

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
August 23, 2018 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 7:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: Philip Crandall, Supervisor
Daniel D. Baker, Councilman
Kenneth C. Burns, Councilman
Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman
James C. Youmans, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk
John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer
John Kerr, Chief Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator
Daniel Contento, Acting Police Chief
Paul Pastore, Attorney to the Town

Audience (4)

Supervisor Crandall opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated that a full Board was present.

Public Announcements

Agricultural District Three Open Period of Review – Councilman Dolan read a Notice regarding a thirty day open period of review for Agricultural District Number Three from August 1 to August 30, 2018.

Family Farm Day – Supervisor Crandall read a flyer with the details of the annual family farm day that will be held on September 9, 2018 from 11am-3pm at the Tommell Cattle Company in Berne.

RCS Sports Association Golf Tournament – Supervisor Crandall announced that the RCS Sports Association would be holding an annual golf tournament on Sunday August 26. It is \$100 per golfer at the Sycamore Country Club. This is an annual fundraiser with the proceeds going towards the athletes at RCS.

Public Comment Period

Supervisor Crandall opened the floor for Public Comment.

Jason and Ashley Redfield, stood and read a statement concerning the current speed limit on Route 144 in the North Coeymans area. They stated that cars speed through there above the posted 55 MPH speed limit, there is no shoulder and an overgrowth of greenery during the summer. Since they moved there in October of 2017 they have seen four accidents. They have put in two formal complaints with NYS DOT and been told that the proposal had been made three times in the past but they would look into it. They also mentioned the danger to those walking and biking along the road, including when the school bus misses a stop they will let the children off farther down the street and they have to walk along the road. Mr. and Mrs. Redfield have even had people curse, honk and make obscene gestures at them as they slow down to pull into their driveway.

Councilman Dolan thanked them for their e-mail and thanked them for coming to the meeting. He also stated that just because it has been denied three times did not mean that they were not willing to try again. He said they won't take no for an answer and that they have been working on this and would continue to.

Mr. Redfield stated that without sidewalks or a bike path there is no sense of community with the residents of that area. He felt that with the amount of pedestrians and bikers they see, it would not be unreasonable to have a sidewalk or a bike path there.

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Supervisor Crandall stated that he had contacted Sam Zhou, the Regional Director of the DOT regarding this and he has said that they will reevaluate it again. The Town will keep pleading their case and they would keep trying to get the speed limit reduced in that area.

Councilman Baker thanked the Redfield's for coming and that he had reached out to Reed Sholts at the State. Mr. Sholts stated that past studies had shown that 85% of vehicles are going 55 MPH or less. Councilman Baker feels that the road is safer since the repaving but the speed is still an issue. Mr. Sholts said they would do another study. Councilman Baker asked the Chief of Police to have a police car there, especially during rush hour, to hopefully slow the traffic.

Mrs. Redfield asked if they should make a petition for their neighbors to sign. Supervisor Crandall replied yes, and to bring it to his office and he would send it up with a letter signed by all the Town Board members.

Councilman Youmans mentioned an accident he had seen along that stretch of road that still affects him. Discussion ensued regarding other accidents in that area.

Councilman Dolan stated that Chief Contento had started patrols there the day that they had received the e-mail. The first thing that DOT wants is to see that the lower speeds are going to be enforced.

Laszlo Polyak stood and commented about trucks that he has seen pull out right in front of him on Route 144 and that a person could easily slide right under one. He mentioned that he has seen no Jake braking signs in places. Mr. Polyak also mentioned a lack of handicap parking and a disagreement he was having with the Village of Ravena over his water and sewer bill and asked if the Town Board could give him any advice regarding this. Supervisor Crandall stated that the Town had no say with the Village and he would need to work it out with the Village.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes

Councilman Dolan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the July 26, 2018 Town Board Meeting, seconded by Councilman Burns.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Supervisor Report

July 2018 Supervisor's Reports read by Supervisor Crandall

Motion to Accept Reports

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Dolan.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report – July 2018 Report read by Town Clerk Rowzee.

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Baker made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Dolan.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Police Department Report – Acting Chief Contento spoke on the 144 issue and that he had put a speed detail in the North Coeymans area. The fastest speed they had found a car going was 67 MPH and no trucks had exceeded the speed limit. He stated that he knew that trucks were using their Jake brakes on that corner in order to save wear and tear on their motors and that some are louder than others. He also mentioned that he had spoken to Reed Sholts at DOT and that they would be conducting a new study soon, "before the snow flies." He has asked to borrow a speed sign from another agency and would put that up to try and get people's attention.

July 2018 Report read by Daniel Contento, Acting Police Chief.

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Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Dolan made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Burns.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Building Department Report – July 2018 Report read by John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Baker.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Supervisor Crandall asked Mr. Cashin to speak about the new Local Law I that was being put before the County. Mr. Cashin stated that this new local law would require new 1, 2 or more family homes and townhouses and any substantial renovations to have sprinklers installed. He stated that this had been happening on a National level for years. Installing sprinklers saves property and lives but it comes at a very high cost especially where there are wells as you need to put holding tanks and pumps.

Councilman Burns told about a demonstration that he had seen in New Baltimore where a fire was put out in 19 sec. with a fire suppression system but without them took much longer waiting for the typical Fire Dept. response time.

Supervisor Crandall also asked Mr. Cashin to comment on an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) device. Mr. Cashin stated that it would be good to have an AED device in the Town Hall. He would recommend behind the judges bench. He read the information on one that he had looked into and what the upkeep would be on it.

Motion to Look into Purchasing of AED and Training

Supervisor Crandall made a motion to purchase this and to authorize John Cashin to look into the training aspects and the cost that would be necessary, seconded by Councilman Youmans.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Town Clerk Rowzee asked if the Police still had the portable AED units in their cars. As Secretary to the Supervisor she had been told that they did and that was the reason we did not need one in the building. Acting Chief Contento stated that they no longer did, at some point the administration did not want to spend the money to bring them up to speed and so they were removed.

Sewer Department Report – July 2018 Report read by John Kerr, Chief WWTP Operator

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Dolan made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Youmans.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Supervisor Crandall took a moment to thank all of the department heads and especially for staying in budget. He stated that they were doing a fine job and getting the job done. He mentioned the outstanding Article 7's from the Albany Water Board and that it could possibly cost the Town between \$75,000-\$100,000 that was not in the budget.

New Business

Supervisor Crandall stated that the agenda items had already been discussed and so we would move on.

Councilman Dolan asked to speak, he mentioned the construction on Route 144 and recommended that people try and avoid the area if possible. There is a lot of heavy equipment in the area and dust in the air, as well as holes in the road.

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Resolutions

Resolution #105-18 – Appoint Full-Time Laborer

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans is desirous of filling a full time laborer position in the Community Beautification Department; and

WHEREAS, the Albany County Civil Service Department has confirmed this job title as a non-competitive position requiring the chosen candidate to meet minimum qualifications; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans has confirmed the candidate meets the minimum qualifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Sean Dwyer to the position of Laborer within the Community Beautification Department effective August 27, 2018, at the rate of \$17.46 per hour, contingent upon Albany County Civil Service approval.

Resolution #106-18 – Accept Resignation of PT Police Officer

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

WHEREAS, EJ Seney has submitted his letter of resignation as Part Time Police Officer to the Supervisor, effective August 8, 2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of EJ Seney, effective August 8, 2018.

Supervisor Crandall mentioned that the letter of resignation was attached.

Resolution #107-18 – Accept Resignation of PT Police Officer

On motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Dolan for discussion, the following resolution was:
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

WHEREAS, Michael Case has submitted his letter of resignation as Part Time Police Officer to the Supervisor, effective August 17, 2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Michael Case, effective August 17, 2018.

Councilman Dolan asked Acting Chief Contento if he had anything to add. Acting Chief Contento stated that we had sponsored Case to the Academy and he was offered a job in Rensselaer and that he never worked a day here. It was stated that we do not pay for their training. Councilman Baker asked if there was a minimum stay that they have to do before they move on. Supervisor Crandall stated that we do now since Contento has taken over.

Resolution #108-18 – Audit of Claims – August 2018

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for August 2018, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS –176905 – 176984, for a total of \$ **111,822.25**

VOUCHER NUMBERS –176985 – 177074 for a total of \$**310,562.07**

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$**422,384.32**

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Upcoming Workshops and Meetings

Planning Board Meeting – September 4th at 7pm
Conservation Advisory Council – September 12th at 6pm
Town Board Meeting – September 13th at 7pm

Motion to Adjourn

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

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT– SO MOVED

Time – 7:55pm

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED – AS PRESENTED ON 9/13/2018

Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk