

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
April 22, 2021 – Town Board Meeting – 6:30pm

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, April 22nd, 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
Douglas Keyer, Chief of Police
Keith Geraldson, Chief WWTP Operator
John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer

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

Public Announcements

Flag Presentation – Mary Driscoll and Barbara Tanner presented a new American flag to the Town Board. Mrs. Driscoll stated that it had bothered her that the flag that we pledge allegiance to was not fully displayed. She spoke about how the thirteen stripes represent the Town of Coeymans and stated that the flag is a wonderful representation about what Coeymans is all about.

Supervisor McHugh thanked them and stated that we are very happy to have it.

COVID-19 Update - Supervisor McHugh gave an update on the local numbers. He stated that 50% of the residents of Albany County have their first dose of the vaccine and 35.8% have been fully vaccinated.

Alcove Day – April 24, 2021 – Supervisor McHugh stated that the Alcove Preservation Association's Alcove Day is back 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.

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Grievance Day Procedures – Supervisor McHugh announced that Grievance Day would be held on May 25, 2021 from 1pm to 8pm. It would be by appointment only and you must contact the Assessor’s Office by May 21, 2021 at 4:30 to schedule your appointment. If you schedule to attend by conference call then your grievance form and all supporting documentation must be received by 4:30pm or prior to your appointment. You can either submit your forms by hand, by mail or by e-mail to the assessor@coeymans.org. Supervisor McHugh stated that walk-ins would be accepted but that the appointments would be taken first. He stated that comparable properties can be found by clicking on SDG Imagemate on the Assessor’s page of the Town website.

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.

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 and he would keep everyone posted as plans develop.

Employment Applications being accepted for Food for Thought and Summer Rec – Supervisor McHugh stated that the Summer Rec program would run July 12th – August 13th, Monday – Friday. He stated that applications could be found on the Town website or picked up at Town Hall. The applicant could mail, drop off or e-mail the completed application and bring their working papers.

Supervisor Report

Supervisor McHugh read the March 2021 Supervisor’s Report.

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Collins made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Bruno. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report – March 2021 Report read by Town Clerk Rowzee

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Baker made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member LeFevre. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Police Department Report – March 2021 Report read by Chief Keyer

Motion to Accept Report

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Council member LeFevre made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Bruno. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Council member LeFevre stated that the investigation into the Jarvis Rd. dumping is ongoing and they will find the person. He stated that Lafarge has been kind enough to take care of it.

Council member Baker spoke about speed enforcement around Town and stated that he wished people and trucks would slow down.

Building Department Report – March 2021 Report read by John Cashin

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Collins made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Baker. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Mr. Cashin stated that his new vehicle had arrived on Tuesday. As for his old vehicle they would have the mechanic take a look at it before making the decision to put it on Auctions International or scrap it.

Sewer Department Report – March 2021 Sewer Department Report read by Keith Geraldson

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Bruno made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Baker. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Mr. Geraldson stated that the RC Sportsman’s Club is going to do their fishing derby on June 6th by the Sewer Plant.

Old Business

Coeymans Post Office – Supervisor McHugh went over the process he had gone through regarding requesting door to door postal service in the Hamlet. He read a letter that he had received from the Postal Service in Washington stating that there would be no changes to the current service in Coeymans. In reference to the last line in the letter that stated that “District Officials have administrative responsibility over postal operations in the area and ensure that local Post Offices are meeting national standards,” Supervisor McHugh stated that if this Post office is meeting National standards then the standards are way below what they should be.

Council member Baker stated that they are not going to let this go and that the hours do not work for a lot of people’s schedules.

Supervisor McHugh stated that he feels mail delivery is the answer and stated that he will meet with the local Postmaster and the Albany District Office. He encouraged residents to talk to the post master in Ravena and to write their own letters. He stated that the answer is not to go pay for a post office box in Ravena and they will continue to work on this.

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Truck Traffic – Supervisor McHugh stated that he had had several e-mails that week about truck traffic on Mountain Rd. Ext. and truck traffic had been the prevailing theme of the RCSCBA meeting. He stated that truck traffic is becoming more of a problem. He stated that he will be meeting with the plant manager at Lafarge and they are looking for another way. The current long term solution, putting a road out of the quarry straight to Route 101 and then a service road through Lafarge property and to the Port, will not happen overnight and so another plan is needed. He stated that for the time being he is going to propose to reroute trucks off N. Jarvis Rd. instead of Mountain Rd. Ext. In response to a question from Council member Bruno, Supervisor McHugh stated that they are hoping to get approvals later this year and to begin building the road out of the quarry to Route 101 in the spring of next year.

Mr. Geraldson spoke about his issues with the trucks coming off of Mountain Rd. Ext. He had asked that they use an undercarriage wash on the trucks before they exit the quarry to cut down on the dust. He stated that they can't open the windows in their house because of it. He said that for the past two weeks they have been sweeping the roads three times a week which has helped. In response to a question from Council member LeFevre Mr. Geraldson stated that overall the sweeper trucks had made a difference but there is just so much.

Council member LeFevre stated his concerns as a resident of Bushendorf Rd. off of N. Jarvis that the road already has pot holes is going to get beat up even worse. He also spoke of the narrowness of the road and how widening the road would help. Supervisor McHugh stated that they had talked about that and had spoken about how they could work with Carver companies to widen it and pave some of it.

Supervisor McHugh stated that it was a trickle effect because you are not going to get a whole lot of business people buying properties on Main St. in Ravenna with the current truck traffic. If you take those trucks and reroute them it will spur economic development.

Council member Collins asked Chief Keyer to monitor the truck speeds in this area.

Chief Keyer stated that they are doing what they can and this is a big Town. With only one car on at a time it makes it difficult. He stated that the average speed of traffic at the Coeymans Firehouse is 32 mph, but that a vehicle going around a curve will appear to be going much faster than one that is going straight.

Supervisor McHugh stated that the Carver trucks are monitored so that they can pull the information about how fast the trucks are going. Their average speed through Town is 19 mph.

New Business

Speed Limit on Blossom Hill and Bushendorf Road – Supervisor McHugh stated that there had been complaints about speeding on these roads and a request to reduce the speed limit. He stated that because we are a Town of the Second Class we have to go to the State and ask them to lower speed limits on Town roads. He stated that they are in the process of getting a meeting

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with the DOT commissioner, primarily for the Route 144 speed limit reduction, but they will ask about getting these roads reduced from 40 to 30 as well.

CBRC Bike races – Supervisor McHugh stated that the Capital Bicycle Racing Club had requested to have weeknight cycling events in Town again this year. He stated that they would be the same as last year and that they were asking for use of the park for off-street parking for the proposed dates of June 2, 16, 30 and July 14.

Motion to Allow Use of Park

Supervisor McHugh made a motion to allow them to hold the events free of charge and to use the Town Park as a staging area on those dates on condition that they provide us with a certificate of insurance, seconded by Council member LeFevre.

Park Renovation Projects - Supervisor McHugh stated that they were looking at doing some much needed renovations to the parks, such as resurfacing the tennis courts and a new basketball court at Joralemon. These would be surfaced with Copeland product. He stated that they would be relining the tennis courts to make sure they were relined for tennis and pickle ball. He stated that they would be replacing the parking lot in Joralemon as well as adding fire pits similar to those at Lawson Lake Park. He stated that Council member Lefevre and Highway Superintendent Scott Searles had met with playground equipment people this past week regarding new playground equipment.

Council member LeFevre stated that he has met with a local company and they gave a brochure of all of the playground equipment. He stated that we have a lot of special needs children in the community and they will make sure the equipment is suitable for everyone. He stated that they are putting some quotes together and giving us options and that Scott has quotes from other companies as well.

Supervisor McHugh stated that they are looking at permanent bathrooms this year as well as resurfacing the basketball court at the Riverfront Park. He stated that it has been decades since any money was put into our parks and the pandemic has highlighted how important parks are to the community.

Resolutions

Resolution #088-21 – Accept Resignation of Police Officer - Hazelton

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, on April 16th, 2021 Coeymans Police Officer Alexander Hazelton submitted a written letter of resignation to the Town of Coeymans Chief of Police with an effective date of April 16th, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Officer Alexander Hazelton, effective April 16th, 2021; and

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the Town of Coeymans sincerely thanks Officer Hazelton for his service and dedication to our Community.

Supervisor McHugh stated that Alex is going to be missed and that everyone likes him and he has a great reputation.

Resolution #089-21 – Abstract of Claims - April

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for April 2021, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS –182681 - 182768 & 2021-022- 2021-028 from the following funds:

General	\$135,808.25
Part Town	\$517,478.39
Highway – Town Wide	\$17,635.87
Highway - Part Town	\$50,823.47
Sewer	\$22,931.41
Trust & Agency	\$42,068.40
Payroll Deductions	\$4,793.66

VOUCHER NUMBERS –182769- 182847 from the following funds:

General	\$28,688.40
Part Town	\$51,320.08
Highway -Town Wide	\$639.93
Highway – Part Town	\$5,018.47
Sewer	\$26,546.72

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$903,753.05

Resolution #090-21 – Budget Transfer - Police

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 has had an unforeseen expenditure in the following 2021 account resulting in a depletion of that account; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Fiscal Officer is desirous of transferring funds to that account;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Supervisor George D. McHugh to transfer the following funds:

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GENERAL FUND (A)

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From Account</u>	<u>To Account</u>
\$21,986.60	(A) 3120.4 Law Enforcement Contractual	(A)3120.2 Law Enforcement Equipment

Resolution #091-21 – Award Audio Visual Upgrade

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, proposals were requested by the Supervisor’s office from Capitol Region Companies to upgrade the audio visual equipment within Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, the proposals were submitted and reviewed by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed and determined that said procurement process complies with the town’s financial and procurement policies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby award the audio visual upgrades to the low bidder listed below:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Quote</u>
Audio Visual Corporation	\$23,875.25
Technical Video, Inc.	\$18,462.80*
Towne T.V.	not submitted

Supervisor McHugh stated that there were other quotes for \$29,000 and \$25,000 that were for different equipment. He stated that this upgrade will place microphones in the ceiling so that there will no longer need to be microphones in front of everyone. He stated that this will be a better system and there should be no static and will go to Facebook Live.

Resolution #092-21 – Award Parks Renovations Projects Contracts

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, proposals were requested by the Director of Parks from local construction companies to provide services in connection with various Town Park improvements ; and

WHEREAS, the proposals were submitted and reviewed by the Director of Parks and the Town Supervisor, and their recommendations thereafter were submitted to the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed and determined that said procurement process complies with the Town’s financial and procurement policies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby award the Parks Improvements Projects below to the low bidder for each project:

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<u>Project</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
Joralemon Park Tennis Court Resurfacing	Callanan Industries, Inc.	\$29,250.00
Joralemon Park Basketball Court	Callanan Industries, Inc.	\$32,700.00
Joralemon Park Tennis Court Coating/Striping	Copeland Coating/Sports	\$19,600.00
Joralemon Park Basketball Court Coating/Striping	Copeland Coating/Sports	\$ 7,950.00
Joralemon Park Parking Lot Resurfacing	Callanan Industries, Inc.	\$13,400.00
Riverfront Park Basketball Court Coating/Striping	Copeland Coating/Sports	\$12,850.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Town Supervisor George D. McHugh to execute any and all contracts consistent with the terms of this Resolution.

Supervisor McHugh stated that Superintendent Searles has all of the quotes and bids and they have been e-mailed to the board members as they came in. He stated that these were by far the low and best bids. He stated that some of the bids were trying to just make repairs or coat over them, which would have been a temporary fix.

Resolution #093-21 – Forgive Village Late Payment Charges for Sewer

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 Village of Ravena has not paid the Town of Coeymans a late payment charge of 1% on monthly Sewer billing for 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ravena has not paid the Town of Coeymans the late payment charges owed for monthly sewer billings of April, May, June, July, August, September, and October of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ravena has now paid the Town of Coeymans for monthly Sewer billing up to and including December 31, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby forgive the total owed by the Village of Ravena for late payment charges of \$2,676.45 for year 2020.

Public Comments

Bob Jones of Mountain Rd. Ext. called in to talk about the truck traffic coming out of the quarry. Supervisor McHugh stated that he has his e-mail and that he would respond after his meeting with Lafarge the next day.

Upcoming Meetings/Workshops

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PB/ZBA Meeting – April 28th at 7pm
Town Board Meeting – May 13th 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 – 7:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk