

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
March 11, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, March 11th, 2021 at 6:30pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: George D. McHugh, Supervisor
Daniel D. Baker, Council member
Linda S. Bruno, Council member
Zachary S. Collins, Council member
Brandon L. LeFevre, Council member

ALSO PRESENT: Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk
Douglas Keyer, Chief of Police
Jaclyn Hakes, MJ Engineering

Supervisor McHugh continued the meeting after the public hearings.

Public Announcements

COVID-19 Update - Supervisor McHugh stated that today marked one year since the pandemic had been declared and that we had been lucky with fairly low numbers over the year. He stated that things are slowly returning to normal and vaccines are becoming more readily available. He spoke of the County providing 150 senior residents with the vaccine locally at a clinic that past week and 40 who had been on the waitlist were able to be accommodated at Clarksville. He stated that there is no change to Town Hall and that he is in contact with other municipalities and the County for guidance on this. He stated that at other places meetings are very similar to us and this is how everyone is operating under this system. He asked for those who were losing patience to find some patience and stated that things may change in the next month or so.

Police Ride Along and Officer Complaint/Compliment Forms – Supervisor McHugh stated that these forms could be found on the Town website. Chief Keyer stated that the Police Reform Committee has recommended that we open up the ride along to more members of the community. He feels that it is good for the community to come in and see what the Police Officers are doing on a day to day basis. He then went on to say how things have changed significantly over his time in law enforcement and that the police have to carry more on their belts and in their cars and the cars aren't getting any bigger. He spoke of the diligence and fortitude of the officers and their sacrifices to make the community safer.

Seasonal Labor Applications – Supervisor McHugh stated the seasonal labor applications were now being accepted. The work would be Monday through Friday, 6:30-2:30, about April 12 to October 1. He stated that you must be 18 and have a valid driver's license as well as pass the prescreening. The application would be made available on the website the following day and March 26th would be the deadline for applications.

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VFW 9594 Easter Event – Supervisor McHugh stated that there would be a drive thru Easter Bunny event on April 3rd where each child would receive a basket. He asked that people check the VFW Post Facebook page for more information.

Town of Coeymans – Code Ch. 60 Article II, Disposal of Waste – Supervisor McHugh stated that there has been considerable dog waste being left in the area of 82-84 Main St. in the hamlet as well as a vacant lot near there. He stated that there is a law that you clean up your dog's waste. He has talked to the code enforcement officers and the police and they will be issuing tickets if they see someone doing this. This cannot be tolerated.

Town Recycle Day – Supervisor McHugh stated that this would be held May 1, 2021 from 8am to 4pm at two locations, WM Biers property across from the Port's north entrance and the Coeymans Highway Garage. He stated that there is a list of acceptable and disallowed items on the website and that all residents are welcome. He stated that this is free thanks to Theile Carting, Collins and Son and WM Biers.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes

Supervisor McHugh made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the February 25, 2021 Public Hearing and the February 25, 2021 Town Board Meeting, seconded by Council member LeFevre. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

New Business

Summer Youth Programs – Supervisor McHugh stated that they will be holding the summer youth programs this year. They are preparing for it now and hope that it will be a great year.

Farmers Market & Evenings on the Green – Supervisor McHugh stated that last year these were expanded from 10 to 12 evenings and that this year it would be expanded to 16 evenings. He stated that it will kick off on Wednesday, May 26th with *In the Dust*. He stated that Frese dinners could be pre-purchased.

2021 Riverfest – Supervisor McHugh stated that this year it will be on September 11th and they are going to try and make it better than last year. He stated that this is free of charge to residents and that taxpayer dollars are not spent on these events, the money all comes from donations from local businesses. He stated that it was spread out with plenty of room.

Jarvis Road North Illegal Dumping – Council member LeFevre stated that on February 16th fresh piles of construction debris had been left in this area. He has spoken with the Coeymans Police Department and met with Chief Keyer. He stated that DEC was notified and is actively investigating. Chief Keyer stated that this is being taken seriously and that we are proud of our community and it is not good that someone is taking advantage of the situation. He is hoping the person responsible will be found and identified. He stated that DEC is working extremely hard on this. Supervisor McHugh stated that he hoped part of the penalty will be cleaning the mess up. Chief Keyer stated that he will talk to the Justices about that regarding sentencing.

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Resolutions

Resolution #072-21 – Appoint Full-Time Police Officer - Arnold

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

WHEREAS, the Coeymans Police Department is desirous of hiring a fulltime Police Officer for the Town of Coeymans; and

WHEREAS, Officer Kelly Arnold has proven to be an invaluable asset to our Coeymans Police Department in her current part time position and meets and exceeds the requirements to fulfill the full time position.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Kelly Arnold to a full time position as Police Officer for the Town of Coeymans effective March 15, 2021.

Council member Baker stated that he was proud of this as there had been a lot of talk from the residents about hiring full-time Police Officers. He stated that comments don't go unnoticed or unheard. He stated that he appreciates everything the Police Officers and Chief have done and they want to continue to keep this police force going.

Supervisor McHugh stated that Kelly will be a great full-time officer. He stated that she was hired from the civil service list and he welcomes her to the full-time position. He stated that he hopes we can get another one soon.

Chief Keyer stated that Kelly has been with us since February of 2018. He also stated that he has a lot of experience with different agencies and that she would be welcome in any police agency. He stated that her enthusiasm is contagious and she is eager to learn more about law enforcement. He stated that she is the type of officer that is community oriented and is a great representative of the Police Department and the Town. He stated that she will do great down there and she has his support and that of the Town Board.

Resolution #073-21 – Appoint Marriage Officer - Pearson

On motion of Council member LeFevre, seconded by Supervisor McHugh for discussion, the following resolution was:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Virginia Pearson as Marriage Officer for the Town of Coeymans with the responsibilities as determined by Town Law. This appointment expires December 31, 2021.

Supervisor McHugh stated that this was a duplicate resolution as the person was not able to get in to take an oath of office within the 30 days.

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Resolution #074-21 – Appoint member to Ethics Committee - Grogan

On motion of Supervisor McHugh, seconded by Council member Collins, the following resolution was: APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to continue the work of the Ethics Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby appoints Patricia M. Grogan to the Ethics Committee with terms to expire December 31, 2021.

He stated that this resolution is the same situation as the previous one.

Upcoming Meetings/Workshops

PB/ZBA Meeting – March 24th at 7pm
Town Board Meeting – March 25th at 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn

On motion of Supervisor McHugh, seconded by Council member Bruno, the Town Board Meeting was adjourned.

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

Time – 6:47pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk