

**A Town Board Meeting was held Monday, February 13, 2012 at 7:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

**PRESENT:** Stephen D. Flach, Supervisor  
Dawn Rogers, Councilwoman  
Thomas A. Boehm, Councilman  
Peter E. Masti, Councilman

**ABSENT:** Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk  
Greg Darlington, Chief of Police

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Supervisor Flach opened the Meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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### **OPENING COMMENT**

Supervisor Flach stated that the record should reflect the presence of four Town Board Members with Councilman Dolan being absent.

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### **AGENDA**

- Presentation
  - Tax Levy Checks to Coeymans & Coeymans Hollow Fire Departments
- Public Announcements
  - Town Office Closed, President's Day, Monday February 20th
- Public Comment Period
- Approval of Minutes
  - Town Board Meeting, January 23, 2012
- Old Business
  - Electronic Recycling Event at Highway Department
- New Business
  - Senior Projects of Ravena, Contract for Services
  - Ravena Coeymans Historical Society, Contract for Services
  - Agreement with Laberge Group for Map Corrections and to Update Zoning Ordinance
  - Milton Cat Service Agreement for Highway Department Generator
- Resolutions
  - Appointment of Sewer Treatment Plant Operator
  - Authorization to Sign Connors Settlement Annexed Agreement
  - Approve First Half Sewer Billing Credit
  - Amend Abstract
- Correspondence
  - NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
  - Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition
- Town Board Workshops/Meetings
  - No Town Board Workshop in February
  - Town Board Meeting, February 27, 2012, 7:00pm
  - Town Board Meeting, March 12, 2012, 7:00pm

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### **PRESENTATION**

**Presentation of Tax Levy Checks**

Supervisor Flach stated that he would be presenting the Tax Levy check to the Coeymans & Coeymans Hollow Fire Departments and continued by inviting Mr. George LaMountain to receive the check for the Coeymans Fire Department and Donald Cross to receive the check for the Coeymans Hollow Fire Department.

Supervisor Flach presented the checks.

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**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Town Offices Closed – President’s Day**

Supervisor Flach stated that on Monday, February 20, 2012, all Town Offices will be closed in observance of President’s Day with the exception of the Police Department, which is a 24 hour, 7 day operation.

Councilman Boehm stated that he wanted to include another public announcement and added that on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm, at the VFW Post in Ravena, Jerry Stanloski, a Veteran’s Services Officer will be discussing veteran’s benefits. He continued by saying that any vets in the Town of Coeymans who might be interested in knowing their benefits can attend and if anyone wishes more information they can contact Guy Anatriello at 756-2877.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Flach invited the public to comment at this time.

**Ms. Starr Ross** stated that she lives in the Hamlet of Coeymans and added that she is present with a few other members of the Historic Coeymans Landing Neighborhood Association. She continued by saying that they had come before the Board in October with concerns and photographs of open building in the Hamlet and there were issues with broken windows and people being able to access the buildings. She added that they came to the Board and asked them to do something about it and they wanted to say thank-you because all of the buildings that they had talked about are now somewhat secured. She continued by saying that they also want them to know that they are supporting the Town looking into the vacant building laws, which they talked about in October and there is not much you can do as a Town Board to deal with abandoned or not maintained buildings and in turn they looked at Colonie’s sample law, which she believes the Attorney for the Town was also looking into and she would appreciate if they pursue it so they can move forward. She added that they would wanted the Town Board to know that they are for maintaining Local Laws 1 & 2, which were passed, because the Zoning and Planning Boards need them. She concluded by saying that they are looking forward to the summer and the Farmer’s Market and the Town’s cooperation with it and they will be participating in a spring clean-up of the Hamlet, which they will let the Board know about because a Town truck picks up the trash for them.

Councilman Boehm inquired as to if the Farmer’s Market will run in conjunction with the Evenings on the Green as it has been in the past.

Ms. Ross stated that it will and added that they have already started contacting vendors and they are moving forward on that.

Supervisor Flach thanked Ms. Ross and continued by asking if anyone else wished to comment.

**Ms. Donna Pasquini** stated that she belongs to the Neighborhood Association but she is present for another issue and added that she was reading on the agenda that they are going to settle with the Conner’s property issue at the end of Colvin Avenue, where the storm sewer runs and continued by saying that she is curious why Ms. Conners was taken

care of and why Mike Connors property is being bought and her is being left to go to hell. She continued by saying that her house is falling apart because of the storm sewer collapse which created a sink-hole and damaged her home and then asked why she is being left out and singled out as not being as important as everyone else in the Town. She added that she has been a tax payer in this town for 34 years and then again asked why some cases are more important than others.

Supervisor Flach stated that personally he feels as though they don't think that any one is more important than others and added that NYMIR, the insurance carrier has been talking back and forth with the Town Board and the Attorney for the Town. He added that he has not had an update in quite a while and he had told Ms. Pasquini earlier in the day that he was going to do his best to look into it and see what is going on and continued by saying that he is not as well versed in the litigation.

Ms. Pasquini interjected that she understands because he has not been in office for that long.

Supervisor Flach stated that he is willing to ask questions and see what is going on.

Ms. Pasquini stated that she is getting upset because the longer it goes, the more damage she is getting and for someone to say in the beginning that they don't own the storm sewer when not one individual owns the storm sewer which runs from Civill Avenue down to the river. She continued by saying that it does not come down to Colvin and jump over her house and then go on down and then is owned by the Town and added that there have been several people on the Board in the past and currently who are on the Board that know that the Town owns that storm sewer. She added that as far as the texture of the soil, if she was a jack of all trades, she would probably say the same thing that Larry Conrad said and could pull anything out of her hat and went on by saying that without an engineering degree she does not take his word because she knows better and she hired her own structural engineer and she has a report. She concluded by saying that she is tired because this has been going on since 2010 and every year it has to be renewed, which is a big expense to her, who does not have the money and she cannot get this Town Board to work with her on the damages to her home that was created by the Town's infrastructure and it is sad that as a taxpayer she has to go through all this and she is hoping that someone stands up and says something.

Supervisor Flach asked if anyone else wished to speak, hearing none he moved to the next item on the agenda.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Supervisor Flach stated that there was one set of minutes for approval, a Town Board Meeting on January 23, 2012 and then asked for a motion to approve them.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilman Masti, the Town Board minutes were approved.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

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**OLD BUSINESS**

**Electronic Recycling Event at Highway Department**

Supervisor Flach read the following:

The second e-waste recycling collection held on January 25, 2012 at the Highway Department in Coeymans Hollow proved to be another success offering Town residents

an opportunity to dispose of unwanted electronic items. Residents deposited various electronic equipment filling none (9) “Gaylord” boxes. The next electronic recycling event will be April 25, 2012 at the Community Beautification Department Building, 70 South Main Street, Coeymans, 7:00am to 3:00pm.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Senior Projects of Ravena – Contract for Services**

Supervisor Flach stated that there is a Contract for Exchange of Services or Compensation that he needs authorization to sign with the Senior Projects of Ravena and then asked Councilman Boehm to comment.

Councilman Boehm stated that they have done this for several years and one of the benefits to the Town is that it provides an Emergency Shelter and meals as well as there being a training room for Town Government should they need it and added that in addition to that they do a great job helping seniors in the community by providing meals. He continued by offering a motion.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers, authorizing Supervisor Flach to sign the Contract for Exchange of Services or Compensation in the amount of \$7,000.00 with the Senior Projects of Ravena.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**Ravena Coeymans Historical Society – Contract for Services**

Supervisor Flach stated that there is a Contract for Exchange of Services or Compensation that he needs authorization to sign with the Ravena Coeymans Historical Society and added that the Society is a referral of historical information and a community access to Town history and genealogical references. He continued by asking for a motion to authorize his signature.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilman Masti, authorizing Supervisor Flach to sign the Contract for Exchange of Services or Compensation in the amount of \$500.00 with the Ravena Coeymans Historical Society.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**Authorization to Sign Agreement with Laberge Group**

Supervisor Flach stated that there is an Agreement that he needs authorization to sign for Laberge Group to help with map corrections and to update the Zoning Ordinance, which they are trying to do and added that they would like a clearer understanding of some of the charges.

Councilman Boehm stated that he could speak to that and added that there should be some sort of cap set with Laberge Group because the bills rack up very quickly and with rates like \$150.00 an hour is a concern because it is something that they have not budgeted for.

Mr. Buddy Irwin who was in the audience asked if Laberge had done much work for the Town lately.

Councilman Boehm stated that they hadn’t.

Supervisor Flach stated that they are working on rezoning issues.

Councilman Boehm interjected that they have to redraw the maps but they don't want to have an open-ended bill.

Ms. Sylvia Lawler, also in the audience stated that a lot of the maps can be done online.

Councilman Boehm asked that Ms. Lawler go to the microphone.

Ms. Lawler stated that she is a resident of the Town of Coeymans and added that she works with the Onesquethaw Coeymans Water Shed Group and through Laura DeGaetano, who is with Albany County Natural Resources; they have been able to access a lot of maps. She continued by saying that the maps are out there and it's all that Laberge is doing and they are not drawing their own maps but rather going to a disc and downloading it the same way. She concluded by saying that if she knew what they need to have she would be happy to take it to Laura to see what she can do.

Ms. Lawler stated that she would.

Councilman Boehm asked that she reach out to Buddy Irwin and added that at some point there will be a time that they have to engage Laberge to finalize the maps but in the meantime they can try to do it the other way.

Ms. Lawler asked where she would get a copy of the proposed zoning changes.

Supervisor Flach interjected that it is on the Town's website.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she also has copies.

Councilman Boehm stated that he thinks that they should table it until they get a better handle on what type of services they will need and possibly engage outside sources until they need to finalize the maps and by doing so they would save some money.

#### **MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilman Masti, to table signing the Agreement with Laberge.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

#### **Authorization to Sign Milton Cat Service Agreement**

Supervisor Flach stated that there is a Service Agreement from Milton Cat to service the Highway Department generator that needs to be signed and it is an annual rate of \$1,147.00. He then asked for a motion authorizing him to sign the Agreement.

#### **MOTION**

On motion of Councilwoman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Masti, authorizing Supervisor Flach to sign the Milton Cat Contract for Services Agreement.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

Town Clerk Millious asked if they were going to discuss her request to advertise the vacancy in her office.

Supervisor Flach stated that they decided to table it and then asked if she wanted to discuss it now.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she would like to because she has a great need and added that she has a vacancy in her office and she is asking that the Board allow her to advertise the position for a part-time Clerk, which is in the budget and reiterated that it is her busy time. She continued by saying that she spoke with Councilman Dolan and he was ok with it and she was not aware that he was going to be absent and reiterated that he was ok with it and felt as though it is already in the budget.

Councilwoman Rogers interjected that it is in the budget.

Councilman Boehm stated that he had not had a chance to talk with Councilman Dolan and he would like to discuss it further before they advertise the position.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she would now have to wait until the end of the month and added that it takes a long time with the interview process and she does not know why it has to wait if it is in the budget. She continued by saying that it is a very busy office and it takes time to train and she wanted to get the process going.

Supervisor Flach inquired as to how many hours per week the current part-timer works.

Town Clerk Millious stated that right now she is covering as much as she can and added that she can't expect her to cover everyday because it is not what she was hired for. She continued by saying that she is doing the best that she can and it has already been a few weeks without the other part-timer and it could be another month.

Supervisor Flach stated that one of the concerns is the budget and he knows that it is in the budget and continued by asking if the position is non-union, non-competitive.

Town Clerk stated that it is.

Supervisor Flach stated that they are thinking about the budget for next year and if they have to make cuts and added that he believes that they should vote whether or not they want to table it and he knows that Councilman Boehm wants to table it. He then asked if there were any further questions or comments.

Councilman Masti stated that it is in the budget and continued by asking Town Clerk Millious if she really needs someone right now.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she feels as though she does and added that she gives her all to her office and would not ask for it if she didn't need it.

Councilman Boehm stated that he thinks it needs to be given more thought because it was not on the agenda and it was brought up last minute and he would like to confer with everyone and bring it up the next time.

Councilwoman Rogers stated that it should be put on the agenda for the Town Board Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> and that way they will have a chance to know what they are talking about.

Supervisor asked Town Clerk Millious if she was alright with that.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she didn't have any choice.

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## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **RES. #42-12 APPOINT OF SEWER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR**

On motion of Councilwoman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Boehm, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, Keith Geraldson has been a Sewer Treatment Plant Operator Trainee since January 28, 2008, and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Geraldson has taken and passed the NYSDEC Certificate Examination for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator on February 7, 2012,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby acknowledges the passage of the required examination and increases

his hourly rate of pay to \$21.10 to reflect his change in title to Sewer Treatment Plant Operator retroactive to February 8, 2012.

**RES. #43-12 AUTHORIZE CONNERS SETTLEMENT ANNEXED AGREEMENT**  
On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Masti, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Conners, Donna E. Conners and Susan E. Conners have filed a Notice of Claim against the Town of Coeymans for damage to property in the Town of Coeymans, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Coeymans and the Conners wish to settle all claims without the need for further litigation,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes Supervisor Stephen D. Flach to sign the Annexed Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Town of Coeymans.

**RES. #44-12 APPROVE FIRST HALF SEWER BILLING CREDIT**  
On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilman Masti, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**WHEREAS**, the Sewer Rent billing for Jerry Perrine, at 2546 Rte. 9W was overcharged by one (1) unit of use for the 2012 first-half Sewer Billing period at \$187.50,

**WHEREAS**, this was due to Mr. Perrine merging the video store and the liquor store area into one store, thereby reducing a unit of use that was not removed from the 2012 Sewer Billing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby approve this credit to Mr. Perrine for the first-half billing.

**RES. #45-12 AMEND JANUARY 2012 ABSTRACT**  
On motion of Councilman Masti, seconded by Councilman Boehm, the following resolution was APPROVED – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board, of the Town of Coeymans, does hereby approve the following claims of vouchers for the January 2012 Abstract as **indicated in red**.

FUND	VOUCHER #	AMOUNT
<b>GENERAL (A)</b>		
General Pre-Pay	1-41,86	\$172,621.85
General	88-153	<b>\$103,700.86</b>
	<b>General Total</b>	<b>\$276,322.71</b>
<b>POLICE FORFEITURE</b>		
Police Forfeiture Pre-Pay	42	\$ 300.00
Part-Town	154	\$ 200.00
	<b>Police Forfeiture Total</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>PART TOWN</b>		
Part Town Pre-Pay	43-55	\$213,240.05
Part Town	155	\$ 40.00
	<b>Part Town Total</b>	<b>\$213,280.05</b>
<b>HIGHWAY (DB)</b>		
Highway Pre-Pay	56-65	\$ 51,977.43

Highway	156-206	\$ 41,839.41
	<b>Highway Total</b>	<b>\$ 93,816.84</b>
<b>SEWER (SS)</b>		
Sewer Pre-Pay	66-78	\$ 18,582.59
Sewer	207-217	\$ 11,686.19
	<b>Sewer Total</b>	<b>\$ 30,271.78</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJ. (H35)</b>		
Cap. Proj. Sewer Pre-Pay	79-80	\$378,375.00
	<b>Capital Proj. Total</b>	<b>\$378,375.00</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJ. (H36)</b>		
Cap Proj. Sewer	218-220	\$ 75,095.94
	<b>Capital Proj. Total</b>	<b>\$ 75,095.94</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJ. (H37)</b>		
Cap Proj. Sewer	221	\$ 1,174.38
	<b>Capital Pro. Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,174.38</b>
	<b>Total for All Funds</b>	<b>\$1,068,883.28</b>
<b>TRUST &amp; AGENCY (TA)</b>		
Trust & Agency Pre-Pay	81-87	\$245,570.50
	<b>Trust &amp; Agcy. Total</b>	<b>\$245,570.50</b>

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

**NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation**

Supervisor Flach stated that he was in receipt of a correspondence from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, which informs them that a property in town will be considered by a State Review Board for listing in the National and State Registers, which provides properties a measure of protection from the effects of federal and/or State sponsored or assisted projects. He added that private properties proposed for listing in the National Register must be given the opportunity to concur in or object to the listing and there are some comments periods that have to be received by March 6, 2012 and a copy of the letter with additional information can be seen at Town Hall.

**Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition**

Supervisor Flach asked that Councilwoman Rogers read the correspondence from the Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition.

Councilwoman Rogers continued by reading the following excerpts:

The Capital District Tobacco Free Coalition (CDTFC) invites you to join the growing number of Capital Region municipalities in protecting children from exposure to secondhand smoke at public parks and playgrounds. Across the state, more than 300 municipalities have established tobacco-free outdoor recreation areas in their communities, including 14 right here in the tri-county region.

CDTFC is a not-for-profit program funded by the New York State Department of Health. We provide technical assistance and support at no cost to your municipality to assist you in developing tobacco-free policies. We can provide supportive materials to your boards and present at municipal meetings as well supply free metal signs to place in tobacco-free areas.

If you are interested in learning more, you can complete the enclosed fax form back.

Supervisor Flach thanked Councilwoman Rogers.

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**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Supervisor Flach stated that he wanted to revisit the Town Clerk's request and then asked if it is something that they can make as a temporary position during busy times.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it is set up now that two part-timers share the time for five days and that it is how it is set up in the budget and added that they cover for each other when needed, which is how it has been done.

Councilwoman Rogers inquired as to if they can do three days temporarily.

Town Clerk Millious asked if she was referring to a new person.

Councilwoman Rogers stated that she is referring to the one that there is now.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she is now actually working at least four days and added that you can only work so many hours for so long when you are part-time and she can't keep it the way that it is, which is why she is concerned. She continued by saying that she did not think that it would be an issue because it is in the budget and reiterated that it takes time and they would have to wait until the next meeting. She went on by saying that it is a process with taking applications and interviewing and she has no one in mind right now, which will take some time.

Councilwoman Rogers suggested that they let her advertise so she gets the applications now.

Supervisor Flach suggested that they offer a motion to allow the Town Clerk to advertise and accept applications now, which will give her some time in the process prior to the next meeting when they will follow-up on it.

Town Clerk Millious asked for clarification that it is ok to advertise.

Councilman Boehm interjected that he is still opposed and added that they need to take a look at the overall budget and when a vacancy occurs, whether it is police or Town Clerk or any other department they need to have this same conversation and added that it is going to be difficult during budget season and he would like to give it more thought and advertising up front does not make any sense to him.

Supervisor Flach stated that it was budgeted and the loss that she had was not anything that was planned and she was already going to have that person there.

Councilman Boehm stated that he understands but he has to understand the conversation that they had about the Contingency Budget being little or nothing at this point and they are at the beginning of the year and if they don't make some corrections now, they are going to face the potential for a huge tax increase.

Councilman Masti interjected that he is in favor of Councilwoman Rogers' suggestion to get it moving and added that if they can't do it, they can't do it but if they can she will be a step ahead.

Supervisor Flach stated that by the next Board Meeting she will have already done the groundwork for it when they revisit it and he can't at this point tell her what they are going to say and if it will be yes or no, but this will get the ball rolling. He added it may come up in two weeks that they are going to have to take a look at the budget because they have had some unexpected things come up. He continued by offering a motion.

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers, authorizing Town Clerk Millious to advertise for the position to be revisited at the next Board Meeting to see if they are going to hire at that time.

AYES 3 – NAYS 1 (Boehm) – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

Town Clerk Millious stated that she wanted to say thank you and if they would like she can go through again the duties that her office is responsible for and the deadlines associated with them. She added that she is only one person, she has one full-time Deputy and she has gone through this many times and reminded them that it is a public office and it had been suggested prior to this meeting to close a day. She went on by saying that the Assessor's Office has cut, and people coming in want to speak to someone and the elderly are coming in and her office has been taking care of them for the Assessor because she does not want to make people run around. She continued by saying that she accommodates people and has even gone to homes to notarize and reiterated that she can once again explain everything that her office does and a lot of times there are deadlines. She added that she would not ask if she did not need the help and reiterated that the part-time positions do not get benefits and they share a position and it's not like she has four people in her office at the same time. She concluded by reiterating that she wanted to thank them for allowing her to advertise the position.

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments.

Chief Darlington stated that his question is a lead off of what they were just discussing and the fact that Councilman Boehm said there was an issue with hiring, which includes the Police Department. He added that prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> the Board authorized the hiring of a full-time and three part-time police officers and at the current time they have hired one full-time and one part-time with the interviews continuing and since then a full-time officer has left and gone to the City of Albany Police Department. He continued by saying that his question would be whether the same is going on for the Police Department as far as hiring goes.

Councilman Boehm inquired as to what he is looking to hire.

Chief Darlington stated that originally when they initially started he was looking for one full-time and three part-time and they are currently looking at other opportunities, which he was not prepared to present right now, but will discuss with the Board. He added that his thought is the potential of five to six part-time and not replace the full-time position.

Councilman Boehm interjected that the part-time employees have a higher hourly rate.

Chief Darlington stated that one of the things that he presented to the Supervisor and a couple union members is that there is a new salary rate for part-time because when they are brought in now they actually make more than a starting full-time person and the pay grade would require steps for part-time, which is comparable to but a little less and it takes them a while to make a year step so ultimately if the Union adopts it, and the Board adopts it, it would be the same as if they hired a new full-time as it would for a part-time.

Supervisor Flach asked about benefits for part-time.

Chief Darlington stated that there are no benefits, which would be a savings and added that they have been conducting interviews and he would have to say with seven years of doing interviews, he was quite impressed and there was actually one that asked if he could work for nothing and he told them that he didn't know if they could do it and added

that they are very interested in coming to work for the Town. He concluded by reiterating that his question is as to the hiring issue and what was said is new to him.

Councilwoman Rogers stated that it is something that was just discussed now and they had not previously discussed it.

Supervisor Flach stated that the other thing that they had discussed is that this might alleviate the over-time that happens in the Police Department, which is always a concern and added that they should definitely look into it.

Councilman Boehm inquired as to if it is done during the regular contract negotiations.

Chief Darlington stated that anytime, they as a Board and he as a representative of the Board can ask for a Labor Management Meeting to discuss any issues and in turn there would be a Memorandum of Understanding that would take effect at the signing and then in the next contract it would just be added. He concluded by saying that in just the general discussions, it seem as it would be favorable because it would not affect the salary of any currently employed police officer part-time because most of them are at the top rate anyway.

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments.

Mr. Buddy Irwin asked to speak and continued by saying that he would address the Board because it is their meeting and not the Chief's meeting and added that for years they have had a problem in that the Town is a training ground for other Police Departments and added that a full-time officer just left to go to the Albany Police Department. He continued by saying that this is probably the reason why the part-time rate is high to try and keep them here. He added that the Town pays for all their training and once trained they go to another department that either pays more or they can get a full-time job out of the other department. He went on by saying that he agrees that the Chief needs the help because it is a large important department that he runs but he thinks that they need to look at it as whether the people that they are going to hire, are they going to stay with the Town of Coeymans so the Town is not spending all of the money for training and outfitting them only to turn around and leave and go to another department and added that they have run into this before.

Chief Darlington stated that everyone that they have interviewed is certified and trained and they would actually be taking them from other Police Departments and added that in Albany County, they are one of the highest paid part-time Police Department. He continued by saying that they did raise the full-time salary to try and maintain them, because they were the ones that they were actually sending to school for training and once on the road and after a year they can lateral over. He added that with the part-time, the only cost once they are here, is their \$100.00 a year boot allowance and the uniforms that they need. He went on by saying that there is training that they do annually and things like that but most of the part-time people, once they are here, stay here because they can work dual jobs.

Ms. Pasquini from the audience asked if they can negotiate that when they open it back up.

Supervisor Flach stated that when they negotiate with Council 82 there are a couple things that they are looking at, like lowering the pay.

Ms. Pasquini asked if they could negotiate that they have to stay for at least 10 years.

Chief Darlington stated that they cannot and added that they along with other municipalities use to have agreements but they were determined to be inappropriate. He continued by saying that in 2011 the Town Board authorized ITS to do upgrades to the Police Department and ultimately Town Hall and during the process he received a grant in the sum of \$10,000.00 and he inquired to ITS when they would submit him a bill so he could apply for the grant and in turn he was told that the bill was paid a long time ago. He

then asked if the Town wants the money from the Albany County District Attorney's Office, or the Sheriff's Office.

Supervisor Flach stated that he would love to accept the money.

Chief Darlington stated that he needs a copy of the billings from ITS for the police side of the upgrade and added that he has the quote, which they can compare it to. He continued by saying that also in 2011 the Town Board authorized the Police Department to work in conjunction with Callanan Industries & C.D. Perry to assist with escorts to move their plant from Rte. 9W to Rte. 101 and just recently he submitted the billing for that and the Town can expect a check in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Supervisor Flach thanked Chief Darlington and said that it was good news. He then asked if there were any other comments.

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### **TOWN BOARD WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**

- No Workshop Scheduled in February
- Town Board Meeting, February 27, 2012, 7:00pm
- Town Board Meeting, March 12, 2012, 7:00pm

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### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any additional comments.

Councilman Boehm stated that he had the opportunity to attend the ribbon cutting at Friendship Beverage last week, located on Rte. 9W and added that they have quite an impressive inventory and for anyone listening, they should stop in and see the new store. He continued by saying that he also stopped by for the Ice Bowl at Joralemon Park and he does not know how much they raised, but he knows that they collected food for the food pantries in the Town and for the CHOICES Program. He went on by saying that he believes the News Herald will be covering it and provide the information and concluded by saying that it was a great event and there were a lot of cars from out of state and it was very well organized.

Supervisor Flach inquired about what type of event it was.

Councilman Boehm stated that a Disc Frisbee Ice Bowl.

Supervisor Flach stated that the Frisbee Course is a good thing for the Town and then asked if there were any other comments.

Chief Darlington stated that he wanted to update them on the Hannacroix Creek project and added that he received an e-mail from Ms. Wollaber from SEMO, requesting a letter as to what has been done so far and what the time plan is suppose to be, which he submitted with the help of F.X. Browne who is the Engineering Firm and surprisingly they are still waiting for approval from FEMA.

Councilman Masti inquired as to what exactly has been done so far.

Chief Darlington stated that basically it has been the filing and asking for the approval of funding, which is 90% of it and added that they did the aerial for the topographical map.

Councilman Masti asked if there has been any actual improvement work done.

Chief Darlington stated that there has not been any actual work done.

Councilman Masti inquired as to a timeframe.

Chief Darlington stated that there is a timeframe but it is all contingent on approval of FEMA.

Supervisor asked if there were any additional comments, hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers, the Town Board Meeting was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (Dolan) – SO MOVED

Time – 7:45pm

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**APPROVED:**

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*Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk*