

A recessed meeting of the Town of Cochection was held on March 1, 2011 at 7:00PM at the New Cochection Town Hall with the following members present:

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Maas with the pledge to the flag at 7:13PM.

PRESENT: Supervisor Gary Maas  
Councilperson Larry Richardson  
Councilperson Edwin Grund  
Councilperson Richard Schulman  
Councilperson Anna Story

OTHERS PRESENT:  
Hollye Schulman – Town Clerk Brian DuBois –Highway Superintendent

Reason for the recessed meeting was a walk thru the New Town Hall building to see if there was something that needed to be corrected. The New Town Hall is looking good, still needs some work.

**RESOLUTION # 18**  
**RESOLUTION FOR THE COCHECTION TOWN BOARD REGARDING NATURAL GAS DRILLING**

On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following resolution was  
**WHEREAS:** the Town Board of the Town of Cochection recognizes that its citizens have a reasonable expectation to live in an environment where clean air and water prevail; where the natural character and the value of their land are protected; and where dangers to health and safety are not tolerated; and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board recognizes the presence of the Millennium Natural Gas Pipeline within its borders, and recognizes the presence of the natural gas-bearing sedimentary formation called the Marcellus Shale which lies beneath the entire surface of the Township and beneath the entire watershed of the Upper Delaware River, and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board recognizes that various legislative and executive regulatory entities- including but not limited to the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Delaware River Basin Commission, and the New York State Senate-have numerous concerns with the potential advance of the natural gas industry into the Marcellus Shale, such concerns related to reduced water supply and water contamination that would result from large scale withdrawal of the region’s water for industrial use, and to the improper treatment and disposal of the hundreds of billions of gallons of water that would be intentionally contaminated as part of the extraction process, and

**WHEREAS:** on April 13<sup>th</sup> Bill No. A10633 was introduced by eighteen Assembly Members, including Aileen Gunther, A. D. 98, and along with it’s companion bill in the Senate S8043, and

**WHEREAS:** Bills No. A10633 and S8043 to amend N.Y. Env. Conserv. L. #23-0303, insofar as #23-0303 has been construed to strictly limit local governments ability to pass local laws and/or ordinances affecting the exploration and/or extraction of oil and gas, and

**WHEREAS:** Bills No. A10633 and S8043 expressly clarifies #23-0303 to re-establish “Home Rule” and the authority of local governments to pass local laws and/or ordinances which may affect the exploration and/or extraction of oil and gas, provided such local laws and/or ordinances do not regulate the exploration and/or extraction of oil and gas regulated by State statute, regulation and/or permit.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Town Board of the Town of Cochection urges any and all legislative and executive regulatory entities, with the requisite authority, to act with due diligence to not only impose but also to continue the moratorium on natural gas drilling until such time as all studies examining the industrial process of natural gas drilling using horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing are completed; as well as studies examining the cumulative impacts that large scale natural gas extraction may have upon the Delaware River Watershed and upon the health and well being of its people are completed and are considered to pose no imminent and long-term danger to the citizens of Cochection.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: that the Town Board of the Town of Cochection strongly supports these bills A10633 and S8043 and urges our State Legislators to support these bills and to make sure they are re-introduced in the next session of Legislature.

**ADOPTED: AYES: 5 NAYS: 0**  
Supervisor Mass  
Councilpersons: Richardson, Grund, Schulman and Story

Justin McElroy from Just In Time Contracting was there to present additional information regarding the vault. Phil Higby (Engineering Properties) feels we need to have a 3 hour fire rating; at a cost of \$5,724 Special Coating from Poughkeepsie however, we have a 2 hour fire rating now which meets code. Phil would like 4” concrete block for around post, Justin suggested different lighting with a dropped ceiling and 2X 2drop in lights; got a cost of \$3,886.00 for the dropped ceiling, \$585 to wrap the post, and \$625 for lights for a total cost of \$5,096; also suggested waterproof paint on vault walls for a cost of approx. \$1,300.00 for thermal fire coating cost \$100.00 per gallon and covers approx. 100 square feet. The board discussed this and will have an answer by the next meeting, Justin will speak to Engineering Properties regarding the above issues.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Highway Superintendent said he is having issues with truck # 33, the one ton red truck; it has cost a lot of money recently to keep it on the road. He had the hydraulic line fixed, it has a fuel leak, and cooler for fuel is rusted and leaking should be replaced would cost \$1,000.00 to fix. There is a problem starting it now. Brakes not working well, took it to the garage, they removed the wheels and checked, new booster and still not great. End of December the power steering cost \$612.00 the truck has 72,000 miles on it and it is 7 years old. Also in December Roche’s Garage put in an injector, the truck doesn’t have any transmission problems yet. He would like to upgrade, doesn’t know if he can get anything on trade in.

Councilperson Richardson asked what this truck is used for. HWY Superintendent used when blacktopping, he uses it for plowing and sanding the smaller roads in the town. Typically the truck does 5-6 loads per run; it is actually working harder than the big plow trucks. HWY Superintendent would upgrade to a heavier duty truck.

Councilperson Richardson asked what could be salvaged, he was told not much. HWY Superintendent would order a 4 yard sander, plow would stay the same. Right now the truck is overloaded with the plow equipment alone.

Supervisor asked if the truck would do the same work as the red one ton does now. He was told yes it would.

Councilperson Schulman asked if the HWY Superintendent was looking at a 4,500 2 wheel drive or a 5,500 series which do go up to 15,000 or 19,000 lbs. GBW. HWY Superintendent would be looking for a 4 wheel drive.

Supervisor told the HWY Superintendent to get specs and cost of a new one for the next meeting.

Councilperson Richardson said this would put the Town Board behind with money for highway equipment, and what truck needs to be replaced in the future. HWY Superintendent said the 1990, not used much and he would surplus it or scrap it. Councilperson Richardson said it is not a bad idea to have it as a backup. Truck # 28 is a medium duty truck, truck # 33 (red truck is the worst truck), and # 27 would be the next to be replaced. Supervisor said the last big truck the town purchased cost approx. \$140,000.00. There was more discussion.

No one else wished to comment.

#### **Old Business:**

1. New Town Hall – latest update – done with the walk thru of building
2. Comprehensive Plan and Zoning update – Public Hearing – faxed to Tom Shepstone all information received from Sullivan County Planning for his input.
3. Town Website – still a work in progress, but what is done looks good
4. New Town Hall Furnishings- Blinds (Supervisor got some figures for all the windows - \$ 3,500.00 to be installed. Town Board thinks they can do better by purchasing them from big box store such as Home Depot etc. Councilperson Grund will have information for the next meeting regarding the refrigerator and microwave
5. phone service and internet service – Supervisor is working on these issues, phones are installed and working; still working on the internet service
6. Transfer Station lease – nothing happening. Councilperson Richardson suggested the town would be willing to have the electric company run the wires to the Transfer Station for the County, The County would have to pay for any electric used there once the electric was in place.
7. MMTF update – nothing new to report
8. Lumberland Resolution – done earlier in the evening
9. Pull off on Route 97 for Byway – It is being worked on

**Motion:** On motion of Councilperson Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Grund, the following motion was to have the Town Clerk advertise for a Town Hall Cleaner/maintenance person in the help wanted section of the newspapers. All voted in favor

#### **New Business:**

1. **Levy garbage pick up and unsafe building** Town Clerk mentioned that the letter for the removal of the garbage will be sent out tomorrow, and if there is no response the property owner was told it would be re-levied on their property tax for 2012. Town Clerk will ask Attorney to draft a letter to the property owners for the removal of the unsafe building on State Route 52
2. Waterfront Revitalization alternate – pending
3. Lettering for New Town Hall – Supervisor got some price from Keller Sign \$462.00, tried to get some price from Craig Stewart – but he is out of town for several weeks. Supervisor went on internet and found same lettering as quoted by Keller Signs for \$265.37, he has ordered the lettering for the New Town Hall
4. Debit card. Councilperson Richardson still has issues with a debit card, but realizes the town needs one or a credit card. Supervisor said he spoke to the bank and there is no difference with a debit card or credit card; they are both covered for fraudulent charges. We only keep a small balance in the checking account. Supervisor Maas said he would give a report to the auditing committee once a month

Councilperson Richardson suggested the town try and get some of the IDA grant monies for a computer system for the New Town Hall

Town Board decided to have April 1, 2011 from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. for the Grand Opening of the New Town Hall.

Town Clerk should place a display in the newspapers, it could also be advertised on the radio and in Ethel's column.

Councilperson Richardson asked about identifying the offices. The Board feels it should be on the wall not on the doors.

**MOTION:** On motion of Councilperson Grund, seconded by Councilperson Story, the following motion was to adjourn this recessed meeting: Time 8:57 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hollye Schulman, Town Clerk