

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 22, 2016 – Public Hearing – 6:30**

A Public Hearing was held Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 6:30pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

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

ABSENT: Kenneth A. Burns, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk

Supervisor Crandall opened the Public Hearing and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENT

Supervisor Crandall stated the Public Hearing was for the purpose of hearing comments from the public on the 2017 Sewer Rates and then asked that Town Clerk Millious read the Notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE
TOWN OF COEYMANS
TOWN BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING**

In compliance with Public Officer’s Law, this will inform you that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has scheduled a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on the proposed Sewer Rates. The Public Hearing will be held at 6:30pm on December 22, 2016 at Coeymans Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York.

By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Coeymans
Diane L. Millious
Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marlene Lekocevic from the Ravena News Herald asked about the basics of the increase and why it was needed and then asked how much of a percentage it is.

Councilman Dolan stated that they are talking about establishing the sewer rates for the Hamlet Sewer District, last year the Hamlet sewer user paid \$498.00, which was split into two equal payments and this year they are proposing \$506.83, an increase of \$8.83. He continued by saying that it is an addition of \$4.42 for the first billing and \$4.41 for the second billing.

Ms. Lekocevic stated that it wouldn’t break anyone’s bank and then asked if it was a standard annual increase.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is what they determined the expenses would be, fortunately spread out amongst all the people of the Town who use the system.

Ms. Lekocevic asked if it was a flat rate no matter how much they use it.

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Councilman Dolan and Supervisor Crandall collectively stated that she was correct.

Ms. Lekocevic stated that it's not like water because water goes by how much you use.

Councilman Dolan interjected that water goes by a flat rate too.

Ms. Lekocevic asked if it is just for general maintenance and not for any specific repairs that are needed to cover the additional charges.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is just for general maintenance, they are working on sewer lines, which is a separate project.

Councilman Youmans interjected that there is some debt service in there.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is part of the same thing from years past and there is nothing new.

Ms. Lekocevic asked if they were going to vote on it later at the meeting.

Collectively the Board said they were.

Councilman Dolan stated that the Hamlet portion of the sewer expenses are \$227,059.50 and there are 448 units in the Hamlet, which is an increase of .77%. He added that there is also \$2,200.00 that is paid for vacant parcels.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that it is \$100.00 a year for a vacant parcel.

Councilman Dolan stated that what they mean by a vacant unit is that they have the sewer system available to them but they have nothing hooked to it.

Supervisor Crandall stated that for instance if someone has torn down a building but there is still a lot with the sewer available, they pay a flat rate of \$100.00 per year even though they are not using it.

Councilman Langdon asked if it would be just where a building is missing because he thought the vacant was for any vacant property.

Councilman Dolan stated that if they are hooked up to the sewer they are still responsible for paying the full rate and if they don't pay it is levied on their property tax.

Councilman Langdon asked if it is only vacant lots that have the \$100.00 rate.

Councilman Dolan stated that was correct.

Town Clerk Millious stated that sewer also runs up and down Route 9W and it's not just in the Hamlet.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is anyone who has access from the Town outside the Village.

Councilman Youmans stated that in the absence of anyone wanting to make comment on the Sewer Rates, he would move that they adjourn with the option of reconvening should someone show up and want to comment.

MOTION

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, to adjourn with the option of reconvening if anyone shows up and wants to comment.

VOTE – AYES – 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 6:40pm

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RECONVENE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADJOURN

Supervisor Crandall called the Public Hearing back to order and asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION

On motion of Councilman Youmans, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the Public Hearing was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES – 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted -

APPROVED –

Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk