

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

Roll Call:

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

Minutes:

RESOLUTION #29: ACCEPT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10TH AND March 2ND MEETINGS.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Durkish, accept Minutes of the February 10th and March 2nd Minutes, as presented.

AYE 5 NO 0

Privilege of the floor:

Lucas Dunkley, Boy Scout Troop #30, was in attendance to thank the Town Board for allowing the Boy Scouts to collect bottles and cans from the Transfer Station. The monies received from the collection are used to fund outings, food for the outings, fishing, hiking, canoeing, and annual scouting events. The money also helps those who are unable to attend these outings and events for lack of funds. Lucas continued that scouting has taught him to be a better leader in the community, and he is already trying to plan his future Eagle Scout project. He offered the assistance of his Troop for any projects the Town may need help with. Supervisor Monroe offered a thank you to him, stated that the Eagle Scouts had done several wonderful projects in the Town. Lucas received a "full house" round of applause!

Mary Jane Dower reminded the Board that the Farmer's Market wished to use the front lawn of the Town Hall for this year's upcoming market, and she was asking permission to do so. She stated that there were some new vendor's interested in signing on.

RESOLUTION #30: APPROVE USE OF TOWN HALL FRONT LAWN FOR 2015 FARMER'S MARKET.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, approve use of the Town Hall's front lawn for use by the Farmer's market for 2015.

AYE 5 NO 0

Old Business:

Pellet boiler.

Mr. Monroe announced that the NYSERDA Grant application was in, and we should be hearing from it in about another 30 days. He had met with our consultant, Rick Handley, and they were gathering some information that was required for the USDA Grant. Mr. Handley recommends that we put the biomass boiler out to bid again. One of two things could happen. We could get the NYSERDA grant, in which case we need to bid the boiler. If we don't get it, we'll proceed with the project with the Serial Bond resolution. The NYSERDA Grant would increase the cost of the project, due to the addition of a steam accumulator, but they would be paying a greater portion of the cost than the USDA Grant.

RESOLUTION #31: AUTHORIZE PUTTING THE BIOMASS BOILER OUT TO BID AGAIN.

Introduced by Mr. Packer, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize putting the biomass boiler out to bid again, with bids to be opened at April 14th meeting.

AYE 5 NO 0

Contract with LLPD Association.

Ed Greismer, President of the Loon Lake Park District Association, was in attendance, and Supervisor Monroe explained the Contract. Basically, the LLPDA would perform the water quality testing program, and provide the Town with a report of this assessment. Town would pay all associated costs. They would oversee the boat inspection/decontamination program, and assume responsibility for hiring, training and supervising boat attendants and Lake Stewarts. Town to pay all costs related to the program, including payment of boat attendants, uniforms, equipment, service agreements and storage facility. The LLPDA will develop and implement a Lake Management program to include contracting with Aquatic Invasive Management, LLC ("AIM"), for a period not to exceed six weeks for harvesting of invasive species on Loon Lake. The cost will be \$44,454, utilizing a three member crew, at a cost of \$7,409 per week. Town will pay the costs associated with the project, and any costs associated with LLPDA Insurance coverage, including relief from current deductible. LLPDA will assist the Town with maintenance, placement and removal of buoys, and with monitoring and controlling the water level of the Lake throughout the summer and fall seasons. This contract runs from January 1 through

December 31, 2015. This contract includes an indemnification clause, and we would require proof of insurance. Mr. Greismer would like to review the indemnification clause with the insurance company. Supervisor Monroe suggested we approve it subject to Association's approval, and any minor adjustments recommended by the Attorney.

RESOLUTION #32: APPROVE LOON LAKE MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT AGREEMENT CONTINGENT ON ASSOCIATION'S APPROVAL AND ANY MINOR CHANGES.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, approve the Loon Lake Management Oversight Agreement contingent on the Association's approval and any possible minor changes recommended by the Attorney.

AYE 5 NO 0

Mr. Greismer recommends re-hiring of the boat wash attendants from last year, being Steve Smith, and Nick Bonavita, along with Lynn Douglas. They have all gone through an extensive training program at Lake George, they have a very strong work ethic and are committed to this program. Mr. Greismer believes that they represented the Town very well in selling the prevention and spread of invasive aquatic species in our lakes.

RESOLUTION #33: RE-HIRE PREVIOUS THREE BOAT WASH ATTENDANTS.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Durkish, re-hire the previous three boat wash attendants for 2015, being Nick Bonavita, Steve Smith, and Lynn Douglas.

AYE 5 NO 0

Town Wide Recreation Plan/Chester Challenge.

Tracy Clothier from the LA Group was in attendance to explain the recreation plan for the Town of Chester, a project that was developed over the past year, concentrating on available resources within the town. They looked at State land pieces and some Finch Pruyn properties, plus the two pristine rivers running on either side of the town. The kayak/canoe launching sites, interestingly enough, are not located in the Town of Chester, but on the west side in the Town of Johnsburg, and on the east, in the Town of Horicon.

They wanted to pull together the entire town recreational facilities into a comprehensive plan that people can relate to.

She noted that the local residential needs have shifted to a residential/visitor population, with a more active interest in outdoor activities. The Chamber of Commerce has noted an increased number of inquiries regarding hiking and biking trails. This opens the door to visitors of any age group.

They believe that it can become a real economic initiative for the town. Twenty three mountain tops in the town have been photographed, with views from the top of each one being documented. She explained the various trails and their destinations, one of which comes down from the north, coming all the way from North Dakota. It will continue on across the bridge into Vermont. The First Wilderness Heritage Trail was also discussed, coming from Corinth to Tahawus, which Steve Ovitt was working on. The Glens Falls Hospital Grant will cover the cost of signage, trail markers, etc. as well as brochures for the proposed "Chester Challenge." We would also like to get agreements with National Grid to use the north/south corridor off season that the snowmobiler's use. Working with DEC, we might be able to get a continuous trail along the river from Schroon Manor through Pottersville, on into Chestertown. Ms. Clothier continued on, proposing a trail, with signage, along Chester Creek, and more comprehensive trail markers being posted along the Caroline Fish Trail. We would like to see trail connections and interconnected trail system signage, providing information and way-finding. A counter will be added at Dynamite to keep track of the trail users.

Ms. Clothier had provided the Board with a project implementation chart for each initiative, indicating where the money for the projects would or could come from. Volunteerism and Grants are a good funding source.

Mr. Monroe also reiterated the "Chester Challenge". There will be a minimum of 5 mountains, Panther, Meade, Stewart, Kipp and Beckman. Stonebridge and Caves would be willing to allow hiking on their Green and Catamount mountains during the summer. We could also include the Cougar Trail which is behind North Warren School, and the Chester Creek Trail. Glens Falls Hospital Grant will pay for the trailhead signs with rules for the trail, and signs at the top of the mountains indicating where you are, and what you are looking at. Most people know of some of the mountains, but not all of them, so we will offer a challenge for those who want to climb them all, and we will then offer them a certificate after they have scaled them all. Ms. Clothier recommended the Board keep the committee going on this project, having them report back to the board a couple of times a year in order to keep the initiatives going forward. She would like to

see the Town hire someone to implement the plans that she has presented, and she stated that it will then get momentum to keep going. She told the Board that 50/50 grants were always available through the Department of State.

HHHN Vacancy.

Supervisor Monroe stated that Hudson Headwaters has a vacancy on its' Board of Directors, should anyone be interested in applying.

Warren County invasive species funding.

Last year we had a contract with Lycott, and we had had a discussion to extend their time working on the Lake another two weeks. The County had voted to provide the town with an additional \$42,000. Lycott has billed us for one more week in the amount of \$11,250. They did do the work.

RESOLUTION #34: RATIFY VERBAL AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING ONE ADDITIONAL WEEK OF WORK FOR LYCOTT AND PAY AFTER FINAL REPORT SUBMITTED.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, ratify authorization to pay for one additional week of work for Lycott with a 4-man crew consisting of divers and a crew chief, after the Board has seen their final report.

AYE 5 NO 0

Timber Harvest.

Mr. Packer reported that no revised plan for the harvest has been received yet.

New Business.

Committee reports.

Mrs. Wells reported that they had a good ski season this year. She added that a lot of the lifeguards will be returning from last year, so Mr. Monroe will check with Mindy to see whether we should advertise or not.

Assistant Payroll Clerk.

Mr. Monroe had drawn up a draft copy of an ad for an assistant payroll/file clerk, and presented it to the Board before putting it in the paper. They want to have a backup for

the payroll if Bruce should need it, and Mr. Monroe needs someone who can do some filing for him.

Appoint Library Trustees.

RESOLUTION #35: APPOINT ADELE TRESTEN AND NADINE MAGEE AS LIBRARY TRUSTEES.

Introduced by Mrs. DuRose, seconded by Mr. Durkish, appoint Adele Tresten and Nadine Magee to the Library Board of Trustees, candidates terms to end December 31,2020.

AYE 5 NO 0

Memorandum of Understanding.

Soil and Water handles the contracting for the Schroon Lake Milfoil program. They presented us with an MOU, with themselves acting as agent for the Towns of Chester, Schroon and Horicon. They would obtain, manage and report on any necessary permits, provide reports to the towns on a timely basis, organizing an end of year review for effectiveness of the program. The cost would be \$4,243.67.

RESOLUTION #36: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SOIL AND WATER.

Introduced by Mr. Packer, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize Supervisor Monroe sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Soil and Water.

AYE 5 NO 0

BOAR.

Carol Rapp has submitted her letter of resignation from the Board of Assessment Review. Supervisor Monroe will send a letter thanking Carol for her years of service on the Board. He also requested authorization to advertise for someone to fill a vacancy on the Board.

RESOLUTION #37: AUTHORIZE CLERK ADVERTISE FOR BOAR MEMBER, AND THANK CAROL RAPP FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE BOARD.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, authorize Town Clerk advertise for someone to fill vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review, and thank Carol Rapp for her years of service on the Board. Supervisor Monroe to write the letter.

AYE 5 NO 0

Juried Art Show.

RESOLUTION #38: APPROVE REQUEST OF \$250 FOR YOUTH VISIONS REQUEST FOR JURIED ART SHOW.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, approve request from Fred Holdman for \$250 from Occupancy Tax for Youth Visions Juried Art Show.

AYE 5 NO 0

Authorize Polling Places.

Warren County Board of Elections has reorganized the voting districts within the Town, reducing us from 3 Districts to 2, and voting will be at the Chestertown Firehouse.

RESOLUTION #39: AUTHORIZE POLLING PLACE.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Durkish, authorize Chestertown Firehouse as the official Polling Place for the Town of Chester for Districts 1 and 2.

AYE 5 NO 0

Parks.

Supervisor Monroe stated that John West would still like to purchase a new one-ton, but would forego it if we could buy a used front end loader. He said the one that Eddie drives is starting to fall apart. John was not in attendance to discuss it.

RESOLUTION #40: TABLE ISSUE OF TRUCK/FRONT END LOADER.

Introduced by Mrs. DuRose, seconded by Mr. Monroe, table issue of new truck/front end loader.

AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #41: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF ABSTRACTS AND CLAIMS PAID PRIOR TO AUDIT.

General Fund 2014	\$ 4,479.07	(413-416)
Highway Fund 2014	\$ 1,346.68	(372-372)
Library 2014	\$ 385.24	(45-45)
C'Town Water 2014	\$ 62.39	(64-64)
P'Ville Water 2014	\$ 62.39	(67-67)

2015

General Fund	\$160,729.90	(73-111)
Highway Fund	\$ 48,881.53	(33-56)
C'Town Water	\$ 4,384.59	(3-9)
P'Ville Water	\$ 4,310.61	(4-12)
Library	\$ 1,926.84	(1-3)
Schroon Lake Park Dist.	\$ 4,243.67	(2-2)

On a motion by Mr. Durkish, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, Board went into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss the continued employment and performance of particular people.

On a motion by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Packer, Board out of Executive Session at 9:37 p.m. No official action was taken.

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Packer, meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk