

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
May 23, 2019 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, May 23rd, 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 (left at 7:35pm)
James C. Youmans, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk
Scott Searles, Highway Superintendent
Paul Pastore, Attorney to the Town
John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer

Audience (11) Media (1)

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

Public Announcements

Memorial Day Service – The VFW will hold a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 27th, at 11am at the New Baltimore Firehouse.

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

Presentations

Rick Touchette, Albany County Legislator – Mr. Touchette announced that the Albany County Water and Soil Conservation District had awarded the RCS Middle School a grant for up to \$5000 to build a high tunnel greenhouse and the materials to put it into operation. Middle School science teacher, Mrs. Jen Fiske-Juskolka had applied for the grant.

Public Comment

Ms. Barbara Tanner of Ravena stood asked about recycling. Councilman Dolan told her that he had spoken to a local company, eLot, to provide an electronics recycling day; they have sent a proposal that he would share at the next meeting. Ms. Tanner stated that she had been asking about a transfer station similar to what is in Coxsackie. Councilman Dolan stated that was not what they were looking into. Councilman Burns stated that anyone can use the one in Coxsackie. Ms. Tanner stated that she wanted something in Town where she would not have to spend \$3-\$4 in gas every time she wanted to go to it. She said she would speak with Mr. Carver to see if he could help.

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Ms. Sylvia Lawler of Coeymans stood and spoke about her dissatisfaction with the Planning Board's process for the new Yanni's building. She gave a few reasons and stated that she would like to see a new Yanni's, just not so close to the residential area.

Ms. Mary Driscoll of Coeymans stood and spoke regarding an article in the Times Union about the Planning Board and gave her appreciation to the Planning Board.

Mr. Nate Boomer of Coeymans stood and spoke about the Planning Board and felt that they had done an excellent job.

Mr. Jeffrey LaQuire of Coeymans stood and spoke about the Conservation Advisory Council and the fact that Ms. Lawler was in charge despite having served multiple lawsuits against the Town. Mr. LaQuire also spoke about his dissatisfaction with the state of the cemeteries and how the funds were used for the cemeteries.

Councilman Youmans asked him if he was looking at the salaries on the Community Beautification line of the budget as that is where the salaries are of those paid to take care of the cemeteries. Mr. LaQuire stated that he was not. Mr. LaQuire's recommendation was to pay teenagers to maintain the cemeteries in the summer.

Mr. Aaron Flach, a local business owner, stood and spoke regarding the Economic Development Advisory Committee. He stated that the committee would like the Town and Village to jointly hire an economic development professional to help with development in the Town. They would help people with zoning and grant information. The Town of Bethlehem has one. When you find the right person the change in the Town and Village will show their value. Mr. Flach mentioned the Comprehensive Plan from 2006 and how the same problems still exist and nothing has changed. He answered some questions from Councilman Burns and stated that ideally this would be a full-time position, hired by both the Town and Village, to help make the area more business friendly. He also stated that elected officials do not have the time to know all of the ins and outs and that is why a professional is necessary, someone with experience. Councilman Baker stated that the last meeting had been very positive.

Marlene McTeague spoke from the audience and stated that at the next meeting they would have the economic development professional from the Town of Bethlehem coming in and it would be an excellent meeting for them to attend.

Mr. Daniel Boomer of Coeymans stood and spoke in support of what Mr. Flach had said. He wants to see someone who would be proactive and seek new businesses out.

Approval of Minutes

Town Clerk Rowzee mentioned that there was a small change to the minutes in regards to the change of a date from May 9th to May 23rd.

Motion to Approve Minutes

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Councilman Dolan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the May 9th Town Board Meeting, with the date change, seconded by Councilman Baker.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSTAIN – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Motion to Approve Minutes

Councilman Dolan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the May 23rd Bid Opening – Front Stair Replacement, seconded by Councilman Burns.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSTAIN – ABSENT – SO MOVED

(Councilman Dolan excused himself and left the meeting for a previous engagement.)

Supervisor Report

April 2019 Supervisor’s Report read by Supervisor Crandall

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Baker.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report – April 2019 Report read by Town Clerk Rowzee

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Baker.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Police Department Report – April 2019 Report read by Supervisor Crandall

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Youmans made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Burns.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Building Department Report – April 2019 Report read by Code Enforcement Officer Cashin

Motion to Accept Report

Councilman Baker made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Councilman Burns.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Sewer Department Report – Supervisor Crandall stated that this would be moved to next month when Mr. Geraldson would be able to attend.

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Old Business

Front Step Replacement – Supervisor Crandall stated that the Town had only received one bid for the front step replacement at \$25,500. He felt this was high and wanted to know what the rest of the Town Board thought. There was discussion among the Board members and it was decided to put the steps out to bid again with a new scope of work to include wood, Trex, or cement to be used as replacement materials. Town Clerk Rowzee stated that we would probably be looking at about 3 weeks in order to advertise the re-bid.

Motion to Authorize Bid Advertisement

Councilman Youmans made a motion to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise a new Invitation to Bid, to include wood, Trex or cement for the replacement of the Town Hall Front Steps, seconded by Councilman Baker.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

New Business

Cemetery Plot Buyback Option – Supervisor Crandall stated that there had been a request from someone who owned a cemetery plot who wanted to remove their spouse's cremated remains and sell the plot back to the Town. He wanted to get the Town Boards opinion on whether this should be allowed. There was discussion among the Town Board members with the following points: the lots were not originally purchased from us, there was no money in the budget to cover the buyback of cemetery lots and it may be more difficult to sell a lot that had already been used. It was decided that the Town would not allow for the buyback of cemetery plots.

Supervisor Crandall stated that it had been many years since the cemetery rules and pricing had been updated and that he would work with Town Clerk Rowzee on updating these. He mentioned that Mr. Touchette would be sending down a current set of rules for the Albany Diocese Cemeteries for ideas.

Paving of Town Roads – Supervisor Crandall asked Highway Superintendent Searles to speak about the roads he was planning to repave this year. Mr. Searles stated that he would be repaving Old Ravena Rd. and Bridge Rd. The last time Old Ravena Rd. was paved was in 1981, with oil and stone placed on it in 2006.

Motion to Accept Road List from Highway Superintendent

Supervisor Crandall made a motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to repave Old Ravena Rd. and Bridge Rd., seconded by Councilman Baker.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Health Insurance Renewals – Supervisor Crandall stated that he and Ms. Ziegler had met with Health Insurance representatives from Cool Insuring regarding the new rates. Four plans would be offered to the Town with the average cost increase of 4.96%. He stated that there would be a presentation to employees in June and August regarding the different options. Councilman Youmans stated that this was the lowest percentage increase we have seen in a long time.

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Resolutions

Resolution #085-19 – Appoint Equipment Operator I - Polverelli

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

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous of filling a vacancy in the Highway Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Luciano Polverelli as a full time Equipment Operator 1 consistent with the CSEA contract effective June 3, 2019.

Supervisor Crandall stated that Luciano Polverelli was a hard working young man and that this was a fine choice.

Resolution #086-19 – Amend April Abstract of Claims

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Baker, the following resolution was:
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

WHEREAS, Resolution 079-19 did not account for all of the voucher numbers included in the abstract;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby amend Resolution 079-19 to include the following vouchers:

VOUCHER NUMBERS –178463– 178542 for a total of **\$ 77,406.75**

Resolution #087-19 – May Abstract of Claims

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

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for May 2019, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS –178543 – 178623 & 2019-038 - 2019-045 for a total of
\$ 209,962.82

VOUCHER NUMBERS –178624– 178692 for a total of **\$ 50,801.56**

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – **\$ 260,764.38**

Upcoming Meetings

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Supervisor Crandall announced the VFW will hold a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 27th, at 11am at the New Baltimore Firehouse.

Planning Board Meeting – June 3rd at 7pm
Conservation Advisory Council Meeting – June 11th at 6pm
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting – June 26th at 7pm
Town Board Meeting – June 27th at 7pm

Motion to Adjourn

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

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Time – 7:56pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk