

Regular meeting of the Town of Chester Town Board was held on **February 10, 2015** at 7:00 pm at the Town Municipal Center, 6307 State Route 9, Chestertown, NY.

Roll Call: Mike Packer, Edna Wells, Karen DuRose, Frederick H. Monroe, Steve Durkish, and Attorney for the Town, Mark Schachner.

Minutes:

RESOLUTION #17: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2015 MEETING.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Packer, accept Minutes of the January 7th, 2015 meeting, as presented.

AYE 5 NO 0

Privilege of the Floor:

Al Muench was the first to speak, thanking the Town Board for the opportunity to attend the training conference held in Saratoga on January 28th. He then spoke at the request of Planning Board Chair Paul Little, explaining concerns of their Board with regard to the expansion of the Loon Lake RV Park on State Route 8. The Board is concerned over parking at the beach by the campers, lack of a reduced speed limit and lack of a crosswalk for those at the campsite who would be crossing the road to use the beach. Mr. Monroe explained that he and Ed Griesmer, President of the Loon Lake Association, had just been discussing this issue, and would address it a little later in the meeting. Mr. Muench continued, with notice of Jeremy's good work in the Zoning Office, and thought that it should become a full time position for him, with extended hours in the Office for a complete work day. Mr. Muench also believes that the current Zoning Ordinance is outdated and suggests the Board appoint a committee to begin working on some suggested changes. One of the priorities, he feels, should be landscaping on properties located on Routes 8 & 9. The Board will take it under advisement.

Karen Smith, President of the North Warren Chamber, addressed the Board after supplying them with a letter. She explained that after careful consideration, it had been resolved by NWCC Board of Directors that they no longer wished to host the Pug Party and Parade, usually held in the fall. They request that the dedicated funds from Chester that used to go towards this event, in the amount of \$2,500 remain with the Chamber for the creation of a new fall event (Craft Fair), directed to being more of a Main Street program, with possible

overnight stays, rather than an event that basically stayed on Dynamite Hill, not benefitting the local merchants. Pam Morin, Warren County Planning, stated that Supervisor Gene Merlino from the Town of Lake Luzerne would welcome the Pug Event, and would look forward to the event being transferred to their town. Discussion ensued.

Pam Morin presented the Board with the Upper Hudson River waterfront maps that have been newly printed. They will be doing a second printing on June 1st, and would welcome any suggestions or corrections before doing so. Supervisor Monroe thought that it would be an asset to include the locations of the Boat Wash Stations in the various towns along the river. The maps are beautifully done.

Old Business:

LARAC Contract.

Due to a time constraint, Mr. Monroe signed the 2015 LARAC contract for this year's children's opera before the meeting, so that it could be returned in time. He asked the Board to ratify the signing.

RESOLUTION #18: RATIFY SIGNING OF LARAC CONTRACT.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Packer, ratify signing of the 2015 LARAC contract for the grant for the children's opera.

AYE 5 NO 0

Pellet boiler.

Supervisor Monroe explained that the application to NYSERDA for the pellet boiler was sent on January 8th. It takes about 90 days to receive approval, so we should hear in about 2 months.

Trail maps.

Town has been working with Kathy Varney/Glens Falls Hospital on a Healthy Community Grant. Total grant is \$37,000, to be shared between the school and the Town. The money has to be spent by the end of this month, which is not a problem as they will go ahead and purchase the items and just turn them over to us and the school. There has been a committee working on it, and they propose 4-6' contour benches, 4-32 slotted style trace receptacles, and a bike rack. The school has allowed us to create a playground on the athletic field, but they want it fenced in. We got a quote to do chain link fence, adjoining the

basketball court. We would use part of the "L" along the existing fence by the basketball court and the parking lot. We would then fence in the remaining area in an "L" shape to create a 50' x 75' space. (The playground would actually be on the school property. The school has chosen some playground equipment, asking the students to give thumbs up or thumbs down on different items. The school will purchase the equipment). We could get some new tennis court nets, a practice wall for tennis, and a kiosk which we could put up near the bank parking lot which would illustrate "You are here...", and it would tell you what you could do around "here." This would tie in with our proposed Town recreation plan. LA Group has created a sample trail map, and we would like them to create a brochure similar to an idea we borrowed from Saranac which has the "Saranac Six Challenge". Basically, it consists of trails to six mountains in their Town, after which the climbers receive some kind of an award after climbing all six. Our Town has Meade, Kipp, Stewart and Panther Mountains. We have a map that Dan Smith (Assessor Data Collector) got from GPS, showing the mountain trails, and we now have the County making maps on a larger scale from that GPS. The brochure, which would be covered by the grant, would have, in addition to the mountain trails, the various other recreational activities available in the town. After the map is finished, the Attorney for the Town will contact any landowners to draft license agreements and get the map on the brochure. The grant will cover artwork and printing of the brochures, trail head signs and trail markers. There is also a "Cougar" trail at the school. It has been decided by the Board to name the project the "Chester Challenge."

Smart Growth Grant.

A feasibility study for affordable housing had been recommended by the LA Group, with filing of a Smart Growth Grant application to cover the cost. They had thought that the former Glendale property would be an ideal location, combined with Solar power for electricity and biomass heating which could provide low energy, as well. After speaking with the owner, they felt that they had done a tremendous amount of work helping us apply for a previous grant that we were not funded for, so they are not interested in pursuing this now.

Contract with LLPD Association, Inc. for lake management.

There have been discussions regarding a contract with the Loon Lake Park District Association for lake management, such as managing the water contamination, overseeing the boat launch and decontamination of boats, training of boat attendants and lake

stewards, placing of buoys on the lake, developing and implementing a lake management program with regard to hand harvesting of milfoil, placing of benthic matting, etc., in addition to monitoring and controlling the lake water levels. The LLPDA would contract with the Town on management of all these issues. Mr. Monroe wishes to discuss the performance of a former contractor in executive session, which will come later in the meeting.

Town wide recreation plan.

The town-wide recreation plan has been drafted and has been submitted to the Department of State for review. It is expected that it will be ready to be presented to the Board at the March meeting.

Timber Harvesting.

Mr. Monroe and Mr. Packer had met with Finch a week or so ago. A plan for timber harvesting has been drafted, and awaits a couple of modifications, after which Finch will finish marking the timber, and the plan will be submitted to the Planning Board for review. Mr. Packer stated that they plan to begin cutting next winter, so they will be putting the job out for bid in the Fall.

New business.

Committee reports.

Discussion to take place in Executive Session, with regard to a particular employee.

Woof Stock.

This project had been pitched to the Town Board last year as a possible event within the Town by the Tri-Lakes Business Alliance. Cindy Mead, and "Chester" the "dog" (impersonation) were present to discuss the project again as a reality. (Chester only mimed or gestured in dog fashion). Plans have been made for this weekend of Paws, Peace and Music to be held on June 20th and 21st at the large field behind the Ice Cream Parlor. Woof Stock is an event that is held throughout the United States and Canada, featuring entertainment, contests and vendors offering up the latest in canine fashions, furnishings, products and food, with contests unleashing the best mutts in every size, breed and pedigree. Woof Stock would open a new canine event in the spring of the year, and should bring overnight guests to our area. The Alliance will encourage all local restaurants, campgrounds, lodging facilities and

businesses to participate as they look to make it an annual event. They were looking for a donation of \$5,000 from Occupancy Tax to help with the expenses.

RESOLUTION #19: AUTHORIZE DONATION OF \$5,000 FOR WOOF STOCK.

Introduced by Mr. Durkish, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, appropriate donation of \$5,000 to the Tri-Lakes Business Alliance for Woof Stock.

AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #20: TRANSFER PUG PARADE VENUE TO LAKE LUZERNE, AND AUTHORIZE \$2,500 TO CHAMBER FOR CRAFT FAIR.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize transfer of Pug Parade and Party to Lake Luzerne, and authorize \$2,500 from Occupancy Tax to go to Chamber for the Fall Craft Fair.

AYE 5 NO 0

HHN Board Vacancy.

Mr. Monroe announced that Hudson Headwaters has a vacancy on their Board if anyone is interested.

Request to DOT.

Discussion on increase in beach activity at Loon Lake, and number of campers who might be crossing Route 8 from Loon Lake RV Park. Board would like to see a crosswalk from the RV Park, reduced speed limit, signage for a recreational area, and possible flashing amber lights. Supervisor Monroe stated that he would contact DOT regarding these issues.

RESOLUTION #21: REQUEST DOT ESTABLISH CROSSWALK, REDUCED SPEED LIMIT AND ADD SIGNAGE ON ROUTE 8 BY THE LOON LAKE BEACH.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Durkish, request DOT establish a Crosswalk from RV Park to Loon Lake Beach, implement reduced speed limit to 30 mph from Memorial Day through Columbus Day, signage for "Congested area/Recreational area", and possible flashing amber lights.

AYE 5 NO 0

Steam Jenny.

Supervisor Monroe stated that Highway Department has a 1976 Steam Jenny that no longer works. They use it for thawing water

lines, and a plethora of other things. It is shot. Jason Monroe, Highway Superintendent had gotten some pricing, and requested the Board authorize money for a replacement Steam Jenny.

RESOLUTION #22: AUTHORIZE \$4,000 FOR HIGHWAY REPLACEMENT OF STEAM JENNY.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Packer, authorize \$4,000 for Highway replacement of a Steam Jenny.

AYE 5 NO 0

Assistant Payroll clerk.

We have received one application, Mr. Monroe will advertise the position. Will discuss in Executive Session.

Maxam complaint regarding Redmond plowing.

Will discuss in Executive Session.

Assessor Clerk pay.

Request from Assessor to increase Clerk's pay. Will discuss in Executive Session.

Abstracts.

RESOLUTION #23: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF ABSTRACTS AND CLAIMS PAID PRIOR TO AUDIT. INCLUDE BUCKMAN'S BILL, NOT YET RECEIVED.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, authorize payment of abstracts and claims paid prior to audit. Include Buckman's bill which will not be received until Wednesday.

AYE 5 NO 0

General Fund 2014	\$ 12,325.77	(400-412)
General Fund 2015	\$139,413.14	(13-72)
Highway Fund 2014	\$ 2,110.85	(369-371)
Highway Fund 2015	\$ 77,992.29	(3-32)
Library 2014	\$ 376.74	(44-44)
Loon Lk.Pk.Dist. 2014	\$ 64,950.00	(39-39)
Loon Lk.Pk.Dist. 2015	\$ 500.00	(1-1)

2014 Schroon Lk.Pk.Dist.	\$ 14,966.57	(6-9)
C'Town Water 2014	\$ 6,099.64	(61-63)
C'Town Water 2015	\$ 922.11	(1-2)
P'Ville Water 2014	\$ 6,206.64	(65-66)
P'Ville Water 2015	\$ 1,102.95	(1-3)
2015 Schroon Lk.Pk.Dist.	\$ 2,216.00	(1-1)
C'Town Fire Dist.	\$ 5,000.00	(1-1)
No.Creek Fire Dist.	\$ 30,000.00	(1-1)
Riverside Vol. Fire	\$ 7,000.00	(1-1)

AYE 5 NO 0

Bottles and Cans.

Boy Scout Troop #30 has requested the bottles and cans from the Transfer Station for the months of June, July and August.

RESOLUTION #24: AUTHORIZE BOY SCOUT TROOP #30 TAKE BOTTLES AND CANS JUNE THROUGH AUGUST.

Introduced by Mr. Packer, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, authorize Boy Scout Troop #30 take bottles and cans from Transfer Station for the months of June, July and August.

AYE 5 NO 0

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, Board went into Executive Session at 8:40 pm to discuss the performance of a prior Loon Lake Park Contractor, performance of a particular employee, an ethics complaint, and compensation of a particular employee.

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, Board out of Executive Session at 9:35 pm. No action taken.

RESOLUTION #25: AUTHORIZE AND REQUEST ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN DRAFT A CONTRACT WITH LOON LAKE PARK ASSOCIATION, AND AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR MONROE TO EXECUTE CONTRACT.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize and request Attorney for the Town draft a Contract with Loon Lake Park Association and authorize Supervisor Monroe to execute

Contract upon approval of board.

AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #26: AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN COMPENSATION FOR ASSESSOR AND ZONING CLERK'S.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize an increase in compensation for Assessor Clerk and Zoning Clerk to \$13.50 per hour.

AYE 5 NO 0

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk