

## MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS

May 9, 2019 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 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  
Paul Pastore, Attorney to the Town  
Scott Searles, Highway Superintendent  
Officer Braden, Police Officer

Audience (14) Media (1)

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

### Public Announcements

**Evening on the Green** – Councilman Dolan announced the Evening on the Green Concert Series and dates for the summer, on Wednesday's from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with a rain date the Thursday immediately following:

7/3/2019 – Dublin Trainwreck  
7/10/2019 – Scotty Mac and the Rockin' Bonneville  
7/17/2019 – Dusk til Dawn  
7/24/2019 – Morrighan's Flight  
7/31/2019 – Dennis D'Asaro/Shakespeare in the Alley  
8/7/2019 – Big Frank & the Bargain Bingers  
8/14/2019 – Diva and the Dirty Boys  
8/21/2019 – Soul Sky  
8/28/2019 – Lou's Blues

**Grievance Day** – Grievance Day will be held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 from 1-8pm in the Town Hall.

### Public Comment

**Ms. Barbara Tanner of Ravena** stood and mentioned that she was still waiting for information about a recycling day.

Councilman Dolan acknowledged this.

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**Ms. Mary Driscoll of Coeymans** stood and spoke about freedom of speech. She stated her approval of how the Planning Board meeting was run on Monday night and that it was inspiring to see young people here at the meeting.

**Mr. Nate Boomer of Coeymans Hollow** stood and spoke about his concerns with Chairperson Sylvia Lawler and the Conservation Advisory Council. He read a timeline of events regarding the CAC and the air quality study. He encouraged the Town Board to ask the State Attorney General's Office to investigate Ms. Lawler's actions concerning the study.

During Mr. Boomer's comments there was some back and forth with the Town Board members regarding what topics were appropriate for a Town Board meeting. After Mr. Boomer had asked them to refer the situation to the Attorney General, Councilman Dolan stated that they would not. He stated that the Clean Air Law and the Air Quality study had nothing to do with each other and that Ms. Lawler was not acting on behalf of the CAC when she did the Air Quality study.

**Ms. Sylvia Lawler of Coeymans** stood and spoke regarding a letter that explains this situation that was written to George McHugh and she asked Supervisor Crandall to read it. She stated that the DEC had asked her to not say anything about the results of the clean air study until they were published. Ms. Lawler stated that she was not happy with the some elements of the Planning Board meeting and their decision to not keep the Public Hearing open longer. She felt that the CAC should have been given the opportunity to advise on the matter of the new Yanni's building.

**Mr. Christopher Hagen of Alcove** stood and spoke about his concerns about the Conservation Advisory Council with the Clean Air Law and how the air quality study results should have been released prior to the vote on the law.

Councilman Dolan stated that the Clean Air Law deals with keeping the air clean in the future.

Mr. Hagen asked the Town Board to refer the situation to the Attorney General's Office and Councilman Dolan again stated no.

**Mr. Jeffrey LaQuire of Coeymans** stood and spoke of his approval of the Town Board's unanimous approval of the pool share cost with the Village of Ravenna. It showed they could come together as one.

**Ms. Sara Pruiksma of Coeymans** stood and spoke of some of her concerns about the Planning Board meeting and how the new building would impact the Town Park. She was not happy with how some of the meeting was handled. She spoke about the historic nature of the Town.

**Mr. Daniel Boomer** stood and spoke about his concern regarding the discussion of Planning Board matters at a Town Board meeting.

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Councilman Youmans stated that these could be discussed now because it is not currently an open matter before the Planning Board. When it was brought up at a previous meeting it was still an open matter.

There was discussion among the Town Board members about the air quality samples. Councilman Youmans asked the Board members if anyone would have voted differently. He applauded Lafarge for the improvements they have made so that our air samples were clean. He felt that if samples were dirty and they had voted against the law, then there would be a problem and that they are trying to keep the air clean into the future. He stated that he would not have voted any different. Councilman Burns stated that he wished he had known about the study but that it would not have changed his vote.

Supervisor Crandall stated that the study was not done by the CAC but was done by the unrelated Coeymans Landing Neighborhood Association. The Clean Air Law was about the future of the Town and nothing else, the sampling results had no bearing on the vote of the Board.

Councilman Baker asked if he would be able to offer a resolution later during the resolution part of the meeting to send the Lawler situation to the Attorney General for review.

Attorney to the Town Pastore spoke and stated that the Clean Air Law was about what damaging effects may arise in the future. He stated that members of the Town Board would have differing viewpoints on things and that did not mean that one was right and the other was wrong. Mr. Pastore stated that he did not feel that anything had been done wrong and that this was a little farfetched for a public integrity violation.

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### **Motion to Approve Minutes**

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Town Board Meeting, seconded by Councilman Dolan.

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

### **Supervisor Report**

Amended portions of the March 2019 Supervisor's Report read by Supervisor Crandall

#### **Motion to Accept Report**

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

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

### **New Business**

**Waive of Park Fee for Head Start** – Head Start wishes to hold their graduation ceremony at Joralemon Park this year and is requesting that the Town Board waive the park use fee.

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**Motion to Waive Park Fee for Head Start**

Councilman Dolan made a motion to waive the park use fee for Head Start's use of Joralemon Park for their graduation, seconded by Councilman Baker.

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

**Request to Allow Pony Rides at Joralemon Park Party** – A Town Resident is requesting the Town Board allow pony rides at a child's birthday party to be held at Joralemon Park. This is the same resident who requested it last year using the same service. Town Clerk Rowzee stated that all insurance forms had been provided.

**Motion to Allow Pony Rides at Joralemon Park Party**

Supervisor Crandall made a motion to allow pony rides at a party at Joralemon Park, seconded by Councilman Youmans.

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

**New York Capital Region Bicycle Road Race** – This annual road race will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The road race utilizes Town Roads but does not need anything from the Town.

**Motion to Approve NY Capital Region Road Race**

Councilman Youmans made a motion to approve the NY Capital Region Road Race on July 13<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilman Baker.

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

**Town Hall Front Step Replacement** – There was discussion among the Town Board about the Town Hall steps that need to be replaced. The Parks and Rec Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Arnold, had prepared specifications and a scope of work along with Mr. Cashin. Everything was prepared to move forward with the bid opening.

**Motion to Authorize Town Clerk to Advertise Invitation to Bid**

Councilman Dolan made a motion to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise the invitation to bid, seconded by Councilman Burns.

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

**K-9 Officer** – Supervisor Crandall returned to the discussion of the K-9 officer from the last meeting. Councilman Youmans and Baker had had the opportunity to speak with Officer Braden about their concerns regarding cost and what the K-9 would be used for and were ready to move forward. Councilman Youmans stated that Officer Braden already has the dog and that the only cost to the Town would be \$600 worth of insurance. Councilman Baker stated that Officer Braden would be applying for a grant to cover the costs.

**Motion to Authorize Officer in Charge Contento to Move Forward with K-9 Officer**

Councilman Youmans made a motion to authorize Officer in Charge Contento to move ahead with the K-9 Officer program, seconded by Councilman Baker.

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

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**New Town Signs** – Supervisor Crandall stated that he had received a quote for new Town signs at about \$300 a piece, for a total of about \$1800 for six signs. He asked the Town Board whether they wanted to put new posts in or reuse the ones that were there. There was discussion about if the new signs would be compatible and what kind of shape the current posts were in.

**Motion to Authorize Supervisor to Purchase New Town Signs**

Councilman Youmans made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to spend about \$1,800 on the new signs and to spend up to \$2,500 total for signs and posts, in order to replace or repair any, where needed, seconded by Councilman Burns.

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

**Resolutions**

**Resolution #080-19 – Authorize ZBA and Planning Boards to Attend Training**

On motion of Councilman Dolan, seconded by Councilman Burns, the following resolution was:

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

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board is requesting to attend the Local Government Planning & Zoning Workshop; and

**WHEREAS**, the workshop shall take place at the Hudson Valley Community College in the Bulmer Telecommunications Center on Wednesday May 29, 2019, with an estimated cost of \$30 per person if registered by May 17<sup>th</sup> (\$40 after May 17<sup>th</sup>);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals to attend a group workshop for Local Government Planning & Zoning on May 29, 2019 at the Hudson Valley Community College at a cost of \$30.

**Resolution #081-19 – Accept Resignation of Equipment Operator - Proper**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Baker for discussion, the following resolution was:

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

**WHEREAS**, Joseph Proper has submitted his letter of resignation as Highway Equipment Operator 1, effective May 1, 2019;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Joseph Proper, effective May 1, 2019.

Councilman Baker asked if this was the gentlemen that was just recently hired. Superintendent Searles informed that it was and that he was leaving because his side business is booming. Councilman Baker thanked Mr. Proper and asked Superintendent Searles if he was going to hire someone else. Superintendent Searles stated that it was already posted in-house.

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**Resolution #082-19 – Accept Resignation of Clerk to the Supervisor - Chmielewski**

On motion of Supervisor Crandall, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was:

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

**WHEREAS**, Nita Chmielewski has submitted her letter of resignation as Clerk to the Supervisor, effective May 3, 2019;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Nita Chmielewski, effective May 3, 2019.

Supervisor Crandall read Ms. Chmielewski's resignation letter and thanked her for her service to the Town and stated that she would be terribly missed.

**Resolution #083-19 – Authorize Supervisor to Execute ALS Contract**

On motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the following resolution was:

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans has participated in the County's Emergency Medical Services Program to provide Advanced Life Support services; and

**WHEREAS**, a new contract is in place for Advanced Life Support services with the Albany County Sheriff's Office for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes Supervisor Philip A. Crandall to execute the contract for Advanced Life Support Services with the Albany County Sheriff's Office.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Baker from the floor, it was not included on the agenda:

**Resolution #084-19 – Direct Attorney to Refer Lawler to Attorney General**

On motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Burns, the following resolution was:

**NOT APPROVED** – VOTE – AYES 2 – NAYS 3 – ABSENT –

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has received information and documentation warranting further review and inquiry; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize and direct the Town Attorney to provide any and all relevant documentation and records and coordinate fully with the NYS Attorney General's Office Bureau of Public Integrity on behalf of the Town Board, in furtherance of their inquiry.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

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Philip A. Crandall	VOTING <u>No</u>
Daniel D. Baker	VOTING <u>Yes</u>
Kenneth A. Burns	VOTING <u>Yes</u>
Thomas E. Dolan	VOTING <u>No</u>
James C. Youmans	VOTING <u>No</u>

**Upcoming Meetings**

Conservation Advisory Council – May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
Zoning Board of Appeals – May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm  
Town Board Meeting – May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm

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**Motion to Adjourn**

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

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

Time – 7:53pm

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk*