

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**

April 8, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, April 8th, 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
James Peluso, Attorney to the Town
Jaclyn Hakes, MJ Engineering
Andrew Gillcrist, MJ Engineering

Supervisor McHugh opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated that all Board members were present.

Public Announcements

COVID-19 Update - Supervisor McHugh gave an update on the local numbers. He stated that the County had been able to administer 30 doses of the vaccine to residents at the Clarksville Patrol Station. 41.1% of Albany County residents have received the first dose of the vaccine and 27.4% have been completely vaccinated. He then stated that Pfizer was the only vaccine that was available for those under 18.

Alcove Day – April 24, 2021 – Supervisor McHugh stated that the Alcove Preservation Association’s Alcove Day is scheduled for April 24th this year. If you would like to participate registrations must be in by April 17th. The Coeymans Hollow Firehouse would be having breakfast sandwiches and a chicken dinner by Frese’s Catering.

2021 Coeymans Recycle Day – May 1, 2021 – 8am to 4pm – Supervisor McHugh stated that the Town was again going to host a recycle day at two locations, on Route 144 directly across from the north entrance to the Port of Coeymans and at the Coeymans Highway Garage at 1305 Route 143. He read lists of items that were allowed and not allowed. He stated that this would be free of charge for Town residents due to Thiele Carting, Collins & Son, and WM Biers.

Evening on the Green/Farmer’s Market – Supervisor McHugh announced that Evening on the Green and the Farmer’s Market had been extended to 16 weeks and would be held May 26th to September 8th. The first band would be “In the Dust”. The Farmer’s Market would begin at 4:30 and the band would start at 6pm. He stated that this year there would be a vodka vendor and a ninepin cider vendor at the market. He then stated that they would be selling chicken and rib dinners, cooked by Frese’s Catering, as a fundraiser for Riverfest on May 26th.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**

April 8, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

2021 Riverfest – September 11th and 12th – Supervisor McHugh stated that this would be the 2nd Annual Riverfest and that plans were underway for this patriotic festival. He stated that there would be live bands and exhibits and the committee was already working hard on this.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes

Council member Collins made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from the March 25, 2021 Town Board Meeting, seconded by Council member Baker.

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

Old Business

Comprehensive Plan Update – MJ Engineering – Jacklyn Hakes spoke of the final process leading to adoption of the plan. Andrew Gillcrisp spoke about the proposed modifications to the Comprehensive Plan Update by section. The Town Board was in favor of most of the suggested modifications with the exception of reactivating the Conservation Advisory Council. Council member Collins agreed and Council member Bruno stated that it was not necessary since we have already incorporated the NRI. Supervisor McHugh stated that he felt there was no need for it.

Supervisor McHugh stated in response to the suggested modification regarding the Coeymans and Hannacrois Creeks that he would like to see the buffers expanded as they are currently at 50 ft.

Supervisor McHugh asked that the public comments be included in the plan. Ms. Hakes stated that they will include them as an additional appendix.

Supervisor McHugh stated that if the modifications could be completed by May 1st then the final plan could be sent to the Albany County Planning Board and adjacent municipalities for review.

Motion to Authorize Sending Final Draft of Comprehensive Plan Update

Supervisor McHugh made a motion to authorize sending the final draft to the Albany County Planning Board as well as adjacent municipalities and Village of Ravena when it was completed, seconded by Council member LeFevre.

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

Coeymans Post Office – Supervisor McHugh stated that last year he had sent a letter to the local Postmaster in Ravena and Coeymans regarding the state of the Coeymans Post Office. This letter had been forwarded to Washington DC but we never received a response. On February 23rd he took it upon himself to write letters to Congressman Tonko and Senator Gillibrand and had heard back from both of them. They both sent letters to the Postmaster General in Washington and he is hoping that we will get an answer by the end of the month.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**

April 8, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

State Route 144 Speed Limit – Supervisor McHugh stated that there was no one in favor of not reducing the speed limit along this route, neither homeowners nor businesses. NYSDOT has stated that a speed reduction is not warranted. He stated that in February he wrote to Assemblyman Tague and Senator Hinchey and they are trying to coordinate a meeting with the DOT Commissioner. He then stated that COVID has not helped with this and that it is not an issue that can be fixed overnight.

New Business

Planned Park Town Improvements – Supervisor McHugh stated that there is ongoing construction at Joralemon Park. He stated that they are in the process of looking to resurface the tennis courts and build a new basketball court. He stated that they are looking at new fencing as well. They are looking to put in two fire pits that are similar to Lawson Lake Park, and will have firewood out there. They are also looking at new playground equipment at Joralemon. They are planning to have the trail systems improved as well as new grills, picnic tables and paving the entrance to the pavilion.

As for lavatory facilities, Supervisor McHugh stated that a lot of the work will be done by donation and services will be provided free of charge by local businesses with skilled workers donating their work. He stated that there was already well and septic at Joralemon and they will hopefully have the lavatory in this year.

Supervisor McHugh stated that there is a plan still in progress for lavatory facilities at the Riverfront Park as well. They are also looking for new grills and picnic tables as well as sealing and coating the basketball court with the Copeland Sport coating which is for tennis and basketball courts. He stated that this had never been done.

Speeding – Council member Baker stated that there had been complaints of speeding on Blossom Hill Rd. as well as on Biechman Rd. He stated that Candace had sent some information on Class 1 and 2 Towns and they are looking in to lowering the speed limit. He stated that for now they are going to set up a meeting with Chief Keyer and they will have to crack down on the speeding out there.

Supervisor McHugh stated that as a Town of the Second Class we will have to petition the state for lowering the speed limit on Biechman and Busehdorf.

There was discussion about speeding in other areas of the Town such as Church St.

Resolutions

Resolution #083-21 – Appoint Seasonal Laborers

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

WHEREAS, the Parks Department is need of hiring seasonal labor for spring and summer; and

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
April 8, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

WHEREAS, job opportunities were posted and applications were received and reviewed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans did hereby appoint Carter Sorensen, Paul Falkner, and Noah Wagoner to Part-time seasonal Laborer positions effective April 12, 2021 through October 1, 2021 at the rate of \$16.00 per hour, contingent upon Albany County Civil Service approval and prescreening testing.

Supervisor McHugh stated that these are the same employees as last year and that the Town is glad to have them back.

Resolution #084-21 – Authorize Supervisor to Sign MOA with CSEA

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans and the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc. Local 1000 (CSEA) entered into a collective bargaining agreement dated October 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Agreement has been established in order to add the title of Maintenance Mechanic III to the existing bargaining unit of Town employees represented by the CSEA;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Town Supervisor George D. McHugh to sign the attached Memorandum of Agreement effective June 8th, 2020.

Resolution #085-21 – Authorize Auction of Police Vehicle

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 of Coeymans Police department is desirous of placing the following surplus equipment up for auction:

2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby Authorize Chief of Police, Douglas Keyer, to place the above referenced surplus equipment for sale on Auctions International for current blue book values.

Resolution #086-21 – Accept Resignation of Police Officer - Case

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

WHEREAS, on April 1st, 2021 Coeymans Police Officer Michael Case submitted a written letter of resignation to the Town of Coeymans Chief of Police with an effective date of April 14th, 2021;

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
April 8, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Officer Michael Case, effective April 14th, 2021; and the Town of Coeymans sincerely thanks Officer Case for his service and dedication to our Community.

The Town Board thanked Officer Mike Case for his service and stated that he will be missed.

Resolution #087-21 – Accept Resignation of Equipment Operator - Polverelli

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

WHEREAS, on April 5th, 2021 Highway Department Equipment Operator I Luciano Polverelli submitted a written letter of resignation to the Town of Coeymans Highway Superintendent with an effective date of April 15th, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Luciano Polverelli, effective April 15th, 2021; and the Town of Coeymans sincerely thanks Luciano Polverelli for his service and dedication to our Highway Department.

The Town Board thanked him for his service to the Town and wished him luck in his future endeavors.

Upcoming Meetings/Workshops

PB/ZBA Meeting – April 12th at 7pm
Town Board Meeting – April 22nd at 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn

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

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

Time – 7:17pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk