

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday August 29, 2024 at 6:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: Stephen Donnelly, Supervisor
Stephen J. Schmitt, Deputy Supervisor
Ronald Hotaling, Council Member
Michael J. Stott, Council Member

Absent: Linda S. Bruno, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Candace McHugh, Town Clerk
Daniel D. Baker, Superintendent of Highways
Jason Chmielewski, Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer
Marc Tryon, Chief of Police
Keith Geraldson, WWTP Operator

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

Announcements:

- First Day of School PK-12 – September 5th
- Play-Doh Party at RCS Community Library September 7th
- Board of Education meeting at High School Library September 11th
- Evening on the Green will feature an Allman Brothers Tribute band on 9/4/24

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved:

- August 8, 2024 Town Board Meeting Minutes

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the minutes for August 8, 2024 Town Board Meeting and Council member Stott seconded the motion.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – ABSTAIN - SO MOVED

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

Supervisor Report – July 2024 Report read by Supervisor Donnelly

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report – July 2024 Report read by Town Clerk Candace McHugh

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Hotaling. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Police Department Report – July 2024 Report read by Police Chief Marc Tryon

Motion to Accept the Reports

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Building Department – July 2024 Report read by Jason Chmielewski

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Hotaling. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Sewer Department Report – May, June, July 2024 Sewer Department Report read by Keith Geraldson

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the May, June and July 2024 reports as read, seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Highway Department Report- July 2024 Highway Department Report read by Daniel Baker

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Liaison Reports - None at this time.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

New Business: EV Charging Station

There have been many inquiries into the EV Charger at the Landing. The charger is in need of repair and activation. Highway Superintendent Baker is working on getting this back up and running properly. He did tell the board that this will most likely come with a fee but the demand for this type of equipment is rising.

Old Business: N/A

Resolution # 102-24 Appointment of Equipment Operator 1

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

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

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent is desirous of filling the vacant position of Equipment Operator 1 in his department; and

WHEREAS, the Albany County Civil Service Department has confirmed this job title as a non-competitive position requiring the chosen candidate to meet the minimum qualifications; and

WHEREAS, the position was posted and applications were received, evaluated, and reviewed by the Superintendent of Highways; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Highways has confirmed the candidate meets the minimum qualifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Pamelyn Powell to the position of Equipment Operator 1 effective August 26th 2024, at an hourly rate of \$24.88.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

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

Resolution #103-24 Approval of August Abstract

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Stott 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 August 2024, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS – 24-00954 to 24-01016 from the following funds:

General	\$ 162,745.93
Part Town	\$ 20,106.79
Highway (DA)	\$ 0.00
Highway – Part Town (DB)	\$ 49,088.85
Sewer	\$ 24,012.25
H Fund	\$ 61,547.40
Trust & Agency	\$ 46,502.35

VOUCHER NUMBERS – 24-01017 to 24-01093 from the following funds:

General	\$ 72,665.60
Part Town	\$ 1,989.73
Highway	\$ 1,716.44

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Highway-Part Town	\$ 13,966.41
H- Fund	0.00
Sewer	\$ 7,278.08
TA-Fund	\$ 3,727.00

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$ 465,346.83

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

Resolution # 104-24 Acceptance of Resignation of Ethics Committee Member

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans received a written resignation letter from Ethics Committee member Heather Collins on August 21, 2024

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby accept the resignation of Ethics Committee member Heather Collins, effective immediately.

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

Discussion: Council Member Schmitt thanked Ms. Collins for her time on the Ethics Board.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Resolution # 105-24 Authorize the Hiring of a Full Time Police Officer (Traina)

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans Police Department continues to actively recruit qualified Police Officers to serve the residents of the Town of Coeymans;

WHEREAS, a candidate has been identified for Full Time employment with the Police Department and is a recent graduate of the Zone 5 Police Academy in Schenectady, NY;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the hiring of VINCENZO TRAINA as a Full Time Police Officer, effective Monday September 9th, with the Town of Coeymans Police Department.

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

Resolution # 101-24 Award Cleaning Services Bid

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

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

WHEREAS, notice to bidders has been duly given as required by law for the Town Offices, Joralemon Park, and Coeymans Landing Park for cleaning services;

WHEREAS, there has been filed with the Town Clerk in response to the published notice bid proposals for providing the specified cleaning services with the required bid; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans finds The Best by Farr Cleaning Services, LLC to be a responsive and responsible bidder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby accepts The Best by Farr Cleaning Services, LLC Bid for the Town Offices and Park Bathrooms. The monthly Contract in the amount of \$1950.00 per month for both Offices and \$500.00 a month for the park bathrooms when open seasonally; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Supervisor Stephen Donnelly to execute said monthly contract on behalf of the Town.

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

Resolution # 106-24 Approve the APA Grant Application

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda S. Bruno	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Ronald J. Hotaling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael J. Stott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Hotaling, offer the following Resolution and move its adoption:

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans continues to implement the improvement of our town parks and local historic sites and has determined that the Valley Paper Mill Park would benefit from such improvement;

WHEREAS, grant funding through the Albany County Municipal Park Improvement Initiative Grant has been made available for municipalities to improve, develop, and enhance parks and recreational facilities in Albany County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the Town of Coeymans, in collaboration with the Alcove Preservation Association, to pursue possible grant funding for the rebuilding of the chimney capital at the Valley Paper Mill town park.

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

Public Comment:

Tom Sweeney is the President of the Alcove Preservation Association (APA). He explained the grant would be used to restore the decorative top of the Chimney if awarded. Mr. Sweeney will be writing the grant himself.

Doris Millett lives in Alcove. She is in favor of the new building and feels it is needed. Ms. Millett stated she feels the project is vague at the moment. Supervisor Donnelly stated Ted Marbaker from MJ Engineering is working on 2 drafts of plans for the Town to see. There will be a 2-week period to review the plans. The Town Clerk stated the plans will be available in the Clerk's office for public viewing on received. Mrs. Millett asked for clarification on if all the buildings were being purchased, the answer is yes. The current resolution states that permissive referendum is not necessary due to the money being used to purchase the property being surplus funds. Any surplus funds are accumulated taxes and she feels the decision should be made by permissive referendum considering taxpayer monies are involved. She asked about the use of the outer buildings and council member Stott told her the outer buildings would be modified to hold records, and possibly an impound building for the police. She stated that the current shelving in records storage was procured by her via grant many years ago but due to the flooding issues it was hard to get the state to fund much for this building after that. Mrs. Millett asked about the NYCLASS investment in which town attorney Reilly explained to her. She stated during her time the town wasn't allowed to invest in such a way and asked about the fees related to this type of investment. She asked how many people would be allowed to have access to these funds. The Town Attorney stated he believes those in the business office that could currently move money would have access. Mrs. Millett feels as though the Town Board should have to approve by resolution any funds taken from the investments. Mr. Reilly believes the money can only be deposited in certain accounts as well. Mrs. Millet stated she agrees with what Danie Baker said regarding the investments during the July 25th meeting.

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS**
August 29, 2024 – Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm

Barbara Tanner live on Ridge Road in Ravena. She asked council member Schmitt if he was okay with the NYCLASS investment since he voted no. He replied that he is not in favor of this investment plan in any way. Mrs. Tanner asked if a cost was determined for the new building yet. Supervisor Donnelly said we will need to see the plans in order to get an accurate estimate.

Council member Hotaling said he feels this potential town hall should be significantly less than the new one that was proposed a few years ago. He feels this is the best way to go and doesn't think any work should be done to 18 Russell ave.

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss ongoing contract negotiations and litigation with no decisions being made was presented by Council member Donnelly and Seconded by Council member Stott- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED 7:08p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Executive Session was made by Council member Stott and seconded by council member Hotaling APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED 7:43p.m.

Motion to Adjourn the regular Town Board meeting was made by Council member Schmitt and seconded by Council member Hotaling - APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED 7:44p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Candace McHugh, Town Clerk