #9	\$210.99	\$2,162.89
Abstract #10	\$ 90.21	\$2,072.68

Worked 95 hours

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Kevin Esselman arrived 8:05pm.

- Out patching, ditching and cutting brush.
- Finished up our paving.
- Had a few repairs.
- Started to work on some sanders.
- Prepped dump body on 31 for painting.

Our shop was broken into and 4 chain saws were stolen and two cordless drills.

Attended the 87th Annual Conference in Lake Placid. Sat in on some education sessions such as Shared Service Panel. The biggest concern here was having something in place in case of a national disaster. Also sat in on sessions with the Federal Highway Administration, Legal Panel and NYS Ethics and Lobbying Laws which seemed to be the most popular one. Also attended the annual banquet and welcomed in the states associations new president Mike Boesel.

Diesel – used 437 gals / 675 gals del

Gas – used 146 gals / 120 gals del

Worked 160 hrs

Contractual Balance is \$ 978.10

Councilperson Story asked if he has progressed with the Williamson Law Hwy Supt. Support program. He has not been able to work on it but offered to have the report by December. Councilperson Story suggested he train one of the highway crew to punch in numbers if they have a slow day. She requested that it would be done monthly and he said he can do that.

Highway Superintendent Esselman asked the Board for permission to clear off a couple of acres of the Nearing Road property to make a storage area for the stockpile of stone. He also suggested possible sale of useable logs. Supervisor Maas will check to see if there are restrictions in the deed.

Councilperson Nearing asked for clarification of Voucher for vendor, Cintas. The invoice includes cleaning service that is deducted every two weeks from employee’s paycheck and the balance is for cleaning mats and cleaning towels.

RESOLUTION # 54: On motion by Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, the following motion was made to authorize the Supervisor to pay Fosterdale Equipment for the Highway Department’s New Holland Backhoe purchase. It will be available in about a week.

APPROVED – AYES 5 NAYS – 0

Supervisor Maas

Councilpersons: Story, Nearing Salzberg and Grund

TOWN CLERK: Deputy Richardson

I took care of the regular duties of the Town Clerk.

UDC check # 2219 in the amount of \$100.00 received 09/30/2016 and turned over to the Supervisor the same day

Hollye Schulman and I attended the BOE meeting with Sullivan County Town Clerks on September 28, 2016 at Albella’s in Monticello. BOE Commissioner, Cora Edwards AND Lori Benjamin detailed procedures for the November 8, 2016 election.

I issued 1 permanent accessible parking permit and 2 temporary accessible parking permits in September.

Original ID Dog Licenses sold 4

Dog License Renewals sold 6

Check # 1961 in the amount of \$16.00 paid to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

Worked a total of 52 hours September 1 – 25, 2016

Contractual balance \$1,358.25

\$3574.01 check given to Supervisor Maas.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Gregg Semenetz – not present

- Submitted a written report: Worked 80 hours traveled 674 miles
- Issued 12 permits; 0 renewals, 14 C of O’s, Notices of Disapproval 0, 2 Municipal search letters, 1 appearance tickets
- Revenues of \$3,450.00, and expenses of \$413.96
- Contractual Balance: \$1,527.00

TAX COLLECTOR: Eileen Hennessy – not present

- The checking account has 14¢

TOWN ATTORNEY: Karen Mannino

No report

ASSESSOR: Lorry J. King - not present

Submitted written report: Supervisor went over the report

Old Business:

1. Nothing new to report.

New Business:

1. The State is sending out postcards to eligible *homeowners who have not registered* for the STAR program via telephone with the NYS Department of Finance. These postcards will go out to owners who purchased a home in 2015 and forward. If a taxpayer has forgotten to sign up, this will hopefully remind them. All new STAR recipients identified in our town as *new* will get the postcard. But only if they haven't called the registration number. To register, for STAR credit program call (518) - 457-2036. Have your school tax bill handy when you call.
2. On Friday October 21st 2016, I will be in Monticello for a training course from 10:00 -4:00.
3. On September 28th, 2016 my husband had a kidney transplant, now that he is home; we are required to meet with his doctor for his checkups 2 times a week in Manhattan. At this time, we have his schedule covered until the 25th of October, but after that I will be required to take him. The appointments are not consistent, so I am not able to pick and choose, but I will do my best to keep you informed as to what days as soon as we know more.

Assessor Hours: 27.00 Clerk Hours: 25.00 Contractual: \$2,488.10

SEWER OFFICER: Michael Walter – not present

Submitted a written report:

- Expenditures were \$ 205.85
- Contractual Balance: \$6,444.17
- Worked 76 1/2 hours
- The UV system needs some minor adjustments in the wiring of the thermostats.
- Dosing tank improved with the help of Highway Dept.

PLANNING BOARD: Chair Earl Bertsch – not present October Planning Board Meeting is cancelled and November meeting will be held one week earlier on November 17 because of Thanksgiving Holiday.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Rosemary Barile not present

Submitted a written report: traveled 98 miles Worked 10 hours Contractual balance: \$870.14

HISTORIAN: (K. C. Garn) not present

TOWN BOARD:

Councilperson Salzberg

- The *Times Herald-Record* sponsored a meeting at the firemen's hall about the health status of Sullivan County. The CEO of CRMC and a representative from the Federation for the Homeless were among the speakers. Focus Groups will be meeting locally inviting the community to express their concerns about their health, the health services and access for health care. The goal is to improve poverty, transportation and the substance abuse problem. There will be follow up meetings.
- Mike Poppolillo organized a meeting of homeowners for a meeting in the town hall community room. There were 50 attendees. Councilperson Story pointed out that not all of the lakefront property owners were notified about the meeting. Councilperson Salzberg stated that the group is aware of that and with the help of Supervisor Maas they now have all of the mailing addresses. They are moving forward to form a Homeowner's Association.

Council members Grund, Story, and Nearing had nothing more to add

OLD BUSINESS:

Transfer Station: Supervisor Maas presented the board with a draft letter composed by our attorney to send to the DPW and our representative legislators. The DPW has until December 31, 2016 to make a decision regarding the Transfer Station. This was discussed and all board members were in favor of sending letter to DPW.

Sewer plant: will be getting the new louver vent system installed.

Town Hwy building roof: Bids will be opened at recessed meeting October 26, 2016 at 6:30pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Larry Richardson commented about the home on Shortcut Road looks a mess. He appreciates Highway Supt. offering to build a buffer berm to screen the stock pile from the road on Nearing Rd. The neighbors will appreciate it too. He also commented about transfer station, how truckloads of garbage are brought in but it doesn't appear that there is any accounting for how many bags are dropped. Again, Supervisor Maas said that it is not run like a business and he will address all of the issues at his meeting with the DPW.

Peter Grosser commented that the transfer station is always muddy when it rains and mentioned that other transfer stations are blacktop and not muddy.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the contract with the Transfer Station and a highway department workers comp claim at 8:38PM.

APPROVED: AYES: 5 NAYS: 0
Supervisor Maas
Councilpersons: Grund, Story, Nearing and Salzberg

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Story, seconded by Councilperson Salzberg, motion to close Executive Session at 9:10PM.

APPROVED: AYES: 5 NAYS: 0
Supervisor Maas
Councilpersons: Grund, Story, Nearing and Salzberg

No decisions were made during the Executive Session.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Nearing, motion to recess meeting to Wednesday, October 26, 2016 for budget workshop following opening of bids for Roof Repair beginning at 6:30PM. Time: 9:15PM

APPROVED: AYES: 5 NAYS: 0
Supervisor Maas
Councilpersons: Grund, Story, Nearing and Salzberg

Respectfully Submitted, _____
Margaret Richardson, Deputy Town Clerk