

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
January 16, 2020 – Town Board Meeting – 7:00pm**

A Town Board Workshop was held Thursday, January 16th, 2020 at 7:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: George D. McHugh, Supervisor
Daniel D. Baker, Councilman
Kenneth C. Burns, Councilman
Zachary S. Collins, Councilman
Brandon L. LeFevre, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk

Audience (5)

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

Public Announcements

Supervisor McHugh announced that Town Offices would be closed Monday, January 20, 2020 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

He also announced that there would be Public Hearings for Proposed Local Laws 1 and 2 before the January 23rd Town Board Meeting at 6:00pm and 6:30pm.

Presentation

Composite Technologies & Infrastructure, LLC (CTI) – Supervisor McHugh stated that CTI was a new company in the area whose building is just about finished at the Coeymans Industrial Park. He spoke about the PILOT that was approved on January 1st. He also stated that there would be a Public Hearing in February on a \$750,000 Community Block Grant for CTI. He mentioned that they have a long term lease with Coeymans Recycling Center, LLC. He then introduced Michael Codi and Frank Carello from CTI.

Mr. Codi of CTI gave some information about their company. He stated that they have been looking into this move for the last 3-4 years and have been blown away by the activity at the Port. They feel this is a great place to relocate and will be moving 40 full-time jobs here, mostly from Albany. They are engineers, accounting, quality assurance and tradesmen. In the past they have mostly done field work and this new shop will allow them to do work in their shop. They are hoping to work on the off-shore wind project and are confident that they can land the coating work for the turbines. They provide union wage jobs where the people earn \$65,000-70,000 a year. They work with DC9 Local Painters Union and the Local 190 Laborers Union. They are looking to add 43 jobs over the next 10 years. They have leased a small building from Coeymans Recycling this past year to beta test the location and it worked out well. As soon as the new building is in operation they will be able to add more jobs. They also are planning to work with the school district to have students come in and do work-study. The new facility will also have a

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training classroom for 36 people to provide a place for training. Doing shop work will also allow a place to safely train people before having them go out to the field to work.

There was then discussion between Mr. Codi and Mr. Carello of CTI and the Town Board members as well as questions from the audience that covered the following topics:

- It was suggested that CTI reach out to John Barr at TCI and HVCC for the work-study program.
- They will also be able to provide Union and OSHA training in the classroom at their building.
- CTI will receive items by truck and ship them out by barge. It will be a huge cost savings to do it this way. Items for the off-shore wind farms that are fabricated throughout NY will be shipped to them by truck for coating and then they will send the items down to NYC by barge.
- The representatives from CTI described their state of the art booths for painting and media blasting. They have a HEPA filtration system so you can basically breathe the air that comes out of it. There will be no emissions smell. A majority of their work is with epoxy and low odor VOCs.
- They will not require a permit with DEC but a registration with them. Their emissions are way lower than what DEC would require a permit for. Random visits from DEC would be possible but not likely. There would be no discharge or floor drains. Nothing would be going into the sewer or storm water drains. Anything that is spilled would be able to be cleaned up with no discharge.
- They will be getting building permits to install a paint booth and a blast booth. They are working with Albany Fire to install fire suppression throughout the building. There will be sprinklers.
- Most of the products they use are not flammable. Only products that will be out in the sunlight have a top coat that is flammable. This constitutes about 5% of the work they do.
- They sometimes work with American Steel but it depends on the client.
- They try to minimize their disposal and debris. The media blasting that they used is recyclable. They can reuse the media for almost a year. They recycle what metal and cardboard they can but do not create a lot. They are starting a new initiative to be able to return any unused coating materials that are purchased for a project in order to keep waste down. They have gotten rid of all of their old products and are starting fresh with their move here.
- Their current employees range from Syracuse to Glens Falls, most are within a one hour radius of Albany. Their administration offices are in Rochester. They hope to move that here in the next two years. They are looking to have some people relocate to this area.
- They plan on being in the new shop by March 1st and being in production by May 1st. They hope to do an open house the first week in May.

Supervisor McHugh thanked Mr. Codi and Mr. Carello for coming and stated that he would send them the RCS Business Association information.

Public Comment

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Mr. Daniel Boomer of Coeymans stood and spoke about the need for an alternate truck route that ran through Lafarge property going from US 9W to SR 144. He also feels that a Thruway exit would be very beneficial to the Town and Village, the Port of Coeymans and Lafarge.

Supervisor McHugh said that there are some issues with this as any driver going on Lafarge property would need to be MSHA certified. This would be difficult hurdle to overcome in order for this to happen. There was some discussion about them turning the road over to the Town.

Old Business

Gedney Hill Tower – Councilman Baker stated that they were still working on restoring Highway communications. He stated that power had been restored. Albany County is progressing on moving their shelter out and we will be able to put ours in. We have calls in to Mr. Bullock to do some electrical work and then Pittsfield Communication will hook us back up. One challenge is that the cable from the shelter to the tower needs to be protected from the weather.

New Business

Meeting with Lafarge-Holcim and Port of Coeymans – Supervisor McHugh stated that he had met with both Lafarge and the Port of Coeymans about truck traffic. At this point there are three new buildings at the Industrial Park and within the next two years Mr. Laraway has plans to relocate his offices here. This would be a three story office building. There is a plan to put a truck scale and scale house up at the quarry. They will redo a road going down from the end of the quarry to Route 101 and make it a real road again at an estimated cost of \$1 million. They will no longer use Jarvis Rd. N. and Jarvis Rd. S. The trucks will come down Route 101 and then down US Route 9W into the Village. They will then take Main St./Route 143 to Route 144 to the Port. Once they leave the Port they will go north on Route 144 up to Route 396 and over to US 9W. This will reduce the truck traffic by half going through the Village. Also, the trucks will use Exit 22 off of the Thruway no matter which way they are coming from. With both of these changes in place it should reduce the truck traffic on Main St. in Ravena by about 60%. This won't be finished until about mid-March of next year. This new route would be the only way in and out of the quarry. Supervisor McHugh also showed a map of the proposed road and new route. He stated that they had another proposal for a road that runs through Lafarge but since all of the drivers would need to be MSHA certified this would take longer. The road that is proposed from the quarry would be a good first step.

Nicole Ambrosio, the grant writer who was at the meeting, recommended contacting NYS DOT about grants for the road.

Speed Limit on State Route 144 – Supervisor McHugh stated that he will be contacting DOT regarding the Speed Limit on Route 144. He said that Coeymans Recycling, William Biers and Lafarge will write letters in support of lowering the speed limit. They all think it is a dangerous road. He mentioned that some residents were working on a petition.

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Curfew – Councilman Baker stated that Supervisor McHugh had reached out and gotten a few curfew laws from local municipalities. He feels that they fit our Town well. He does not think that this will end all of the trouble but could be the first step to curbing it. Supervisor McHugh mentioned a few things that he liked in the laws. It was at most a \$250 fine or imprisonment not to exceed 15 days. Councilman Baker said he felt that was a bit much. There was discussion among the Town Board members regarding this issue. It was decided that the Town Board members would bring the sample local laws home to look over for further discussion at a later date.

Grant Writer – Councilman Baker introduced Nicole Ambrosio, a local grant writer who works with Westerlo and Greenville.

Ms. Ambrosio gave her background. She stated that she had worked for many years in education and had written many education grants. When she retired she had made a lot of connections with the State and so she began grant writing for Greenville and Westerlo. She has worked with sewer, water, DOT, and NYSERDA. She has been delving into waste management and recycling. She also helped Westerlo with a records management grant this past year. Ms. Ambrosio spoke of several different grants and projects she had worked on. She stated that there are a lot of grants out there and for all of our tax money we should get something back. She stated that a Town has to be forthright in what they need and what they want. Councilman LeFevre asked for more information on how she was paid. She stated that for Westerlo she was a town employee and is paid monthly. In Greenville she is paid through the grant as a project manager or by a flat rate. She spoke about some of the issues with getting certain grants and some of the issues she has run into. Ms. Ambrosio stated that she has signed up for various newsletters from organizations like DEC so that she will hear when there are grants that she can apply for. Councilman Baker stated that he would reach out to her to see about rates and moving forward.

Upcoming Meetings and Workshops

Village Board Meeting – January 21st – 6pm – Village Hall
Town Board Meeting – January 23rd – 7pm – Town Hall
Town Board Public Hearings – January 23rd – 6 and 6:30pm
RCS CBA Breakfast Meeting – January 23rd – 7:30am at Finke Equipment

Public Comment

Supervisor McHugh then opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Barbara Tanner of Ravena asked how things had gone with the Village Board regarding moving the Town Offices to the Village building and how Supervisor McHugh thinks they feel about it.

Supervisor McHugh stated that the Village will be making their decision the following Tuesday. They have some concerns about space with the RCS School District and there are only three

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classrooms left. There are also some storage issues. He thinks they will probably hold off for now until they know what their needs will be.

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session for Personnel Matters/Appointments

On motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman LeFevre, the Town Board Meeting was adjourned to Executive Session to discuss personnel and appointment matters which was attended by Supervisor McHugh and Councilmen Baker, Burns, Collins and LeFevre.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Time – 8:34pm

Motion to Adjourn

On motion of Councilman LeFevre, seconded by Councilman Collins, the Town Board Meeting was adjourned. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Time – 9:14pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk