

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
March 9, 2017 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

**A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 7:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

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

**ABSENT:** James C. Youmans, Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk  
Paul Pastore, Attorney for the Town  
Scott Searles, Highway Superintendent

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Supervisor Crandall opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilman Burns offered a prayer.

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**OPENING COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall stated that the record should reflect the presence of a full Town Board with the exception of Councilman Youmans, also present were Town Clerk Millious, Attorney for the Town Pastore and Highway Superintendent Searles.

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**AGENDA**

- Presentation
  - Lions Club, National Eye Donor Month, Greater Ravena Area Lions Club
- Public Comment
- Approval of Minutes
  - Town Board Workshop, January 19, 2017
  - Town Board Meeting, January 26, 2017
  - Town Board Meeting, January 9, 2017
- Old Business
  - Biechman Road, Speed Reduction Request
- New Business
  - Advertising for Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor
  - April Town Board Meeting Dates
  - Potential Grants for Culvert Work
- Resolutions
  - Authorize Supervisor to Execute SRO Agreement
  - Authorize for Building Inspector to Attend Training
  - Appoint First Sergeant
  - Accept Resignation of Operator I
- Upcoming Workshops/Meetings

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**PRESENTATION**

Supervisor Crandall stated that March is National Eye Donor Month and continued by reading a Proclamation.

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**National Eye Donor Month – Lions Club**

***PROCLAMATION***

*WHEREAS, National Eye Donor Month was first declared by President Ronald Reagan in 1983, and*

*WHEREAS, one of our most important senses is that of sight, and the restoration of this sense to those not so endowed, being the goal of the Sight Society of Northeastern New York, Inc., and*

*WHEREAS, the Eye Bank in this area is supported by the Lions Club, a member of the Sight Society of Northeastern New York, Inc., and*

*WHEREAS, the Sight Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. seeks to raise awareness of the need for cornea, tissue and organ donation, and*

*WHEREAS, the Lions Eye Bank at Albany treats over 5,000 children and 30,000 adults every year, and*

*WHEREAS, the success of the Eye Bank Program is dependent on eye donors, and*

*WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to urge our community to consider participation in the Eye Donor Program,*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,*** that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, proclaim the month of March as “Eye Donor Month” in the Town of Coeymans for the year 2017.

Supervisor Crandall asked that someone come forward to accept the Proclamation from the Town Board.

Mr. stated that they wanted to thank the Town for all their help as well as the people in town who have helped the Lions Club and added that they would like to invite people to join the Lion’s Club.

Supervisor Crandall thanked them for their service to the Town.

Councilman Dolan suggested that they get contact information to the Supervisor’s Office for anyone wishing to join the Lion’s Club.

Supervisor Crandall interjected that they could also put it on the Town’s website.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Crandall invited the public to comment at this time.

**Ms. Diane Millious** stated that a few meetings ago they mentioned that the population was down so she went to the 1990 Final Tax Roll, which was before she started in 1992 and found that the total parcels were 2,802, the Tax Warrant was \$2,202,599.67 and compared to what she is now collecting parcels is 3,038 and the Total Warrant is 4,721,083.43. She added that in comparing 1990 to 2016, which is 16 years, she collects a lot more money, parcels haven’t changed just because the census went down, she doesn’t license people. She continued by saying that she wanted it on the record that she doesn’t just collect for the Town, she collects for the County as well and makes payment to them, she answers to them and they are going to be sending out Reminder Notices for the Property Taxes, which she has to do in the middle of March. She went on by saying that at the last meeting she realized that they did a resolution for a Community Beautification part-time position, she has been struggling and asking for more help but they hired this person for 24 hours a week when she has been told that her part-time help can’t go over 17 1/2 hours a week. She continued by saying that she is asking the Board once again to consider her request, she needs this help, this past week there was a burial, a cremation, 2 contacts with Taylor’s, she has been very busy with that and it will only get busier in the Spring because there

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are three on hold waiting to be taken care of for cremations. She added that now she will have to work on the census, which will keep coming in, she is already getting correspondence. She concluded by asking if she will be called on later because she has some information to pass on to the public, such as the Rabies Clinics.

Councilman Dolan stated that she would be called on at the end of the meeting.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he always gives her a chance at the end of the meeting to comment and she will get that always.

Town Clerk Millious stated that for a few meetings she hasn't been called on, they haven't done it and they have gone into Executive Session.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they have always done it.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it is important that she notifies people with things going on and then asked that they please reconsider her request for a part-time Clerk and that back in the day when Steve Flach was here she said she would do the cemeteries but only could do it if she had another person because it calls for her to go out of the office. She added that earlier in the day she was working with someone, she only had Bonnie Monday and Tuesday because she can only work so many hours and you feel that when someone is out sick or on vacation. She continued by saying that she was waiting on someone earlier in the day and the phone was ringing, she needs that help for all the duties that she does, she reiterated that she is asking for them to reconsider because she really needs the help. She continued by saying that she wouldn't be sitting there at every meeting asking them to reconsider this, she enjoys what she does, she likes serving the public and she would hate to not be able to answer the phone or have to shut her window, she doesn't want to see that happen. She concluded by saying that her help are entitled to vacation and sick time, they have been really juggling and she is so thankful for her help because Bonnie has been juggling, she was used to working Monday and Tuesday and sharing the job but now she is stretching her whole week working out her schedule and reiterated that she wanted to thank her for her help.

Councilman Dolan stated that the part-time Beautification job is actually filling two full-time jobs that are not filled; it is not an additional job. He added that Nelson is working to do the paperwork like he used to do but he's also doing the job that Don VanAlstyne did last year so there is actually one and ½ people down there instead of 3.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she knows they need the help, people leave and they are not being replaced and she believes that Don would have stayed if he knew he had more help.

Councilman Dolan interjected that Don knew he had more help because they had a discussion with him.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it had nothing to do with Don leaving, he took a better paying job, a promotion with a vehicle and he wanted to be closer to his family and that is the reason he left and he actually came into his office and apologized for leaving the Town but he had this opportunity. He added that he told him to take care of himself and his family, which is more important than anything and reiterated that it is the reason that he left.

Town Clerk Millious stated that when she saw the 24 hours in the resolution she wondered how it worked.

Councilman Dolan stated that the two clerks that she had in her office, when it was sent to Civil Service, they were sent as 17 ½ hours and it doesn't mean that they can't be revisited.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that this is what she is asking for.

Councilman Dolan stated that when it came up last year, there were still two positions at 17 ½ hours but he thinks they can work up to 25 hours.

Supervisor Crandall stated that if they do that, they are subject to a Civil Service exam and if that is what she wants, they can arrange that and then she would have to go off the Civil Service list.

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He added that Mr. Perry is already on the Civil Service list, so they were able to hire him back without having to go through the whole process.

Town Clerk Millious asked how many hours you would have to work for Civil Service listing.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he believed it was 35 hours in two weeks.

Highway Superintendent Searles interjected that it is 17 ½ hours for office type people and it has to be 35 hours or less for two weeks but if you are working based on 80 hours per pay period it is 24 hours or less.

Town Clerk Millious stated that this is why she had it like she did, it was more flexible and there was more to count on.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is more flexible and you can hire basically who you want, otherwise you would have to go off the Civil Service list, without much of a choice, you would have to pick from the top three.

Town Clerk Millious stated that if she had two part-time, each working 17 ½ hours a week, she would have to do that.

Councilman Langdon interjected that she wanted to go back to what she had last year, it would be more flexible and you wouldn't have to deal with Civil Service and this is why she is requesting this.

Town Clerk Millious stated that they got paid for time worked, there were no benefits, it worked out really good, she had more flexibility and reiterated that she would like them to revisit it, she would really appreciate it, she does a lot and she doesn't want them to forget the need that she has for that position in there.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

**Ms. Mary Driscoll** stated that she doesn't know what is wrong with them, she has asked them for help, she is not asking for a million dollars and they have gotten more excuses to not give it to her but they can up the amount of concerts in the Coeymans Park for the Summer, they can hire someone for Parks and Recreation, they can replace that and one of the excuses was that they weren't going to replace anything. She reiterated that they come up with excuses all the time.

Councilman Dolan stated that it was not true and what they said was that they were going to put off hiring someone for as long as they can and then Mr. VanAlstyne and Mr. Burns asked that they not put off hiring.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the concerts in the park are paid for by Lafarge and not Town expenses.

Ms. Driscoll stated that they have excuses, excuses and more excuses.

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 were three sets of minutes for Town Board approval, a Town Board Workshop on January 19<sup>th</sup>, a Town Board Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> and a Town Board Meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> and then asked for a motion to approve them.

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**MOTION**

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

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Speed Limit Reduction Request – Biechman Road**

Supervisor Crandall stated that he got a letter from the Department of Transportation and continued by reading the following:

Dear Mr. Crandall:

This letter is in response to your request August 1, 2016 letter requesting a speed limit reduction on Biechman Road between Route 143 and the dead end in the Town of Coeymans.

Currently, there is a 40 mph speed limit on Biechman Road that was established by this office in 1981. At your request, we conducted a review of this speed limit. We determined that the existing speed limit is appropriate for the conditions experienced along this road. During our investigation, we noted that there are curves that the Town may want to review for warning signs, possibly with lower advisory speed panels.

Thank you for your interest in traffic safety. If you have any questions, please call William Northrup of this office at 457-5283.

Sincerely,

Mark Kennedy  
Regional Traffic Engineer

Supervisor Crandall stated that even though they sent up a petition with everyone on the road signing it for a reduction of speed, they have rejected the request. He added that he is going to give it a few weeks and will submit it again with another letter and he will keep trying. He then asked if there were any comments.

Councilman Burns stated that he appreciates that he keeps trying because there are a lot of families on that road with young grandkids.

Councilman Dolan stated that he would offer a motion.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, authorizing the Supervisor to send a letter to the Department of Transportation with the Board's recommendation.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Advertising for Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor**

Supervisor Crandall stated that they hired Nelson Perry back as a part-time Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor and he doesn't want a full-time job so they need to advertise the job for a full-time position and then asked for a motion to have the Town Clerk advertise for the position.

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**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, authorizing Town Clerk Millious to advertise for the position of full-time Parks & Recreation Maintenance Supervisor.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

Supervisor Crandall asked that Town Clerk Millious advertise for the position.

**April Town Board Meeting Dates**

Supervisor Crandall stated that he needs to change a couple of Town Board Meeting dates and then asked for a motion to have the Town Board Meeting for April 13<sup>th</sup> changed to April 20<sup>th</sup>, which will cancel the Workshop scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup>. He added that he has the chance to take some courses that will be helpful as Supervisor that he will pay for entirely by himself.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, to authorize the meeting changes.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

**Potential Grants for Culvert Work**

Supervisor Crandall stated that he met with Eileen O’Neil who is a Senior Environmental Scientist from the engineering firm of Tighe and Bond in Red Hook as well as head of the Conservation Committee, Sylvia Lawler and the Conservation Committee Advisor, Barbara Heinzen, John Cashin and George LaMountain. He added that they are looking to get the Town some money from the State and Federal Government for dam remediation to make it accessible for certain fish to come out of the Hudson River to spawn. He continued by saying that the thing that he is really interested in is that it gives them a chance to upgrade and enlarge culverts at no expense to the Town, which will help clean up culverts and provide better drainage for the creeks, which will help with flooding. He went on by saying that he has talked this over with George LaMountain who touched base with Highway Superintendent Searles and then asked if had any comment about it.

Highway Superintendent Searles stated that he doesn’t until he finishes reading everything.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they are hoping to get this money, it is a total grant with no match and Sylvia Lawler is going to take all the information back to the Environmental Advisory Committee to discuss it and hopefully at the next meeting he would like for there to be a resolution authorizing him to apply for the money.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any questions or comments.

Councilman Langdon asked if there is any idea of how many culverts they are looking at, he is assuming that they are the ones fairly close to the river.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they are the ones closest to the river, going upstream.

Councilman Langdon asked if it is for both creeks.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is and added that he had also met with C.T. Male and they presented him with a map of two culverts, one on Stanton Road and one on Blodgett Hill Road and they are badly in need of repair. He added that they will be larger than the existing, which will take care of debris and flood damage and they could use the Highway Department for 5% of the work and they will get 90% of the money up to a million dollars.

Councilman Langdon asked if it would cost that much to replace culverts.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they are talking about putting in a spill-way.

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Highway Superintendent Searles stated that the culvert they are talking about on Stanton Road that they put in was \$27,000.00.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the grant is for up to a million dollars, they may not spend that much but they can apply for up to a million dollars.

Councilman Burns asked if it is because they are Town's roads.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is and the stars on the map indicate that the culverts are in severe distress and the most likely to get the funding, which are located in our town and he authorized them to check into it to see what they could get. He reiterated that probably at the next meeting, he will ask for a resolution to apply for those grants.

Councilman Burns inquired about the road by the Golf Course, Tompkins Road and the culvert that goes under the road and if the culvert is the Town's.

Highway Superintendent Searles stated that it is County.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the County ones are identified too and they had to distinguish what ones are Town, County or State; some of them that need to be replaced don't belong to the Town.

Councilman Langdon asked if they are approaching the County to deal with their culverts.

Supervisor Crandall stated that if the Town gets a grant, they in turn will tell the County what they are doing so they can apply for money also.

Councilman Burns stated that he sent the County pictures of the one on Tompkins Road, there is rebar showing and debris, the culvert is filled up.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is not listed on the map.

Councilman Burns stated that it is the reason why the roads keep flooding in the development because that culvert can't take the water.

Supervisor Crandall stated that anything that they can do to upgrade the culverts is a plus for them to alleviate flooding, especially if something like Irene comes through again, which is why he is taking it seriously. He concluded by saying that hopefully he will have more information for the Board and a resolution for the next meeting.

Councilman Dolan stated that he believes that the grants are due in April, as they were last year and then awarded in May, which is a pretty quick turnaround.

Councilman Burns interjected that FEMA had them make a list of all the troubled spots.

Highway Superintendent Searles interjected that Stanton Road is one of the ones that they have done major work on for flooding.

Councilman Dolan stated that he wanted to mention the Broad Band Grant that was awarded, it mentioned a lot of census blocks and he couldn't decode all of them but it was to serve 1,000 plus homes in Ravena and another 400 or so in the Town of Coeymans. He added that it is to upgrade unserved areas of the Town without broad band and underserved where there is some broad band available but not up to the specifications. He concluded by saying that it was awarded to Mid-Hudson Cable and people served by Mid-Hudson Cable.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he pulled it from the agenda because he wants to know what specific area of the Town will be eligible for it and he wanted to have that information to give to the public so they can apply for it, or if they even have to, they are not sure how it will take effect and if it is going to be something automatic or something that you have to apply to get.

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Councilman Dolan stated that it will be done through Mid-Hudson Cable for certain census blocks and he tried to decode them earlier in the day but there are 12 census blocks in the Town of Coeymans.

Supervisor Crandall stated that they looked on the website and it was confusing and late in the day when they got the notice and added that there will be more information at the next meeting.

Councilman Burns asked if they have any say in what they can charge their customers.

Councilman Dolan stated that they do not.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the Public Service Commission decides that but he wishes they did.

Councilman Burns stated that there are some senior citizens who started at \$22.00 a month and now it is approximately \$60.00 a month and they don't really get anything for it.

Councilman Langdon stated that Time Warner, which is now Spectrum did the same thing, the prices are ridiculous and keep going up and up. He added that there was a woman at a Town Board Meeting approximately a year ago and she lives more toward the Time Warner area.

Councilman Dolan stated that there may be money paid out through the merger and money set aside for that area so hopefully she will be getting something.

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

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**RES. #55-17 AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN SRO AGREEMENT**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the following resolution was APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans and the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District have facilities, activities, and undertakings, which may be available for the other's use when they are not needed for Town or School District purposes;

**WHEREAS**, Article 5G of the General Municipal Law specifically authorizes and encourages municipal corporations to enter into agreements with each other in order to provide cooperatively, jointly or by contract any facility, service, activity or undertaking which each participating municipal corporation has the power to provide separately; and

**WHEREAS**, the respective governing boards of the Town of Coeymans and the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District have determined in their mutual best interests to continue an Agreement for the placement of one or more School Resource Officers (SRO) in the School Districts High/Middle School.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes Supervisor Philip A. Crandall to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District for SRO.

Councilman Langdon asked if the Agreement is compatible with the ones that they have had in the past.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is and is actually a little better; they will be paying the full salary.

**RES. #56-17 AUTHORIZE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO ATTEND TRAINING**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

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**WHEREAS**, Building Inspector Cashin has requested approval for Sante DeBacco to attend training; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hudson Valley E.E.O. Educational Conference is being held on April 19-21, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, this conference will provide 19 credits towards his annual credits.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans authorizes payment for Sante DeBacco to attend training at the aforementioned conference in the amount of \$300.00.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he had a letter from Building Inspector Cashin and continued by reading the following:

Dear Supervisor Crandall and Town Board Members,

I am requesting your approval for Mr. Sante DeBacco to attend the 2017 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference from April 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. This Conference will provide 19 credits toward his required annual credits; the registration fee is \$300.00.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Cashin

**RES. #57-17 APPOINT FIRST SERGEANT – POLICE DEPARTMENT**

On motion of Councilman Langdon, seconded by Councilman Burns, the following resolution was APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans is desirous of having a clearly defined command structure within the Coeymans Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, this can be accomplished by the appointing of a First Sergeant; and

**WHEREAS**, Sergeant Daniel Contento is currently the Senior Sergeant in the Department and possesses the abilities and requirements necessary.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Daniel Contento as First Sergeant, at his current rate of pay, effective immediately.

Councilman Burns asked if Chief McKenna was happy with this.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the Chief requested it.

**RES. #58-17 ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF OPERATOR I**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the following resolution was APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, William Haight has submitted his letter of resignation as Equipment Operator I for the Town of Coeymans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of William Haight, effective April 15, 2017.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he wanted to make a motion that they advertise for an Equipment Operator I position.

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Crandall, seconded by Councilman Dolan, authorizing Town Clerk Millious to advertise for an Equipment Operator I for the Highway Department.

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Supervisor Crandall asked that Town Clerk Millious advertise for the position.

Councilman Burns stated that he was a fantastic mechanic and he hopes he does great where he is going.

Supervisor Crandall stated that he hopes they find someone just as good.

I William Haight am writing this letter to inform you that I am resigning my position as Equipment Operator I at the Town of Coeymans Highway Department. Mt last day of employment will be on Friday, April 14, 2017.

William Haight

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**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**

- Conservation Advisory Council, March 14, 2017, 6:00pm
- Town Board Workshop, March 16, 2017, 6:00pm (Annual Audit)
- Zoning Board of Appeals, March 22, 2017, 7:00pm
- Town Board Meeting, March 23, 2017, 7:00pm

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Town Clerk Millious stated that there is a Rabies Clinic schedule for Albany County and continued by reading the following:

**Rabies Clinic Schedule for 2017**

All dogs, cats and ferrets must be on leashes or in carriers. A record of prior vaccination will be required for a three year immunization certification. If no record is presented, a one-year vaccination certification will be issued. All clinics are open to any Albany County resident.

Saturday, March 18, 2017	1:00pm-4:00pm	Town of Berne Highway Garage Rte. 443, Berne
Tuesday, June 6, 2017	4:00pm-7:00pm	Bethlehem Town Park Elm Avenue, Bethlehem
Saturday, September 9, 2017	1:00pm-4:00pm	Village of Colonie Municipal Garage 2 Thunder Road Colonie
Saturday, November 4, 2017	1:00pm-4:00pm	Village of Green Island Public Works Garage Cohoes Avenue, Green Island
Saturday Clinics	1:00-2:30 pm for cats and ferrets 2:30-4:00pm for dogs	
Tuesday Clinics	4:00-5:30pm for cats and ferrets 5:30-7:00pm for dogs	

Donation - \$8.00 Per Animal

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Town Clerk Millious stated if anyone has any questions, they can go on the Albany County website, which is [www.albanycounty.com](http://www.albanycounty.com) or can call her office at 756-2100.

She continued by saying that it has been brought to her attention that Tractor Supply has package deals for dogs to get a rabies vaccines and added that as a reminder, it is a New York State Law to have your dog licensed, whether inside or out and a rabies certificate is necessary when you come in to get a dog license, the cost for unsprayed or neutered is \$15.00 and \$7.00 for neutered or spayed. She added that if your dog is picked up, the Town of Coeymans has a kennel at the Sewer Plant and it is \$100.00 for the first three days and \$20.00 thereafter with a \$10.00 redemption fee and if adopted there is a \$10.00 fee, plus the license fee and if there is no proof of rabies, the dog has to be escorted to a vet. She went on by saying that she will be mailing out Property Tax Reminder Notices next Tuesday and if there are any questions you can call her office at 756-2100, Property Taxes are on the website and can be found at Coeymans.org under quick links, there are bills from 2012 to present. She continued by saying that it can be viewed 24/7, it has worked out really well and for the month of January there was approximately \$50,000.00 paid by credit/debit card, it is easy access, there is a fee of 2.45%. She concluded by saying that her prayers and thoughts go out to Don VanAlstyne and his family, she worked with him in the cemeteries, he did work around the building and she was very surprised but these things do happen, she is very sorry, he was a very nice gentleman and pleasant to work with.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Highway Superintendent Searles stated that he was in Albany yesterday with Councilman Burns for a Local Roads and Bridge Grassroots Advocacy Day, which they do every year and he wanted to give them some background on it and continued by reading the following

- Local roads and bridges account for 87% of New York State Roads and more than 50% of it is bridges.
- The State spends less than 5% of its Capital Construction Program supporting the huge local system.
- 34% of local bridges are deficit and 48% of road pavements are rated fair or poor and getting worse.
- Drivers on local roads contribute nearly half the gas taxes collected in each state.
- According to the Office of the State Comptroller, local governments spend approximately 1 billion dollars annually on local roads and bridges outside of New York City.

Highway Superintendent Searles stated that they are staying outside of New York City because they need better parity, a lot of the money goes down there and they go to ask for better parity to get more money. He added that the New York State Association of Towns actually commissioned its own 15 year, 2015-2030 analysis, which indicates an annual funding gap of 1.3 billion for the local system, outside of New York City. He continued by saying that this year they requested a 150 million dollar increase in the CHIPS base funding bringing it to a total of 588 million and requested 50 million annually for Bridge New York, which is another program and requested that Bridge New York dedicate more funding toward culverts. He went on by saying that in their meetings, they had quite a few Senators and Assemblymen who are backing them 100% and they are working on another program to dedicate money just for culverts and for when they reconstruct a road, like they will be doing in the Hamlet, the infrastructure is done along with the reconstruction, which probably won't be until 2018 but they are working on it. He concluded by saying that the Senators and Assemblymen are going to introduce these things into the budget, which will be up to negotiations with Governor Cuomo.

Supervisor Crandall asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Burns stated that he would be doing a disservice by not saying that Don VanAlstyne didn't want to leave the Town, he really loved the Town of Coeymans and had great expectations of things that he wanted to do here in the town. He added that he was sorry he was leaving but felt like everything was falling on deaf ears and no one took him serious, his wife works for the Federal Government and he claimed that she could help him get all kinds of grants. He reiterated that he was very disappointed that he had to leave because he really wanted to stay but the way things were getting juggled around and the way things were going he decided it would be easier to move closer to his wife and take his old job back.

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Supervisor Crandall interjected that it is not what he told him.

Councilman Burns stated it is what he told him numerous times, he was very upset and Dave Mergendahl is talking about leaving in September so they have got to get people to take these positions.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it is what they are advertising for and then asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Langdon stated that his prayers go out to Don's family, it is a sad thing and he was way too young. He added that Town Clerk Millious brought up some good points earlier; the reality is that the workload in her office is not based on the number of people here, it is based on the number of parcels, and they are talking about more parcels and almost double the revenue. He continued by saying that he thinks that it justifies that she have another 17 hour person to cover the workload.

Councilman Dolan interjected that the Town Clerk's Office does not generate revenue, it collects revenue. He then asked Town Clerk Millious if it is possible to accept credit card payment for Water and Sewer Bills.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she could do it over the phone but she doesn't have a program like the taxes, it would be a little different. She added that she can take credit cards for any payment, such as for a Certificate of Residence and the charge isn't as much, it would be a little less on the Town Clerk's fees. She went on by saying that there is more money coming in and it is worth having as well as the County looking for their money too.

Councilman Dolan stated that earlier Town Clerk Millious had mentioned a Cemetery Coordinator as well as saying that the previous Supervisor had asked her to do it and he looked through all the meeting minutes from when they were advertising for a Cemetery Coordinator to when she reported being the Cemetery Coordinator and there is no Board resolution or involvement in her taking over that job and the Town Supervisor does not have the authority to give a Town Clerk work to do, even on a volunteer basis.

Town Clerk Millious stated that once Rich Hotaling left, they had a gentleman that was only Cemetery Coordinator for a month and then they could not get a Cemetery Coordinator. She continued by saying that because she did everything else, she told him that she would take it a step further, which she has done for 5 years now and she actually feels as though it is a lot more accurate, it is very interesting and she doesn't mind doing it. She added that she said she would do it as long as she had the help and there probably wasn't a motion or resolution saying she was the Cemetery Coordinator but she has been doing it as part of her job.

Councilman Dolan stated that he's not saying that she doesn't do a good job or enjoys doing it because she seems to but his point is simply that the previous Town Supervisor gave her that job, the Town Board didn't do it and if it is something that she doesn't want to do, he thinks it would be the Town Board's responsibility to find someone for that, which they would be willing to discuss.

Town Clerk Millious stated that at some point she will be retiring and it seems like everyone is leaving, Dave knows the job so well and knows what to do. She reiterated that she doesn't mind doing it but when she is gone they will have to get someone who knows what they are doing because it is not just one cemetery, there are four books of just Grove Cemetery, which they are still working on compiling information. She added that she also has Indian Fields and Coeymans Hollow Cemeteries, it's a lot, there was a cremation earlier in the day and a burial the Monday before, Taylor Monument needs information on where to put a stone, which she is working on. She concluded by saying that she doesn't mind doing it but it is taking her longer and everything is a little behind without that other person because she is answering the phone, at the counter and doing whatever that person would be assigned to do and that takes her away. She concluded by saying that there is going to be a time when she leaves that they will probably have to get someone.

Councilman Dolan stated that his point is simply that under Municipal Law, Town Law, there are certain things that a Town Clerk has to do, there are some things that they can do if the Board

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designates that the Town Clerk is the person to do it. He added that there is nowhere in Town or Municipal Law where the Town Supervisor can give work even with the Town Clerk's agreement.

Town Clerk Millious reiterated that she had said to the Supervisor that she would give it a try; he didn't give it to her to do.

Councilman Dolan stated that he understands that but it's not his to negotiate, it would be the Town Board's responsibility.

Councilman Burns asked if he thought they could get a Coordinator for the Cemeteries for less money than what she is doing it for, even if they gave her the third person.

Councilman Dolan interjected that the Cemetery Coordinator was making roughly \$2,200.00 a year.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she believes it was \$2,600.00 in the budget but he only worked for a month.

Councilman Dolan stated that also just for the record there was someone that applied for the job who is eminently qualified for the job and the Supervisor didn't want to hire that person, which is probably why he went to her and asked her. He added that it is not something that is normally a Town Clerk's duty and if she thinks it is a burden on her, they can look at it is they want them to.

Town Clerk Millious stated that all the records are in her office and she still has to work with it, she has found a lot of mistakes and she likes to actually see the grave because when you are sitting and doing deeds, she likes it to be right. She added that she believes there is no place in Albany or Greene Counties where a Town Clerk is this involved but it is how she is.

Councilman Dolan stated that he doesn't know if there is another Town Clerk in New York State that does it.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that she should get an award for doing it.

Councilman Dolan stated that if there is an award for being Town Clerk/Cemetery Coordinator, she definitely should get it.

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

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

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

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Youmans) – SO MOVED

Time – 7:57pm

*Respectfully Submitted -*

**APPROVED –**

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*Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk*