

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
July 28, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

**A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, July 28, 2016, at 7:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

**PRESENT:** Philip A. Crandall, Supervisor  
Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman  
Kenneth A. Burns, Councilman  
George E. Langdon, Councilman  
James C. Youmans, Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk  
John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer  
John Kerr, Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Operator  
Peter J. McKenna, Chief of Police  
David Wukitsch, Attorney for the Town

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Supervisor Crandall opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**OPENING COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall stated that there was a full Town Board present, also attending were Town Clerk Millious, Highway Superintendent Searles, Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Operator Kerr, Attorney for the Town Wukitsch and Chief of Police McKenna.

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**AGENDA**

- Presentation
  - Dedication of Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient Marker
- Public Comment
- Approval of Minutes of Meetings
- Supervisor Report
  - May 2106
  - June 2016
- Department Report
  - Building Department, June 2016
  - Sewer Department, June 2016
  - Town Clerk, June 2016
  - Police Department, June 2016
- Old Business
- New Business
  - Resignation of Police Officer
- Resolutions
  - Amend Resolution #100-16
  - Authorization to Sign Amendment to SRO Agreement
  - Set Pay Rate for Recreation Leader
  - Request Study from DOT on Biechman Road
  - Set Monthly Sewer Payment from Village
  - Appoint Safety/Workplace Violence Committee
  - Authorization to Sign SDG Contract
  - Authorization to Sign Health Insurance Contract
  - Authorize to Sign CSEA Health Insurance Contract
  - Audit of Claims
- Approve July Abstract
- Upcoming Workshops/Meetings
  - Town Board Workshop, August 18, 2016
  - Town Board Meeting, August 25, 2016

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**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Dedication of Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient Marker**

Supervisor Crandall stated that he was in receipt of a letter from Ten Eyck B. Powell III, Commander VFW Post 9594 and continued by reading the following:

Dear Supervisor Crandall,

The members of VFW Post 9594, Ravena, NY, invite you to attend the dedication of a Medal of Honor recipient marker at the renovated grave site of Civil War Veteran Peter VanHoesen, at the Coeymans Hollow Cemetery, in Coeymans Hollow, NY at 9:00am, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

This is an unusual situation as I will describe. Peter VanHoesen, the recipient, enlisted in a New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment shortly after the start of the war for a two year period and was present at the Battle of Bull Run. For reasons unknown, he and eight others from his company deserted. About one year later he returned home where he was captured in the Albany area, he escaped and made his way to New York City.

While in New York City, he met James Sullivan, from Connecticut, offered him \$300.00 to fight in his stead as James Sullivan, in a Connecticut Regiment. VanHoesen agreed, later volunteering for service with the United States Navy and subsequently received the Medal of Honor as a sailor for dangerous action off South Carolina. Returning home after the war, he applied for a Veteran's Pension as VanHoesen, which he was denied. He was later buried with mention of his service, but no mention of his Medal of Honor.

Contacted last year by the National Medal of Honor Society, VFW Post 9594 has taken on the mission of marking his grave appropriately and restoring his grave site to one befitting of a national hero. VFW Post 9594 also believes that in doing this small act for Peter VanHoesen, we are confirming that our Town's commitment to our brothers and sisters in arms, both living and dead, never ends. We also believe that this event spotlights a large number of veterans who have experienced the stress and trauma of combat, sometimes make bad decisions from which most, unlike VanHoesen, are not able to recover due to their ineligibility to access veteran's services.

We hope you will consider attending our 30-minute ceremony. Should you be able, please have your staff respond by e-mail to the following address or phone number.

Sincerely,

TenEyck B. Powell III  
Commander  
VFW Post 9594

Supervisor Crandall stated that he did respond, he will be there and he hopes that many others will attend.

Councilman Dolan stated that he and Supervisor Crandall attended some of the planning meetings for this event, it is a really interesting story with more detail than that and Mr. Powell tells the story a lot better than the reading of the letter.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that he certainly does.

Councilman Dolan stated that if you are going to go and honor this man, you should talk to Tripp Powell to hear more of the story; it is a really amazing story.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall invited the public to comment at this time.

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Mr. Laszlo Polyak stated that he has three separate issues and the first is that he spoke with the Chairman of the Board of SEFCU, Michael Castellano at 464-5218 and during the initial contact, he found that they are interested in possibly putting a SEFCU in Ravenna in addition to speaking with his Chief of Operations and he wanted to give the Supervisor his card so he can speak to him if he needs to.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he had already spoken to him, after Mr. Polyak called him and he in turn called SEFCU and he is going to get back to him with an e-mail on exactly what they are going to do in two weeks.

Mr. Polyak stated that he has Masonic obligations and won't be able to attend the Village Meeting, the Town's counterpart, the Mayor and Trustees and then asked that he inform them to see what they can do about bringing a SEFCU down here in light of what is happening with First Niagara & Key Bank.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he certainly would.

Mr. Polyak continued by saying that the second issue that he has is Masonic in relations and in putting it bluntly, cops are not supposed to be assassinated, they are the physical representation of our Constitution and if you are on a Masonic "poop" list the safest place for you to be is behind a cop because they won't go through any cop, agent or trooper because they physically represent the Constitution, which was a gift from a Masonic Fraternity 200 plus years ago. He added that with all of this happening and so forth people don't realize that by night the Shriner Hospitals assist, aid and put back together the Police Officers that were shot up or mutilated and sometimes will try to get someone in a blizzard with downed trees. He went on by saying that Free Masons around the country are simply saying that if it continues, they may have to step in and if Chief McKenna finds someone with a locked gun pinned to his chest, he will know that they are not happy with what is going on in the communities and they truly support the Police Departments. He continued by saying that his last issue is Satan Cycles, a year and a half ago they granted them the ability to have at one of their shin-digs a Child ID Program and he wanted to make it publically crystal clear that he has no affiliation or association with the Masonic Order, they are doing some things that they should not be doing that are detrimental to this community and he has gotten some complaints and he's sure that they have gotten some complaints on their conduct. He concluded by thanking Chief McKenna for his service and to tell his Officers that if they need any assistance, the Free Masons take care of people and hopefully with everything going around in the country, he hopes that they never have to face or be pinned down by sniper fire.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments, hearing none he moved to the next item on the agenda.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Supervisor Crandall stated that there was one set of minutes for Town Board approval, a Town Board Meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and then asked for a motion to approve them.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Burns, the minutes were approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

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**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**May 2016 – Amended Report**

| FUND             | BAL. FWD.    | RECEIPTS | DISBURSE.             | BALANCE               |
|------------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                  |              |          |                       |                       |
| <b>POL. FOR.</b> | \$ 14,668.94 | \$ 0.53  | \$ 2,670.33           | \$ 11,999.14          |
|                  |              |          |                       |                       |
|                  |              |          | <b>TOT. REC. BAL.</b> | <b>\$1,837,236.16</b> |

Supervisor Crandall asked for a motion to approve the amended May Supervisor’s Report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan the amended Supervisor’s Report for May was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**June 2016**

| FUND                     | BAL. FWD.     | RECEIPTS      | DISBURSE.             | BALANCE               |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>GENERAL</b>           | \$ 919,890.67 | \$ 40,777.96  | \$ 227,298.79         | \$ 733,369.84         |
| <b>CONSOLIDATED</b>      | \$ 814.63     | \$ .13        | -0-                   | \$ 814.76             |
| <b>PART TOWN</b>         | \$ 145,925.43 | \$ 922.42     | \$ 92,046.79          | \$ 54,801.06          |
| <b>HIGHWAY</b>           | \$ 271,135.15 | \$ 166.97     | \$ 257,914.42         | \$ 13,387.70          |
| <b>BRIDGE CONS.</b>      | \$ 29,242.56  | \$ 20.10      | -0-                   | \$ 29,262.66          |
| <b>SEWER</b>             | \$ 17,811.02  | \$ 88,974.09  | \$ 41,677.64          | \$ 65,107.47          |
| <b>SPECIAL WATER</b>     | \$ 62,352.43  | \$ 534.18     | -0-                   | \$ 62,886.61          |
| <b>TRUST &amp; AGCY.</b> | \$ 23,571.15  | \$ 295,343.08 | \$ 289,696.99         | \$ 29,217.24          |
| <b>POL. FOR.</b>         | \$ 11,999.14  | \$ 0.42       | \$ 500.00             | \$ 11,499.56          |
| <b>CAP. PROJ.</b>        | \$ 353,191.20 | \$ 57.27      | \$ 68,430.88          | \$ 284,817.59         |
| <b>SEC. 8 HUD</b>        | \$ 1,302.78   | \$ 46,352.34  | \$ 45,733.16          | \$ 1,921.96           |
|                          |               |               |                       |                       |
|                          |               |               | <b>TOT. REC. BAL.</b> | <b>\$1,287,086.45</b> |

**CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

**SAVINGS ACCOUNTS**

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Unemployment | \$ 704.03          |
| Grove Cem.   | \$40,978.78        |
| C.H. Cem.    | \$13,442.25        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$55,125.06</b> |

**COLATERAL FDIC COVERAGE COLLATERALIZED COVERAGE**

|               |              |                |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Greene County | \$250,000.00 | \$2,344,809.72 |
| National Bank | \$250,000.00 | \$ -0-         |

Supervisor asked for a motion to approve the report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Youmans, the Supervisor’s Report for June was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Councilman Burns stated that he didn’t want to put Attorney for the Town Wukitsch on the spot and then asked what he came up with for the cemetery money that is in savings.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that he checked with the Association of Towns and in turn they sent him some opinions from the State Comptroller and they rendered an opinion to him that as long as there were no restrictions, it can be used for ordinary capital improvements and maintenance. He added that they also said that other Town’s facing the same situation have used such funds for ordinary maintenance, largely because the Town is the owner and entitled to

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use the funds for those purposes and for any objection to the use, as long as it is for ordinary maintenance and not for town-wide expenditures, it is deemed acceptable.

Councilman Burns asked if labor would be included in it.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that he would say yes.

Councilman Burns asked Supervisor Crandall if they can start using the money.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he is having the Internal Control Officer check it out, Attorney for the Town Wukitsch gave them his opinion but they have gotten different opinions from the Department of State and he wants to make sure they cross their "t's" and dot their "i's" before they do anything with that money.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that if they can't use the money, it will stay there forever and it doesn't make sense.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he agrees with him but he wants to do it right.

Councilman Dolan stated that he thinks it depends on the type of account and how it was set up, if it is a perpetual care fund, only the interest can be used.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that it was for perpetual care and back in the day, people paid extra for that.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that it can be used and there couldn't be an objection to using it if it is perpetual care as the Town Clerk said and he doesn't understand what the objection would be, this is what it is, it's perpetual care. He continued by saying that the issue is, should the taxpayers of the Town as a whole be required to subsidize the normal up keep, particularly where if it is for perpetual care and he doesn't understand why it would not be allowed because all of the taxpayers in the town are not benefiting from the cemetery, they could be using other cemeteries so why should they have to pay for it when there are funds available to pay for it. He concluded by saying that it doesn't make sense.

Councilman Youmans stated that there are funds to pay for it for a very short time.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that it would be for a period of time.

Town Clerk Millious stated that when she first got the cemetery, she questioned the Division of Cemeteries and they said that you can't really touch the money without a Court Order so it got left untouched and added that everyone has a different opinion on it.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that if you obtain a Court Order, you have to put someone on Notice and then asked who they are going to put on Notice because the Association no longer exists and he doesn't know who the parties are that they have to put on notice.

Councilman Langdon stated that he would think that was the way that it was initially set up, because cemeteries are forever, they never go away.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that the Association is defunct and no longer exists.

Councilman Langdon stated that the concept would have been to put money someplace and the proceeds or growth of that money could sustain it, but the reality is that they are talking \$2.00 a month that it is earning. He added that the reality is it is falling on the taxpayers here so he thinks they should be able to use at least that amount of money to help offset that.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that the Town owns the cemetery.

Councilman Langdon stated that when someone gets buried, they probably get a deed for the plot.

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Supervisor Crandall stated that they do, it is issued by the Town Clerk and signed by the Town Supervisor.

Councilman Langdon stated that the Town has to maintain the property and cut the grass.

Councilman Dolan stated that the money in the cemetery savings fund is not the money that the town receives when they sell a plot.

Town Clerk Millious stated that the money is from when the Association abandoned the cemetery and the money was turned over to the Town.

Councilman Langdon stated that this was money that was left in their account and they were realizing that they were never going to have enough money to maintain what they had to do.

Councilman Dolan stated that they abandoned the cemetery and by State Law the Town is obligated to take care of the cemetery.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is another State mandate that has to be footed by the taxpayers of the Town.

Councilman Langdon stated that but now they don't let them use the little bit of money that is there to keep up with it.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he had gotten the same opinion that Mr. Wukitsch gave them and he also got a conflicting opinion so he is going to have it all checked out again and then the Board can make a decision. He added that he wants to be able to present both sides but he thinks they should be able to use the money too.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that he read numerous opinions and did the research to find that they are conflicting, when you read through the descriptions of different funds that a cemetery can set up, there seems to be an opinion that they can use this type of fund but you can't use another type of fund. He added that his point is, if an Association is defunct and the Town is now the owner, who would have standing at this point to object and it is a fair expenditure to relieve the taxpayers of the Town to the extent that they are able for a short time to use those expenses and concluded by saying that it makes sense to him.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it make perfect sense to him too.

Councilman Youmans interjected that it does, especially since they just had the expense of the tree coming down and knocking down monuments.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they have to check out every angle because as Attorney for the Town Wukitsch had said, the case law is conflicting, he wants to make sure, he never jumps into things and he wants to make sure that they know what they're doing and do what is right, especially for the taxpayer.

Councilman Dolan stated that what he read, and he isn't trying to match Attorney for the Town Wukitsch' knowledge, he is sure he did more in depth research because his research is called Google, that when they are talking about the use of cemetery funds, they are not necessarily talking about an abandoned cemetery so if this was a Perpetual Care Fund that is operating and on-going, there would be money going into the fund as well as money going out so then using interest would make sense because people are contributing to it each year and the idea was that the money would never be exhausted.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that it is not the case here.

Councilman Youmans stated that what Councilman Dolan said makes sense.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments, hearing none he moved to the next item on the agenda.

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**DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**Building Department – June 2016**

Supervisor Crandall asked that Code Enforcement Officer Cashin give the Building Department Monthly Report.

Code Enforcement Officer Cashin continued by giving the report.

Code Enforcement Officer Cashin stated that he wanted to mention a few things about the Town's problem with blight and abandoned properties. He added that New York State has passed what is called the Zombie Property Law, which will be effective this December and the main crux of the law is that it makes mortgage holders held responsible in the first foreclosure letter that they send. He continued by saying that right now it is running around 900 days when a bank gives a Foreclosure Notice to when they actually file it in court so it is almost 3 years that he has no one to go after for the buildings because the owner is gone and the bank is not accepting responsibility and this will make banks file notices as soon as they file the first letter of foreclosure to the mortgage holder. He added that another thing that they have done is the Coeymans Building Department has partnered with 10 other Building Departments in the area and the Albany Law School Government Law Center, to apply for a grant, a Government Efficiency Grant that is targeting blighted properties and abandoned buildings. He went on by saying that his department expends approximately \$20,000.00 a year chasing these properties and this grant will help them with that as well as helping create a Vacant Property Registry that will help them make the banks accountable. He concluded by saying that there is a very lightly used part of the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law that will actually let a municipality take title to abandoned buildings, which is a legal process that they will be helping them with as well.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they sure need to speed things up.

Code Enforcement OfficerCashin stated that right now in New York State there are approximately 12,000 bank owned properties that are abandoned and the banks are not filing the final paperwork saying that they own them.

Supervisor Crandall stated that anything to help with the blight in our community is a good thing and then asked for a motion to approve the report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the report was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**Sewer Department – June 2016**

Supervisor Crandall asked that Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Operator Kerr give the Sewer Department Monthly Report.

Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Operator continued by giving the report.

Councilman Burns asked how the construction job is going.

Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Operator Kerr stated that it started out slow in the beginning of the week, there were some existing utilities that they had to be cautious with, it started at a slow pace but it will soon pick up.

Supervisor Crandall stated that Mr. Flores will be at the next Town Board Meeting to give an update on the entire sewer project.

Councilman Langdon asked if the next phase is ready to go out.

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Supervisor Crandall stated that they are starting the first phase now and the second phase is not quite ready to go yet and then asked for a motion to approve the report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Youmans, the report was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**Town Clerk – June 2016**

Supervisor Crandall asked that Town Clerk Millious give the Town Clerk Monthly Report.

Town Clerk Millious continued by giving the report.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she wanted to mention that Sportsmen Licenses are going on sale very early this year, they will be on sale Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, she does not have the Hunting Guide Books but should have them before Monday and Doe Permits will also be available and you would have until October 1<sup>st</sup> to pick your area to hunt. She continued by saying that for the Sewer Billing Collection, because the 31<sup>st</sup> is on a Sunday, you can pay on Monday with no penalty if paid in person or post marked.

Supervisor Crandall asked for a motion to approve the report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Youmans, the report was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Councilman Burns stated that the Supervisor had mentioned that he was going to drop the Village Sewer to \$24,000.00 a month and then asked when that will start.

Councilman Dolan stated that there is a resolution for later in the meeting.

**Police Department – June 2016**

Supervisor Crandall asked that Chief McKenna give the Police Department Monthly Report.

Chief McKenna continued by giving the report.

Chief McKenna stated that they noticed it seemed their numbers were low that have been reported from the County and with the help of Dawn LaMountain they endeavored to hand-search it and in turn they found the numbers were off by about 68%. He added that the reported activity for the first six months is listed with Dispatch as 3,968 calls and after amending it, there were actually 6,673 calls. He continued by saying that in speaking with Inspector Mariani, what they believe this issue was, is that the program was built with only the Town of Coeymans calls for service so anytime an Officer was dispatched or initiated activity in the Village, it did not register on the call ticket, which added 2,700 calls or 68% more than what they had initially reported so they are shooting for between 13,000 – 15,000 calls for service this calendar year. He added that he wanted to look to the future a little bit; he was approached by a gentleman that he has known a long time, E.J. Seney, the Deputy Chief of the Albany Fire Department, who will be retiring soon and has requested sponsorship to the Zone 14 Academy. He continued by saying that he is the number two man at the Albany Fire Department, and EMT, worked for Albany County Paramedics and has a wealth of knowledge, not only as a first responder, paramedic and fire investigator, he is a dedicated, driven guy. He went on by saying that he would like to ask that the Town sponsor him at no cost to the Town to attend the Zone 14 Academy, which starts in September, it is a 9 month program, he would pick up the expenses and pay his own books, utilities, supplies and uniforms and in turn they can re-visit and decide if it is amenable to hire him at the end of his Academy time. He concluded by saying that step one would be sponsoring him as a potential candidate for the Coeymans Police Department at the August meeting so he

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wanted to give them a month for questions, he will finish the vetting process and added that he will bring an incredible background to the Department.

Councilman Youmans asked if it was 6,600 calls in 6 months.

Chief McKenna stated that it is on a pace to do over 13,000 in a year and might go up because July's numbers are up and August is traditionally a very busy month and he sees it probably being higher.

Councilman Youmans stated that it would be an average of 37 calls a day.

Chief McKenna stated that last year, Coeymans was 80-83% of the Town of Bethlehem's call volume and they run a much larger shift so they are doing a really tremendous job with anything from chasing down Pikachu's to fire calls and everything else that they are not aware of.

Councilman Dolan asked that he relay the Pikachu story.

Chief McKenna stated that on Saturday night Dispatch sent two Officers to Coeymans Hollow, a 911 call came in from a man who said that he was playing Pokémon Go and got lost and trapped in the woods; he was a 62 year old man. He added that it was between Rt. 32 and Lawson's Lake Road, which he gives credit to Officer Posniewski who was on phone and dialed back through 911 so she would get the 911 board to ping and then asked Dispatch to walk her toward the other phone on the mapping and she found him in ankle to knee deep mud and was trapped because he was playing a game on his phone very late in the night at approximately 2:00am and he didn't capture the Pokémon character.

Councilman Dolan stated that Chief McKenna mentioned the under reporting of calls and a theory about why and then asked if he is getting the calls down here.

Chief McKenna stated that they are getting the calls, the problem was when they were printing out and Dawne is so well versed in everything that has to do with the computer and dispatch system and she went in and hand searched. He added that she was saying that she couldn't figure it out because they are using the County's system to show the increase in numbers so when they built the print-out system for Zone 7, which is Coeymans and not Zone 8, the Village of Ravena, they were left out. He continued by saying that they have adjusted it and Ralph Mariani sent a flow chart to show the numbers that Dawne came up with.

Councilman Youmans asked if what he was saying is that 68% of the calls come from Ravena.

Chief McKenna stated that 40% from the Village 60% from outside the Village but when you tack on the 40% on top, it is a 68% jump from the numbers that were being reported.

Supervisor Crandall asked for a motion to approve the report.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the report was approved as presented and read.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation of Police Officer**

Supervisor Crandall asked that Chief McKenna read the letter of resignation that he received.

Chief McKenna continued by reading the following:

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July 16, 2016

Chief McKenna  
Town of Coeymans Police Department

Chief McKenna,

Please accept this letter as my two-week notice of resignation. My last day will be July 30, 2016. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work under your command for the Town of Coeymans Police Department. I have accepted a position as Police Officer for the Town of Bethlehem Police Department. I would like to thank you and the Town of Coeymans for affording me this opportunity to serve this community as Police Officer. I wish you and the Department much success in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catilyn Posniewski

Chief McKenna stated that it's no surprise that she is going to Bethlehem because when they were testing the PT test for prospective candidates Commander Hornick from Bethlehem was there and asked if he should steal her now or wait until she got through her full year and he told him that he would appreciate waiting because he could use her for a year. He concluded by saying that she is a talented young woman, she is going to Bethlehem and he wishes her the best, she will be missed, she is a fantastic Officer and the sky is the limit.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he wanted to publicly thank Officer Posniewski for her services to the Town, she will be missed and he has had many good reports on this Officer and then asked for a motion to accept the resignation.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Youmans accepting the resignation of Police Officer Posniewski.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Councilman Youmans stated that he wanted to say thank you to Officer Posniewski for her service to the Town, he wished her all the best but is disappointed anytime they have one of their own local people leave the Department.

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**RES. #104-16 AMEND RESOLUTION #100-16**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, Resolution #100-16 was presented and passed at the Town Board Meeting, held June 23, 2016, and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution #100-16 is in need of being amended in order to fix the rate of pay.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby state that in reference to Resolution #100-16, the rate of pay for Officers Bell, Weir and Dorsey is \$18.13 an hour.

**RES. #105-16 AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT TO SRO (SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER) AGREEMENT**

On motion of Councilman Langdon, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

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**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans Police Department has an Agreement with the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District to provide a School Resource Officer for the District, and

**WHEREAS**, the parties wish to continue the present Agreement subject to the attached amendment,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to execute the amendment to the SRO Agreement between the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District and the Town of Coeymans.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the Chief of Police went up and spoke with Mr. Libby and they have a better deal this time than they had the last time.

Councilman Burns asked Chief McKenna if he had anyone in mind.

Chief McKenna stated that he will be keeping Sargent Contento who is looking forward to going back and getting another year.

Councilman Youmans stated that it is an excellent choice.

**RES. #106-16 SET PAY RATE FOR RECREATIONAL LEADER**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby set the rate of pay for Danyell Burns, Recreation Leader, at \$15.00 an hour, effective as of June 27, 2016.

**RES. #107-16 AUTHORIZE REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO LOWER THE SPEED ON BIECHMAN ROAD**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has been presented with a petition to establish a lower maximum speed on Biechman Road from State Rt. 143 to the Coeymans Town line, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board requests that the New York Department of Transportation perform a study to support a lower maximum speed on Biechman Road from State Rt. 143 to the Coeymans town line, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town requests concurrence from the County Superintendent of Highways for this request.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby request that the Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section 1622(1) of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, establish a lower maximum speed at which vehicles may proceed on Biechman Road from State Rt. 143 to the Coeymans town line, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Department of Transportation is requested to perform any necessary studies to effectuate this reduction in speed.

Councilman Langdon asked what requested reduction in speed is.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is 30mph and all but 3 people signed a petition to lower the speed, the other three were contacted by phone and they all said they wanted it lowered so everyone on the road was contacted.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch asked if it will be sent to DOT with a copy to the County.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it will be.

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July 28, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

**RES. #108-16 AMEND SEWER RATE FOR VILLAGE OF RAVENA**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 3 – NAYS 2 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has established Sewer Rates for 2016 on December 14, 2106, and

**WHEREAS**, the monthly rate adopted in Resolution #138-15 for the Village of Ravena usage was \$29,500.00, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans has had to credit the Village of Ravena in the past for overpayments, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Sewer Plant Operator feels the monthly usage fee is too high and would like to alleviate the need for future overpayments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby reduce the monthly usage fee for the Village of Ravena to \$24,000.00, effective July 1, 2016.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2016 Budget be amended as follows:

**Decrease Expenditures**

SS8130.4 Contractual (Joint) \$33,000.00

**Decrease Revenue**

SS2374 Sewer Services  
Other Government \$33,000.00

Councilman Burns stated that Supervisor Crandall had said they had to repay the Village because they overpaid the Town and then asked what proof they have that they did overpay them.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they have been going through vouchers with Trustee Bailey and he is basically the only one that they have to go by at the end of the year so they took him for face value on his figures. He added that they now are going over it with the Internal Control Officer and his Budget Officer and Bookkeeper and they are trying to get it all worked out now but for the time being, they don't want them to over pay so there is big bill and they won't have any money for the beginning of the year. He concluded by saying that they will come back to revisit this again; he's sure, before the end of the year.

Councilman Dolan stated that what happened is the Village overpaid the Town last year based on what they thought they were going to have to pay the Town for the year so they paid roughly, according to what they think right now and went January, February and part of March where they got no money from the Village because they overpaid in 2015.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they let it go for ½ of the year and now they are going to reduce it for a short time until they get things all worked out and reiterated that he doesn't want to have to pay the Village again another \$60,000.00 at the beginning of next year.

Councilman Youmans stated that it is basic housekeeping and they will monitor it.

Councilman Langdon stated that the only one that he knows of who knows all about the Sewer Billing is Larry Conrad and he had a chat with him the other day and he thinks this is a big mistake.

Councilman Dolan interjected that he would say that he's not the only one that knows all about this and they have been working hard on it. He added that he's not saying that Larry doesn't have a lot of knowledge about it, because he does.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch asked what has happened in the past and if they have overpaid.

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Councilman Langdon stated that in the past year they were going to start paying 75% of the sewer.

Councilman Dolan stated that this has nothing to do with the 75%; it has absolutely nothing to do with that, this has to do with when the Town sets their Sewer Rates, meaning what each user in the Hamlet and outside the Village pays for their sewer for the year, which is roughly \$500.00 in two payments. He added that when the Town sets the rates for the Hamlet and other non-Village residents, they then take what they think it is going to cost to operate the plant for the coming year and in 2015 they think they spent less money jointly with the Village because of Capital Projects that they were working on so in other words if they are working outside the fence, that money is not billable to the Village but billable to the H-Fund and reiterated that they did not spend as much money in 2015.

Councilman Langdon interjected that part of the discussion was the fact that outside the fence is still part of the Village because they are using that pipe to bring stuff down.

Councilman Dolan stated that it goes to the H-Fund and it's not part of it and he knows that in the coming years the Village will share but this year it is covered by the grant and there will be no cost. He added that all the money that they spent outside the fence working on the H-Fund, that money is not going to be charged to the Village, it will be charged to the H-Fund, which will be covered by the grant.

Supervisor Crandall stated that there is a misconception that they changed the Sewer Rate and added that they didn't do that, they just changed what the Village pays the Town and reiterated that they didn't change the Sewer Rates.

Councilman Dolan stated that if they get to the end of the year and the Village owes the Town money, they will pay the Town money, if they get to the end of the year and owe the Village, hopefully less than \$60,000.00 - \$70,000.00; it will go into next year that they won't have to pay. He added that they are looking at a better way to do it; it's just the way it has been operating.

Councilman Youmans reiterated that they are not changing any percentages with what anyone pays.

Councilman Langdon stated that they are changing what they are collecting in a given quarter.

Councilman Youmans stated that was right and added that they are going to reconcile at the end, just like they did before and then asked if it makes sense.

Councilman Langdon stated that he understands what they are saying but in hearing about this, he knows that Larry and Bill Bailey go at this every year and have for decades now.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that they now have John Kerr sitting down with him.

Councilman Dolan stated that they sat down with John and they estimated what the cost would be.

Councilman Burns stated that last year they had a Gentleman's Agreement between the Village and the Town of 75% / 25%.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he put it in writing in a contract the first of this year and the Village has not signed it yet but he understands that they are going to sign it as long as the Town gets the straight line through Persico's property.

Councilman Burns asked why that made a difference with the Village.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is because they want to make sure it is done right, which he agrees with because if they make a 90 degree turn again, they are going to end up with the same problem five years from now, the extra pressure on that turn will break the pipe and create a sink-hole that they don't want and the Village doesn't need so he understands where they are coming from. He added that it is for the betterment of the Town and the Village to do it, and to do it right.

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Town Clerk Millious stated that she collects the money for the Village payment and in the first three months there was an adjusted voucher because they were supposed to pay \$29,500.00 and the Town gave them a credit of approximately \$60,000.00 but she doesn't see it showing in the resolution. She then asked if it applies to what was shown for the full year in the resolution and then asked if they remember the first voucher when the Village wouldn't pay.

Councilman Dolan stated that it just covers from July 1<sup>st</sup> forward.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that they made an adjustment in the beginning and she thought it should be included in the resolution.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is on the old Agreement, this is the new, they were still paying \$29,000.00 at that time and that is where the \$62,000.00 overpayment came from because they were actually charging them too much according to Trustee Bailey.

Councilman Youmans interjected that they are not changing any of the fundamentals of the Agreement, it is just fiscal housekeeping.

Councilman Langdon stated that Mr. Bailey told Larry that he thinks there are some vouchers that he overlooked.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he had spoken with Mr. Bailey and everything is being checked out now as far as overpayments from the Village to the Town.

Councilman Langdon stated that it seems like a lot to make these kind of changes mid-stream when they don't really know what the real answer is; they are still trying to estimate and figure it out.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that they are going to true-up at some point.

Supervisor Crandall stated that if they continue with it, they may end up in the same spot that they were last year in January, owing the Village; they owed the Village \$62,000 and that it is just not fiscally responsible. He added that they are making some adjustments now and trying to work things out to make sure that the Village is paying the Town the right amount and they won't have to reimburse them again next year.

Councilman Langdon stated that personally he would like to see a few more facts to know that they are thinking right on it and it is his personal opinion.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he is certainly entitled to that.

Councilman Burns stated that Larry had said that he is willing to work for nothing to help them straighten it out and all they have to do is ask him.

Councilman Dolan interjected that everyone on the Board has talked to Larry about it and he saw him just the other night as well as being in the office yesterday.

Councilman Burns asked if they can use him.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he will sit down and talk to anybody to try to help the Town.

Councilman Burns stated that before they sign something like this he would like to see Larry's input on it because he seems to have a lot of information that his figures are right and the Town really doesn't owe all that money.

Councilman Youmans stated that they are working on it as they speak.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is not about them owing the Village money, they are going through the painstaking process of going through voucher by voucher and the other day there were some other vouchers coded incorrectly and they have been given to Bill and they are working on them.

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Councilman Youmans stated that he had a nice talk with Larry Conrad not too long ago about it and he certainly appreciates his willingness to offer information and his concern and in turn he thanked him and told him he would call if he had any questions.

Supervisor Crandall stated that any knowledge he can obtain for the Town from Larry he would be grateful to accept.

Councilman Youmans stated that he did work on it for a long time.

Councilman Burns interjected that it's his baby.

Councilman Dolan stated that as of right now, he thinks they have identified every voucher that should have gone to the Village last year, it is their understanding right now and Mr. Bailey has them, he is reviewing them and if he thinks that for some reason it shouldn't be a Village charge, they are going to discuss it with them.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they will get it worked out and then asked for a Role-Call Vote.

Town Clerk Millious continued with a Role-Call Vote as follows:

Supervisor Crandall – AYES, Councilman Dolan – AYE, Councilman Langdon – NAY, Councilman Burns NAY, Councilman Youmans – AYE – VOTE 3 – 2 – SO MOVED

**RES. #109-16 APPOINT SAFETY/WORKPLACE VIOLENCE COMMITTEE**

On motion of Councilman Langdon, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has established the need for a Safety/workplace Violence Committee, and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that such a Committee should be comprised of a team of employees knowledgeable of Safety/Workplace Violence issues.

**NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby appoints the following individuals to said Committee.

|                             |                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| John Cashin, Building       | Catherine Anderson, Building/Assessor |
| Lawrence Southwick, Highway | Linda Ziegler, Payroll/Human Resource |
| Dawne LaMountain, Police    |                                       |

**RES. #110-16 AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT GROUP INC. (SDG) AND THE TOWN OF COEYMANS**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Assessor's Office uses Image Mate online software and its support plan in their day to day operation, and

**WHEREAS**, this program makes assessment information available for public use, and

**WHEREAS**, the yearly software support plan with Systems Development Group, Inc. (SDG) is set to expire on August 31, 2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to execute the Agreement between SDG, Inc. and the Town of Coeymans for September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017 and is attached to the resolution.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is a standard contract renewal for the software for planning in the Assessor's Office.

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**RES. #111-16 AUTHORIZE THREE HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR TOWN EMPLOYEES**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Burns, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans provides health insurance to employees and retirees, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town pays the majority of the cost with the employee and retiree paying a portion of the cost, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has reviewed the options for annual health insurance coverage available for the period of September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017, and

**WHEREAS**, input has been obtained from the employees and retirees with regard to the options,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has selected a choice of three options for its employees and dependents, retirees and their spouses, BSNENY, PPO, BSNENY EPO AND BSNENY POS. In the case of the PPO option, the Town is willing to pay the amount they are paying for the BSNEY EPO and then the employee or retiree would pay the rest, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the associated rate and employee contribution adjustments for the BSNENY PPO, BSNENY EPO, and BSNENY POS are hereby authorized, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute the BSNENY contract.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the BSNENY, Blue Shield of Northeastern NY, the first option in a very high percentage increase and the premium program, the third option that they are going to offer but the Town is only going to pick up 8.91%, which is still quite hefty because option II, the one the Town will pay and they will match the employee is closest to the plan they have now. He added that the plan they have now is no longer being offered by CDPHP and Option III is not as good a plan as the other two and actually offers a savings to the Town and to the employee of 5.43% but it's nowhere near the coverage they offered the employees in their last contract and what they have now. He went on by saying that it's for a single guy in good health who wants a 5 ½% increase in their pay, they would choose that and get the money and maybe 2-3 years from now change to the better premium plan. He continued by saying that the reason they decided to offer the premium plan is because some of the employees were disenchanted with the other plan because it doesn't cover out-of-state, but it is the closest to the one they have now but, they have to pay the difference if they want to pick up that plan. He concluded by saying that the Town and the taxpayers are not going to pay that, they can't, they can't afford it.

Councilman Langdon interjected that it is the Cadillac Plan and the employees have to pick up the expense and then asked if the Union has weighed in on it.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they have.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch interjected that they are required to and it is the next resolution.

Councilman Burns asked if the Union agreed to it.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they did and they also offered it to Council 82 but they have not gotten back to him yet, there will be a resolution coming up for them at the next meeting.

Councilman Burns asked about the retirees and the guarantee that that the Town would pay for their health benefits after they retire, which would be paid entirely and now they are saying they have to pay for a part of it.

Supervisor Crandall stated that if they take Option II, which is the plan closest to what they have now, the Town still will but if they take the Cadillac plan, they have to pay just like the other employees have to pay because the Town can't go on like this forever, they are too small an

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entity to be absorbing these huge costs. He continued by saying that the retiree has to kick in if they want the premium plan, they will honor what they agreed to but it is a different plan and concluded by saying they are not taking anything away from the retirees.

Councilman Burns stated that he understands what he is saying but a friend of his has to go to Boston every time he needs something to do with his heart, which is out of state so that plan wouldn't cover him.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he could pick up the Cadillac plan and pay the extra 5-7%.

Councilman Langdon questioned them not covering out of state because Obama Care was supposed to do away with that.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it doesn't cover out of state according to what they were told.

Councilman Youmans stated that the way he understood it, the plan that they had didn't cover if they went out of state and then asked if he was wrong on that.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he could be a little mixed up on that.

Attorney for the Town Wukitsch stated that Blue Cross allows you to go out of state and it's the local HMO's like CDPHP or MVP where you need prior authorization to seek any treatment out of network so you have to get approval, which is not easy to get in a lot of cases.

Supervisor Crandall stated that meetings were set up for this, everyone was notified and all employees were invited to come, there were three meetings, the information was there for everyone presented by the experts.

Councilman Youmans interjected that retirees were included.

Supervisor Crandall reiterated that it was for everyone, it was posted and everyone was notified.

Councilman Dolan asked what the increase is with the Cadillac Plan.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he doesn't have the exact figure; it is like 11% more.

Councilman Dolan stated that the only other option would be just not to allow the other plan if there is an objection to retirees having to pay anything.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he thinks it is fair to offer the Cadillac Plan, if the retirees want it they have to kick in the extra for it, if they want the other one, they will get it for free still. He added that this is the way that he feels; he wants to be able to give the employees of the town the most options.

Councilman Langdon stated that health care is a problem and it is why they addressed the issue of it being 10 years employed to get that benefit and they changed it to 20 years.

Councilman Dolan interjected that it also changed the percentage.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it also was changed last year that retirees have to pick up a certain amount and it won't be free for anyone hired after a certain date.

**RES. #112-16 AUTHORIZE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH CSEA AND THE TOWN**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans notified CSEA of the discontinuation of its current health insurance plans, and

**WHEREAS**, CSEA presented the Town with the attached Memorandum of Agreement concerning the newly offered health insurance plan.

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Supervisor to execute the Memorandum of Agreement between CSEA and the Town of Coeymans.

Councilman Dolan stated that it's not by accident that Insurance Company discontinues plans, it is to push people to make a choice between paying more and upgrading the plan or settling for something less and it's not the Board's doing.

Councilman Langdon interjected that with the out of state issue, he thought it was something that Obama Care was supposed to do away with so they can't restrict by that any longer.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the resolution is so he can sign the Agreement with CSEA.

**RES. #113-16 APPROVE JULY ABSTRACT**

On motion of Councilman Langdon, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED - APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for July, 2016 as follows:

**PRE-PAID VOUCHERS** – 172324-172376,172361-172419,172421,172423,172424-172431, totaling **\$226,685.85**

**VOUHER NUMBERS** – 172432-172511 totaling **\$49,433.61**

**TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$276,119.46**

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**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**

- Town Board Workshop, August 18, 2016, 6:00pm
- Town Board Meeting, August 25, 2016, 7:00pm

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Town Clerk Millious stated that Caitlyn Posniewski is a great Police Officer, she wishes her well and she's sorry to see that she's leaving and added that her thoughts are prayer go out to the Dardani family.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Police Chief McKenna stated that Town and Village Police exams are coming out in October, November and December and will be posted on to the Albany County website where you can sign on. He added that there is dual-application system for people that they can hire Civil Service and if you live in the Town or the Village, you get preference over outside Town or Village residents. He continued by saying that they are in a cyclical stage now where people are moving on to large departments and reiterated that the exam is this year.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is not only preference but also the right to hire off the Town list.

Chief McKenna stated that they do, they have done it before, they can hire off the Town list as a less than full-time, which is nice and then they have Civil Service status, which allows the Town to contract with them and things like that.

Supervisor Crandall stated that there is a Planning Board Member in the audience, Mr. Albert Collins and his wife and then thanked him for his service in addition to Ms. Chmielewski, their Jack of all trades and then asked for a motion to adjourn.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the Town Board Meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 8:15pm

*Respectfully submitted,*

**APPROVED- As Read August 25, 2016**

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*Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk*