

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

A Town Board Meeting was held Monday December 28th, 2023 at 6:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: George D. McHugh, Supervisor
Brandon L. LeFevre, Council Member
Marisa Tutay, Council Member
Linda S. Bruno, Council Member
Stephen J. Schmitt, Council Member

Absent:

ALSO PRESENT: Candace McHugh, Town Clerk
Daniel D. Baker, Superintendent of Highways
Jason Chmielewski, Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer
Marc Tryon, Chief of Police
James Peluso, Attorney for the Town

Supervisor McHugh called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council member Bruno led the audience in prayer. Supervisor McHugh asked that the record reflect that all members were present.

Public Comment: Barbara Tanner of Ridge Road thanked Brandon, Marisa and George for the good things that have done while on the board and she hopes the new board continues.

Presentations:

Supervisor McHugh and the Coeymans Town Board presented the 2023 RCS Varsity Football team with a trophy of excellence. Retiring coaches Bob Dorrance, Michael Kerrigan and Gary VanDerzee were presented with proclamations from the Town of Coeymans and Albany County Legislator Zachary Collins honoring their extensive careers.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Minutes were approved for the following Town Board meetings:

- November 20, 2023 Town Board Meeting Minutes
- December 4, 2023 Special ton Board meeting Minutes

Council member McHugh made a motion to accept the minutes and Council member Tutay seconded the motion.

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

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

Supervisor Report

Supervisor McHugh read the November 2023 Supervisor's Report.

Motion to Accept Report

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

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report –November 2023 Report read by Town Clerk Candace McHugh

Motion to Accept Report

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

Police Department Report – November 2023 Report read by Chief Tryon

Motion to Accept Report

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

Building Department – November 2023 Report read by Jason Chmielewski

Motion to Accept Report

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

Sewer Department Report –October 2023 &November 2023 read by Keith Geraldson

Motion to Accept Report (October)

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

Motion to Accept Report (November)

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

Highway Department Report- November 2023 Highway Department Report read by Dan Baker

Motion to Accept Report

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

Liaison Reports – Council member Bruno checked in with the Court.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

New Business:

Sliding Scale Tax Exemption: Town residents with limited income and or disabilities can qualify for an exemption on their taxes. The Town is updating this to increase the levels.

Old Business:

Hecate Solar Farm: The host community benefit payment has been received.

Sales Tax Revenue Update: We did receive more than we had budgeted for so far for the year. The Town is in good year end fiscal shape with approximately seven million dollars.

Resolution # 152-23 December Abstract

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member Tutay offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for December 2023, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS –23-01761 to 23-01861 from the following funds:

General	\$ 384,720.29
Part Town	\$ 47,203.53
Highway – Part Town	\$ 122,521.95
Sewer	\$ 119,813.66
H Fund	\$ 45,848.71
Trust & Agency	\$ 203,866.10

VOUCHER NUMBERS –23-01862 to 23-01935 from the following funds:

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

General	\$ 58,476.03
Part Town	\$ 2,782.60
Highway – Part Town	\$ 16,816.41
Sewer	\$ 16,892.75
HF Fund	\$ 5,000.00
Trust & Agency	\$ 2,466.00

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$ 1,026,408.03

Seconded by Council member LeFevre, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 153-23 Authorize TOCPD to Utilize Grant Funds

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member LeFevre offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans Police Department continues to implement increased security infrastructure to enhance public safety throughout the Town and has determined that the Coeymans Landing and Marina area would benefit from such equipment installation;

WHEREAS, grant funding through the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services has now been made available for law enforcement agencies to purchase and install such security hardware enhancements including fixed video surveillance cameras for public spaces;

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans Police Department was authorized to pursue grant funding at the October 26th, 2023 Town Board meeting. New York State Department of Criminal Justice has awarded the Town of Coeymans Police Department such a grant, in the amount of \$22,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town of Coeymans Police Department to utilize grant funding for video surveillance equipment and installation at the Coeymans Landing and to install 8 security cameras at that location including upfitting for electrical and internet service.

Seconded by Council member McHugh, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Supervisor McHugh asked about the time line for the equipment. The Chief is hoping before summer. He is already in contact with the installers.

Resolution # 154-23 Appoint Board of Assessment Review Member

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member McHugh offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, a vacancy has been created on the Board of Assessment Review; and

WHEREAS, Roxanne Stanton has expressed interest in serving as a member of the Board of Assessment Review; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Roxanne Stanton to the Board of Assessment Review for a period of five years to expire on September 30, 2028.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

Seconded by Council member Bruno, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 155-23 Authorize Signing of Stop DWI Agreement

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member Bruno offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS: the Town of Coeymans Police Department continues to participate in all efforts to improve Traffic Safety and combat Driving While Intoxicated or Impaired to minimize risk for the public and community at large;

WHEREAS: funding through the State of New York and from Albany County – STOP DWI Office are made available to local police departments to fund enforcement efforts through monthly data collection and focused Holiday initiatives and requires a signed contract in order to secure \$2,000 dollars in funding to support these efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to sign an agreement with Albany County to secure these funds.

Seconded by Council member Schmitt, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

Resolution # 156-23 Accept Resignation of Equipment Operator II

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member Schmitt offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, a resignation was submitted by Equipment Operator II, Michael Pirrone, on December 28th, 2023.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Equipment Operator II, Michael Pirrone, effective December 28th, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans thanks Michael Pirrone for his dedication to the position of Equipment Operator II and wishes him the best moving forward.

Seconded by Council member Tutay, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 157-23 Accept Resignation of Equipment Operator I

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Total 5 5

I, Council member Tutay offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, a written letter of resignation was submitted by Equipment Operator I, Mark Contreras Jr., on December 7th, 2023 with a December 20th, 2023 effective date.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Equipment Operator I, Mark Contreras Jr., effective December 20th, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans thanks Mr. Mark Contreras Jr. for his dedication to the position of Equipment Operator I and wishes him the best moving forward.

Seconded by Council member LeFevre, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 158-23 Authorize Sliding Scale

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member LeFevre offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, having previously adopted a tax exemption based on a sliding scale of adjusted gross income, not exceeding \$ 37,399.99, concurrent with section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby adopt an amended 2023 sliding scale, set forth in chapter 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, increasing the maximum eligibility level not to exceed \$42,400. The increment levels of income and the corresponding tax advantage are set forth as follows:

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Income	Percentage of Exemption
\$0 - \$34,000	50%
\$34,001 to \$34,999	45%
\$35,000 to \$35,999	40%
\$36,000 to \$36,999	35%
\$37,000 to \$37,899	30%
\$37,900 to \$38,799	25%
\$38,800 to \$39,699	20%
\$39,700 to \$40,599	15%
\$40,600 to \$41,499	10%
\$41,500 to \$42,399	5%

Seconded by Council member McHugh, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 159-23 Amend 2023 Budget – Coeymans Landing Bathrooms

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member McHugh offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Coeymans must have funds available to meet the completion needs for the Coeymans Landing Bathroom Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Fiscal Officer has determined that in order to maintain proper accounting of the fund balances the following amendments must be made in the 2023 Budget;

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Supervisor George D. McHugh to make the following amendments to the 2023 Budget:

GENERAL FUND (A)

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS

(A)0962 Increase to Transfer to Capital \$268,389.02

INCREASE REVENUE (A)

(A)1120 Increase Sales Tax \$268,389.02

Seconded by Council member Bruno, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 160-23 Amend 2023 Budget to Accept Community Development Revenue

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	5		5		

I, Council member Bruno offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Coeymans has received the Host Community Benefit Payment from Hecate Energy in the amount of \$705,396.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Fiscal Officer has determined that in order to maintain proper accounting of the fund balances the following amendments must be made in the 2023 Budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Supervisor George D. McHugh to make the following amendments to the 2023 Budget:

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

GENERAL FUND (A)

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS

(A)00-1620.2 Town Hall Equipment \$450,000.00

INCREASE REVENUE (A)

(A)00-2170-2 Community Development - Hecate \$705,396.00

Seconded by Council member Schmitt, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 161-23 Appoint Social Worker

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member Schmitt offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans is desirous of hiring a per diem Social Worker to assist with the delivery of available resources for Town residents in need;

WHEREAS, the Town has identified a highly qualified individual with an extensive work history in the Social Service field,

WHEREAS, the appointed Social Worker will work on an as needed basis and be available as a resource for the Town of Coeymans Police Department and/or other departments for consultation and intervention services,

WHEREAS, the Social Worker is expected to be utilized for approximately 1-2 hours per week resulting a \$5,000 annual cost.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Jessica Doerr, MSW, LCSW-R, on a per-diem basis at \$50/hr, effective immediately.

Seconded by Council member Tutay, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Council member Tutay expressed how glad she was to see this. Supervisor McHugh reminded the board that a new resolution will need to be done s this one is only good for 2023.

Resolution # 162-23 Authorize Collection stone House Hill Sewer Rents

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member Tutay offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans has established Stonehouse Hill Road sewer district extension and is required to establish sewer rates for 2024 on these parcels; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town of Coeymans and held on December 28, 2023, at 6:00 pm at Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, all parties in attendance were granted the opportunity to speak on behalf and/or in opposition to the proposed 2024 sewer rate; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans determines the number of units to calculate the billing for operation, maintenance, and capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has established a late payment of ten percent (10%) to be imposed on all balances (30) Days from the due date of the billing; and

WHEREAS, each use is hereby charged as follows:

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

- Per Unit Per Year- Four hundred eighty dollars and eighty-five cents (\$480.85)
- January-June Payment- Two hundred forty dollars and forty-three cents (\$240.43)
- July-December Payment- Two hundred forty dollars and forty-two cents (\$240.42)
- Commercial- Number of units in building
- Apartments- One (1) per Apartment
- Out of District Users- per unit per year
- Vacant Parcel- Flat rate of one hundred dollars per year (\$100.00)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to collect sewer rents for 2024, pursuant to the above established rates.

Seconded by Council member LeFevre, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 163-23 Authorize Collection of Sewer Rents for 2024

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
George D. McHugh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon L. LeFevre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marisa J. Tutay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen J. Schmitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>		

I, Council member LeFevre offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans is required to establish Sewer Rates for 2024; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town of Coeymans and held on December 28, 2023, at 6:00 pm, at Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, all parties in attendance were granted the opportunity to speak on behalf and/or in opposition to the proposed 2024 Sewer Rates; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans determines the number of units to calculate the billing for operation, maintenance, and capital projects; and

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has established a late payment of ten percent (10%) to be imposed on all balances (30) days from the due date of the billing; and

WHEREAS, each use is hereby charged as follows:

Per Unit Per Year- Four hundred fifty-two dollars and forty-seven cents (\$452.47)

January-June Payment- Two hundred twenty-six dollars and twenty-four cents (\$226.24)

July- December Payment- Two hundred twenty-six dollars and twenty-three cents (\$226.23)

Commercial- per number of units in building

Apartments- One (1) unit per Apartment

Out of District Users- per unit per year

Vacant Parcel- Flat rate of one hundred dollars per year (\$100.00)

Village of Ravena- Forty-two thousand four hundred seventy-six dollars and eighty-nine cents per month (\$42,476.89)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to collect sewer rents for 2024, pursuant to the above established rates.

Seconded by Council member McHugh, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Public Comment: Council Member Tutay and LeFevre thanked everyone for having faith in them and stated it has been a privilege. Council member Schmitt said thank you to Council member Tutay, LeFevre and Supervisor McHugh for serving the community. He stated this is a difficult job to sit behind the desk and he appreciates their efforts. Council Member Bruno thanked them for being here and looks forward to seeing the 3 of them in other positions.

Supervisor McHugh Read the following Statement:

It seems like only yesterday, we were being sworn into office as newly elected Town Board members. Zach Collins, Brandon LeFevre and I joined the Town Board on January 1, 2020, alongside Councilmen Dan Baker and Ken Burns. Time certainly does fly when you are having fun, and speaking for myself, I had the time of my life helping transform and improve my hometown over the last 4 years. Our motto was and remains “*Let’s make Coeymans a Great Place to Live, Work, and Raise a Family, Together.*”

On Day 1, we merged our Planning Board with the Zoning Board of Appeals, to expedite the application process and to encourage growth and investment in Coeymans. This simple act has proven most effective, with businesses investing in our town and adding millions of dollars of taxable assessed value to our rolls, resulting in lower taxes for everyone. On day 6, we partnered with Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple and established the Sheriff Substation in the Hamlet of Coeymans. This not only doubled police patrols and increased public safety, but it also allowed

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

the town to save over \$200,000 in its General Fund and helped make Coeymans one of the safest communities in all of Albany County.

Prior to taking office, we heard complaints from residents that were unhappy and dissatisfied with the condition of our parks and cemeteries, and we heard stories of residents taking their own mowers and equipment to maintain loved ones' burial plots because the town had failed them. In our first month on the job, the town board added the duties and responsibilities of the Community Beautification Department, Parks, and Cemeteries maintenance with the duties of the Highway Superintendent, saving over \$75,000 in costs. Since that move, our parks, cemeteries and public properties have never looked better.

On March 13, 2020, less than 3 months after taking office, Coeymans, together with the rest of the world, experienced the global pandemic known as COVID-19. For the next 18 months, the lives of our neighbors, residents and loved ones were changed forever. The Town Board immediately activated the town's Emergency Management Committee under the leadership of Director Bill Bruno. Coeymans partnered with our Albany County Executive Dan McCoy and Sheriff Craig Apple, to provide masks, sanitizer, and vaccinations to the residents of Coeymans. This was a stressful and difficult time, but I believe we, as a town, came through it better and stronger than ever.

Over the last 4 years, Coeymans hosted an Annual Recycle Day, taking in a total of over 400,000 lbs. of recyclables at no charge to the residents. This annual event held in the spring, was made possible through the generosity of local businessmen Billy Biers, Albert Collins, and Charlie Thiele.

We hosted Riverfest the last 3 years and celebrated the 350th Anniversary of our town in 2023, all made possible by donations from our business community and community volunteers. Also, Evening on the Green Band Concerts were expanded along with a Farmer's Market. I would like to thank all of the committee members for their hard work in making these events happen, and a special "Thank You" to my wife Rosemary and sister in law Candace for all of their hard work and dedication. Over the last 4 years, Rosemary and Candace were always there to volunteer and lend a helping hand.

On the fiscal side of the house, Coeymans taxpayers enjoy a town tax rate today that is 19% less than it was 4 years ago, and even lower than it was 25 years ago. Even though we pay less taxes today than we did 25 years ago, Coeymans residents and taxpayers receive more and better services than ever before. More Public Safety, more Police Patrols, dedicated EMS, Paramedics and 911 services, a full time Code Enforcement Office with 2 full time certified Code Enforcement Officials, and a professional Police Department working together with its partners in the Albany County Sheriff's Substation. In the last 4 years, as town taxes decreased, our fund reserves increased by 68% to nearly \$5 million dollars. As a result, the New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli has given the Town of Coeymans a Perfect Fiscal Stress Score of 0, the last 3 years in a row. This was made possible by a fiscally conservative town board, our private industry partners that had enough confidence in this administration to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in our town, and excellent business office managers and accountants. Special

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

thanks must go to my Business Office Manager of over 3 years Nita Chmielewski and our CPA Sarah Morrison. Without these two women, this administration would not have accomplished all that we did over the last 4 years.

Since 2020, the Town of Coeymans has been the beneficiary of over \$2,000,000 from federal, state, and county grants and funding. The monies that we received to date have been invested in capital projects at both town parks over the last 4 years. Joralemon Park received new tennis courts, pickle ball courts, a basketball court, playground equipment and a paved entrance. Coeymans Landing Park received a refinished basketball court, new playground equipment, and a \$1.5 million storm water mitigation capital improvement to help filter the storm water entering the Hudson River. Today, both parks are under construction as permanent bathroom facilities are being built so that park visitors may enjoy improved lavatory facilities for themselves and their families. New high-speed broadband internet infrastructure was installed over nearly 5 miles along rural Starr Road and Bushendorf Road, providing high-speed internet service to over 50 homes at no cost to the residents. Additionally, New York State recently awarded \$17 million to Coeymans to improve its electrical grid to accommodate Governor Hochul's Offshore Wind Initiative. This project in and of itself will bring billions of dollars of investment to our town, and provide approximately 1100 good paying jobs to our town and region. Coeymans is also slated to receive approximately \$1.86 million from Congressman Paul Tonko in 2024, for repair and replacement of the Hamlet Sewer District infrastructure.

The Town Board invested heavily over the last 4 years in Public Safety. Aside from establishing a Sheriff Substation in the Hamlet, we purchased new police cars and equipment for the Coeymans Police Department to insure our officers had the tools needed to do their job. We invested in body worn cameras for the protection of our officers and for public integrity, as well as bullet proof shields and protective equipment, which we pray they never need.

Last month, the town entered into a contract for the purchase of the former Grace United Methodist Church property, which will soon be transformed into a new Town Hall so that all of town government may be under one roof again.

As a legislative body, the Town Board has been very busy over the last 4 years. Since January 1, 2020, the Town Board passed 26 Local Laws and over 725 Resolutions. Our Town Comprehensive Master Plan and official Zoning Map was updated, which made Coeymans more competitive for grant funding. The Hamlet Water and Sewer District was expanded to accommodate the public utility needs of expanding industry in both the town and the village. Our Town Ethics Law, which had not been updated in over 50 years, was completely overhauled and now closely mirrors the New York State Model Ethics Law, to insure transparency, full disclosure, and public integrity in our town government.

A great deal of hard work and progress has been made in the Town of Coeymans over the last 4 years, none of which could have ever been possible without the dedication and commitment of this town board, our elected and appointed officials, and most importantly our town workforce. Our town employees serve the residents of Coeymans every day with dedication and professionalism, and without them and their commitment to our town, none of the progress we

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
December 28th, 2023 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

made over the last 4 years could have been accomplished. My hat is off to each and every one of you, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your loyalty, dedication and service to Coeymans.

As we enter 2024, I believe I speak for the entire town board when I say, “*We wish only the very best for the incoming town board members as they navigate Coeymans into the next year and beyond.*” I look forward to watching projects that this administration spearheaded come to fruition over the coming months and years. Projects like the bathroom construction ongoing at both town parks, the renovation of a new town hall at 16 Hillcrest Drive in Ravena, and a multi-year \$83 million-dollar capital project that will bring much needed and improved electrical infrastructure and substations to the industrial areas of Coeymans in preparation for the Offshore Wind Initiative.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you, the residents of the Town of Coeymans, over the last 4 years and 6 years total since 2000. It was truly my honor and privilege to serve as your Town Supervisor. I look forward to watching Coeymans continue to grow and transform into its full potential as a great Town to live in, work in, and raise a family in. God bless you all, and God bless Coeymans.

George D. McHugh
Town Supervisor

Motion to Adjourn was made by Council member McHugh and Seconded by Council member Tutay- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED 7:13PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Candace McHugh, Town Clerk

