

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

**A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, September 8, 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

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**OPENING COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall stated that there was a full Town Board present in addition to Town Clerk Millious.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AGENDA**

- Public Comment
- Old Business
  - NYS DOT Meeting Discussion
  - Hannacroix Creek Project Update
- New Business
  - Hazard Mitigation Meeting Information
- Resolutions
  - Planning and Zoning Board Training
  - Waive Fees for Subdivision at 70 S. Main Street
- Upcoming Workshops/Meetings
  - Town Board Workshop, September 15, 2016, 6:00pm
  - Town Board Meeting, September 22, 2016, 7:00pm
  - Town Board Meeting, October 13, 2016, 7:00pm

\*\*\*\*\*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall invited the public to comment at this time, hearing none he moved to the next item on the agenda.

\*\*\*\*\*

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NYS DOT Meeting Discussion**

Supervisor Crandall stated that there was a NYS DOT Meeting between himself, Mr. Pat Barns, John Pasanen, Mr. Hall and Councilman Dolan and they talked about Rt. 144, Rt. 9W, Camille Drive, Rt. 143, brush not being cut, culverts not being taken of, drainage pipes, etc. He added that they held them hostage for a good 1 ½ hour and by the time they were through talking with them, they were glad to get out but promised they would take note of everything that they said and would get back to them. He continued by saying that he received an e-mail and so far for the calendar year in the Town of Coeymans they reinstalled approximately 1,600 feet of boxed beam guide rail on Rt. 143 between Sycamore Golf Course and Greenbush Avenue, backed up the shoulders on that same stretch of road, ditched approximately 800 feet between the outlet of two cross culverts on Rt. 143 by Gedney Hill to the Hannacroix Creek, restored the roadside inlet and

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

outlet of those pipes, restored approximately 500 feet of the ditch line coming off the hill, swept all the roads in Ravena and Coeymans, patched potholes on all State roads in the Town of Coeymans / Village of Ravena, restored / repaired the eroded ditch line on Rte. 9W between Maplecrest and CR 101, cleaned all the DI's in the village on Rt. 143, filled the sinkhole at the corner of Rt. 143 and 9W, repaired rail damage on all State roads in the Town of Coeymans and Village of Ravena at least one, mowed all State roads at least once, mowed by hand and addressed sight distance complaints, responded to calls for debris, dead deer and downed signs, investigated and forwarded a drainage complaint to Wayne Flach. He went on by saying that this is the list of what they have done so far in the Town of Coeymans and Village of Ravena.

Councilman Dolan stated that the gentleman in charge of maintenance of State roads in Albany County said that upcoming work to be done is Rt. 144 from where the Hamlet of Rt. 143 cuts off to the New Baltimore line is slated to be redone but they don't have a date. He added that they also had gone out to look, based on their complaints, at some of the road that has fallen into the shoulder particularly where you hit Eck's farm headed north, there are two spots and that was slated to be done in the fall. He continued by saying that they said they had good news for the Town and said that they were going to extend the paving on Rt. 144 where they left off but they didn't take it as good news because they are extending it another mile and the Town is approximately 2 miles from that spot but said that eventually all of Rt. 144 would be repaved but there is no timeline. He added that the section from 143 south to 144, Pat Barnes, the head supervisor said he thinks that it will be done next year.

Councilman Youmans stated that he went and checked it out and that road between the Hamlet and the New Baltimore line isn't so bad and then asked why that is first.

Councilman Dolan interjected that it is pretty bad.

Councilman Burns stated that there has been a lot of patching but the good part is that the sewer should be done through there when they do it.

Councilman Langdon stated that the sewer will be done and then they can pave over top it.

Councilman Burns stated that when he was with the Village, they would have a water break down there almost every winter that you have to dig up and fix, it's so old, the water line needs to be replaced. He continued by saying that with them doing all that work down there, it's a shame that they can't have them do the water line.

Councilman Dolan interjected that the water line is the Villages' line and they did repair three water main breaks since the Friday before the Friendship Festival.

Supervisor Crandall stated that Mr. Barnes and Mr. Pasanen are the hands-on guys who they call to get things done right away and two weeks before that they had a meeting with Sam Zhou the Regional Director and Frank Bonafide and the reason why they are getting these meetings and that they are coming down here is because of the 7-8 e-mails, 4-5 letters and they keep bombarding them with complaints, which are all legitimate. He concluded by saying that they keep doing it and the squeaky wheel is starting to get the grease.

Councilman Dolan stated that they are taking them at their word that if there are further complaints, they should contact them immediately, so they will.

Councilman Youmans stated that there probably isn't one of them sitting there that don't hear from people all the time about the state of Rt. 144, he hears it all the time and he drives it himself. He added that it was good work on getting them to come down here, it's a first step and as far as the water and sewer lines, he has a solution in mind for all that. He continued by saying that the way our two governments, the Town and Village handle water and sewer is ridiculous, it has been problematic since before he was born, he has read the history and the meeting minutes and in his eyes the solution to the whole problem is that they have got to start thinking a little bigger and he would propose that they form the Ravena/Coeymans Water & Sewer District. He went on by saying that in his opinion; they could take it right out the hands of government and have it be its own free-standing district.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Councilman Langdon interjected that he suggested that within the first couple of months of sitting on the Board and then asked why the water and sewer aren't being governed by a body that is overseeing both of it together because the projects go hand-in-hand.

Councilman Youmans stated that the problem that they have is that they need major infrastructure improvements and it's really a lot for either one of the two governments to bite off and chew. He added that all the water lines need to be replaced; Councilman Burns has dug them up, looked at them and just said it. He continued by saying if they form one Water and Sewer District for those served because for someone in the Hamlet to pay more for water than someone lives in the Village is not right because when they turn the water on, it's coming from the same place and when they flush their toilet, it goes to the same place and having people pay different amounts based on someone's ideas a long time ago doesn't make much sense to him. He added that if they expanded it and added users, then they could have some development here and they could take on all the infrastructure work that needs to be done by bonding it over a 30-year period, have the people who are using it pay for it, it would be a step toward the future but no one is looking at the future here.

Councilman Langdon stated that you would have the concept that if you are in a hole fixing a sewer line, there is a water line near it, so why wouldn't you do both because so much of the cost isn't really the pipe, it's the labor that it takes to get down to the pipe because you are already there and doing all the excavating. He concluded by saying that it is all mind boggling to him.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it's a good idea but he's sure that they would have to get the Village to go along with it.

Supervisor Youmans stated that what they will tell you, because he has heard it for years now, is because the Village is the one with Albany County for the water and then asked if they are going to tell him that the City of Albany cares whether it's the Village of Ravena or Ravena/Coeymans Water District or that if the people of the Village decided to disband the Village tomorrow that Albany is going to turn the faucet off and say that the deal is with Ravena and they are out of luck. He added that they have been to the Alcove Reservoir, there is enough water for everyone so his opinion is that it is something that they have to start working on and they have to get people on the same page and start thinking different from what they've thought because if they keep thinking the way they have always thought, they are going to have what they've always had, which is the population dwindling, and people saying that there is development to the north and south but we have nothing and in turn ask why. He continued by saying that there are a lot of reasons for it; one of them in his opinion is that they lack the infrastructure to support any new development.

Councilman Burns stated that years ago when Magnolia Circle and Oakbrook Manor were being put in, they should have put money in escrow toward the Water Plant and the Sewer Plant because of the increase that was going to be needed so that the taxpayers now wouldn't have to take on the brunt of this whole thing. He added that in the future they really should take all of it into consideration because if someone wants to build a development, there should be a fee, there is a tie-in fee but they should pick up some of the other cost.

Councilman Langdon stated that 50 years ago all pipe was metal, which will deteriorate and rot, today there is pipe that will last a lot longer so if a project is undertaken, you could actually bond it for more than 30 years and help spread the cost out amongst the people that are going to use it over the next 40-50 years.

Councilman Youmans stated that he thinks he is right.

Councilman Langdon interjected that with interest rates so low right now, it would be a great time to set up a bond like that.

Town Clerk Millious stated that a resident just mentioned that a Village resident vs someone in the Hamlet pays around \$500.00 more a year.

Councilman Langdon asked how much more it is by a percentage.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is double.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Supervisor Crandall interjected that it is almost double.

Town Clerk Millious stated that the Village combines sewer and water, which is \$225.00 twice a year and just sewer with the Town is \$249.00 twice a year and water is \$168.75 twice a year, which is a lot.

Councilman Youmans stated it is \$225.00 but they also pay a Village Tax and part of the reason that there is a Village is so they can provide sewer and water to their people, so it's not all they are paying because there is a Village tax on top of it. He added that in leaving the Village out of it, and he's not meaning to bash them whatsoever because they are working within what has been left to them, in looking at the way the Town handles it, they charge a senior citizen that lives in a house alone and flushes their toilet 3 times a day and drinks a ½ gallon of water, the same that they charge a family of eight with an in-ground swimming pool and irrigation system for their lawn. He continued by saying that people should be paying for what they use and if they were, they would use less but this is the system that they have been left and inherited and he thinks it needs to change. He went on by saying that in his opinion, everything should be metered, every home should have a meter on it for water, which is how it is done almost everywhere else and water in equals water out to some degree and that's how they pay.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he hopes to set up a meeting within the next couple of months with the Village and it will be the number one item on the agenda for the Town.

Councilman Youmans interjected that they need to think big.

Councilman Burns stated that they should think 30 years down the road instead of 5.

Councilman Youmans interjected that it should be 50, 60, 75 years and agreed with Councilman Burns and added that he didn't mean to get on a soap box.

Councilman Dolan stated that it didn't come up at the DOT meeting.

Councilman Youmans stated that Councilman Burns had said that he has worked on those pipes, which are 100 years old.

Councilman Burns stated that there are 6 inch pipes with a 2 inch hole through the center because there is so much build-up.

Councilman Langdon stated that they are full of corrosion.

Councilman Youmans interjected that it doesn't have to be that way, they could change it.

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

**Hannacroix Creek Project Update**

Supervisor Crandall stated that he received a call from FEMA and they might be eligible for more funding on the Hannacroix Creek Project for some old bills, which could possibly be the F.X. Brown bill and possibly they can get reimbursed as well as for some others bills.

Councilman Dolan interjected that there were some meetings they had that they never billed them for.

Councilman Burns stated that he talked to John Wilhelm, the head of Homeland Security who is in charge of FEMA and he promised that within a couple of days he would get back to him. He added that he was ecstatic with what they had done at the creek and said that the permit was due for 2016 and it's not too late to renew it and he would find out who the Town would have to talk to and maybe set up another joint meeting like they had the last time with EnCon, Army Corp of Engineers, etc. and have everyone all together to see what they can do as far as continuing the project. He continued by saying that what little they did last year helped a lot but there is a lot more that needs to be done out there and it's just one phase of the creek, all the way down the Hannacroix Creek right to Deans Mills really ought to be cleaned out for drinking water.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Supervisor Crandall stated that in addition to drinking water, it would also be to prevent flooding in the future.

Councilman Burns stated that what they did last year didn't hurt the environment at all, there is more debris right now than there was before.

Councilman Dolan asked if they ever submitted those costs.

Councilman Burns stated that Confidential Secretary Rowzee is looking them up but all it was for an excavator.

Supervisor Crandall stated that his office is looking up a bunch of old bills concerning the Hannacroix Creek and they are going to submit them all, it's a plus for them if they only pay for one. He then asked that Councilman Burns let him know when Mr. Wilhelm gets back to him.

Councilman Burns stated that he would.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Hazard Mitigation Meeting**

Supervisor Crandall stated that there was a Hazard Mitigation Meeting, which was attended by Councilman Dolan and Highway Superintendent Searles and it was about being eligible for future FEMA Funds and then asked that Councilman Dolan discuss it.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is a project that is coordinated county-wide and all 19 municipalities from Albany County are participating except Westerlo and the idea is to identify areas in town that are likely to be subject to a series of hazards, both natural and man-made. He added that it identifies resources in town, specific roads, culverts, bridges, and buildings that the Town owns that could be subject to some sort of hazard and to see if the Comprehensive Master Plan, Economic Development Plan, Transportation Plan, have addressed the issue of hazard mitigation and is also to come up with some projects that would help reduce the severity of these events in the future. He continued by saying that the advantage of this is that the Town would be eligible for FEMA Mitigation Funding but if you don't participate in this, should you get hit with a natural or man-made disaster, you are not eligible for FEMA Funding.

Councilman Burns asked if the Village is included in this.

Councilman Dolan stated that the Village is doing their own.

Councilman Burns stated that the railway and thruway bridges have always been a problem.

Councilman Dolan stated that the Village has been participating in this all along and the Town just really started this.

Councilman Burns interjected that all the way down Rt. 143 is subject to hazard.

Councilman Youmans asked what their first steps are.

Councilman Dolan stated that the first step is worksheets that are currently being worked on and in turn they will submit them to Confidential Secretary Rowzee who will catalog them and then they will pass them on to Albany County.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that they gave the Town a two-week extension to get the paperwork in.

Councilman Dolan stated that Highway Superintendent Searles is coming up with some past hazard events and projects for the future and there are some issues downstairs with storage of documents and maybe that is something that they could look at.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Town Clerk Millious asked what he meant.

Councilman Dolan stated that it could be vulnerable to flooding or any other sort of hazard.

Councilman Youmans interjected that there could even be a fire.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she keeps a close eye on it and they have been through some awful things downstairs.

Councilman Dolan stated that the Police Department and Sewer Department are looking at some projects to improve this.

Councilman Burns asked if the Fire Departments and Emergency Management are involved in all of this because they probably know where most of the troubled spots are.

Councilman Dolan stated that he didn't know.

Councilman Burns stated that they would be good go-to people.

Councilman Youmans stated that he is sure Highway Superintendent Searles and his crew know too and then asked if there is anything that the Board can do to help move it along.

Councilman Dolan offered a copy of his material.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she gave Confidential Secretary Rowzee some things that she wanted on the FEMA damage, notes, minutes, etc. for Hurricane Sandy.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they are looking through the minutes and comparing bills for that area to see if they can get reimbursed for it.

Councilman Langdon asked whether a tragedy is just damage to property or building or also for documents in storage.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they are going to try for it because they wouldn't have had the problems that they had when the hurricane came through if it wasn't for all that water so maybe they will cover that.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she thinks she has the study from when the office had to be moved and asked if it would help.

Supervisor Crandall stated that she should give it to Confidential Secretary Rowzee.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it was because of Hurricane Floyd, which she forgot about but it's in the Records Room.

Councilman Langdon asked about document storage and if they are doing anything to maybe move toward scanning because when you rely on hard paper, it can burn, get wet, etc. He added that it might not make sense to scan everything that they have downstairs at this point but if they could begin a process of putting it in a computer file in storage somewhere online it would make sense.

Town Clerk Millious stated that they have scanned a lot; with payroll you have to hold on to payroll for 55 years and the tax warrants were scanned. She added that a lot of things can go after a certain time but the minutes, if there was a disaster, it is on a flash drive from 1945 to 2015, which was supplied for no charge because BAS upgraded and the CD's previously supplied were not compatible. She continued by saying that she is secure with the minutes if something were to happen, but not the handwritten minutes that go way back, they cannot be scanned.

Councilman Youmans asked if she is saying that there are minutes going back to 1942.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Town Clerk Millious stated that there are, General Code scanned and put them on disc, it cost \$1,000.00 back in 2000 and it enables you to search keywords so you don't have to go through the books. She continued by saying that she still has all the actual meetings in boxes.

Councilman Youmans interjected that he would like to read the 1942 minutes.

Town Clerk Millious stated that there are handwritten one's going back to the 20's.

Councilman Youmans asked if 1942 to present is in digital format.

Town Clerk Millious stated that there is 1942 to present on a thumb drive.

Councilman Youmans stated that she needs to duplicate it and put it in a couple of places.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that technology is great if it works. She added that resolutions are taken out of the meeting folders and put in a book, which is something that they started doing in the 90's, it has been so helpful, you don't have to dig through a box for the resolution.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RES. #115-16 AUTHORIZE PLANNING AND ZONING TRAINING**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Capital District Planning Commission will be sponsoring a Local Government Planning, Zoning Workshops on October 5, 2106 at the Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Planning and Zoning Boards desire to attend this seminar, which will provide credit hours for the minimum training as required by Local Law; and

**WHEREAS**, a prepaid registration fee of \$30.00 per person is required,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the members of the above are hereby authorized to attend the Local Government Planning & Zoning Workshop in Troy, New York, October 5, 2016; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans will reimburse the round-trip mileage upon submission of a voucher for use of the member's personal vehicle.

**RES. #116-16 AUTHORIZE WAIVING FEE FOR SUBDIVISION OF 70 S. MAIN**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans is desirous to subdivide the Town owned property located at 70 S. Main Street in the Town of Coeymans; and

**WHEREAS**, an application for subdivision of 70 South Main Street has been brought before Town of Coeymans Planning Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Planning Board has referred the project to the Town Zoning Board of Appeals for an Area Variance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby wish to waive all applicable local fees associated with the Town's application to subdivide 70 S. Main Street, Coeymans, New York because such fees would be a Town charge paid by Town revenue.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize that all fees be waived in connection with the Town's application for subdivision of 70 S. Main Street, Coeymans, New York and any related local proceedings.

Councilman Langdon inquired as to what 70 Main Street is.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is the old Coeymans Fire House, currently the Community Beautification Building.

\*\*\*\*\*

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**

- Town Board Workshop, September 15, 2016, 6:00pm
- Town Board Meeting, September 22, 2016, 7:00pm
- Town Board Meeting, October 13, 2016, 7:00pm

\*\*\*\*\*

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Town Clerk Millious stated that there is a Rabies Clinic scheduled for Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm at the Village of Colonie Municipal Garage, 2 Thunder Road in Colonie and because it is on a Saturday, 1:00pm – 2:30pm is for cats and parrots and 2:30pm – 4:30pm is for dogs.

Town Clerk Millious continued by reading the following:

There is going to be a Primary Election on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 9:00pm. There has been a change to all the Polling Sites, all six districts will be voting at the Coeymans Fire House District, 67 Church Street, Coeymans, and it is for the Conservative and Green Parties.

Town Clerk Millious stated that the General Election will go back to being all Districts at their own locations. She continued by saying that she worked with C.T. Male on the Phase II Trunk Sewer Replacement and sealed bids will be opened at Town Hall 2:00pm on October 11<sup>th</sup> and if anyone is interested they can contact her office at 756-2100 as well as it being on the Town's website. She concluded by saying that hunting licenses are on sale and doe permits can be gotten until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Councilman Youmans asked if the change in the polling places was just for the Primary.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it is because the turn-out will be so small, she has never seen that but it was done to save costs and added that there will be two inspectors from each party. She continued by saying that they thought originally that it was going to be just the Green Party but then the Conservative Party was added and reiterated that it was done to save money because Albany County Board of Elections pays these but it is charged back to the Town.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is saving taxpayer money.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it will be a good idea to post the Primary Election Notice at all the polling sites.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that he would like to see it consolidated for most of the Primary's because hardly anyone comes out.

Town Clerk Millious stated that people have mentioned just one polling site but she doesn't know how people would feel about it.

Councilman Langdon asked the date of the Bid Opening.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
September 8, 2016 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

Town Clerk Millious stated that it is October 11<sup>th</sup>, which she thinks falls on a Tuesday.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he wanted to thank the Village Friendship Festival Committee for doing a fine job, it was a very nice day for everyone who went, it was a good time for everyone and they did a really nice job.

Councilman Youmans agreed that they did.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that Lafarge did the fireworks and are always very generous.

Councilman Youmans stated that it was small town life at its best.

Councilman Dolan stated that on the same day there was the Medal of Honor ceremony at the Coeymans Hollow Cemetery, which was organized by Tripp Powell, there was a re-enactment with canons with that era's music. He continued by saying that there were two Congressmen there Chris Gibson and Paul Tonko who spoke as well as Assemblyman Lopez, the Town Board and the majority of the Village Board were there and he along with Councilman Youmans marched in the parade. He concluded by saying that they did a really nice job.

Councilman Youmans stated that it was nice of the Village to include them in their parade.

Town Clerk Millious stated that the Anniversary of 9/11 would be Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is something that should never be forgotten.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Burns thanked everyone for their hard work and added that everyone is doing a great job.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments, hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

**VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED**

Time – 7:39pm

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**APPROVED – As Read September 22, 2016**

---

**Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk**