

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
January 21, 2014 – Town Board Workshop – 6:00pm**

**A Town Board Workshop was held Tuesday, January 21 2014, at 6:00pm at Town Hall, 18  
Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

**PRESENT:** Stephen D. Flach, Supervisor  
Peter E. Masti, Councilman  
Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman  
George E. Langdon, IV, Councilman  
Kenneth A. Burns, Sr., Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk

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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 records should reflect the presence of a full Town Board.

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**AGENDA**

- National Endowment for the Arts Grant Program
- Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Repeal Chapter 88, Environmental Quality Review
- Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Modification of Planning Board Members
- Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Repeal Environmental Conservation Board
- Transfer of Property to Coeymans Recycling Center
- New Sign for Town Hall
- Merging Sewer Plant Properties
- Transfer of Bruno Blvd. Properties
- Alcove Preservation Association
- Executive Session

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**DISCUSSIONS**

**National Endowment for the Arts Grant Program**

Supervisor Flach stated that he gave Councilman Dolan a memo asking that he look into a grant opportunity in which the Town may be qualified to receive and then asked for an update.

Councilman Dolan stated that it is a Federal National Endowment for the Arts Grant Program and Supervisor Flach asked that he look into it specifically for the Evenings on the Green Program, which some years has been paid for by the Town and other years Lafarge paid for it.

Key points he discussed were:

- It can be applied for twice a year; the first deadline is February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- He signed up for the webinar but it didn't happen because the government was closed due to inclement weather and he will keep the Board informed as to the rescheduled date.
- Last year the Town spent \$3,000.00, which was 10 acts for \$300.00 a piece but 11 acts actually took place.
- A suggestion to make it 8 acts and raise it to \$400.00 per act based on what other municipalities are doing.

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Supervisor Flach stated that he spoke with Mike Kralik at Lafarge and he advised that he should put it in for last year and he will see what he can do and added that it may still be coming. He continued by saying that there were not charged for the 11<sup>th</sup> band because Councilman Dolan's band plays pro-bono in addition to arranging the Evening on the Greens Program.

Councilman Dolan stated that if anyone knows of a band that might be interested, they should call him.

Supervisor Flach stated that he knows of a couple from within the last couple of weeks.

Councilman Dolan stated that Confidential Secretary Cirillo sent him a couple via e-mail.

Collectively the Town Board agreed to Councilman Dolan setting up the schedule as well as agreeing to 8 paid performances at \$400.00 each and the 9<sup>th</sup> for free by his band.

**Transfer Station (Not on Agenda)**

Supervisor Flach stated that he and Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Conrad went to the Town of New Scotland and looked at their Transfer Station, which is basically 3 dumpster with two for C&D and one for metal recycling and a building where they keep a container for garbage where they charge per bag. He added that he has not contacted the Department of Environmental Conservation but he was thinking that the Jarvis Road Landfill would be a good location where there is plenty of shale, a flat area and a building that they don't use. Key points discussed were:

- Possibly having to have pads for the dumpsters to sit on if the shale was not enough.
- Making ramps for vehicles.
- Days and hours of operation & staff.

Supervisor Flach stated that Mr. Collins was present and continued by asking if shale would be sufficient as a base for the dumpsters.

Mr. Collins stated that shale would be fine and the biggest thing would be that they would have to put a roof over it and cover it because of moisture from rain and snow.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board and Mr. Collins relative to covering the dumpsters, possible location sites, building ramps and material needed, liability, sizes of dumpsters, what other municipalities are doing, fees to charge, price for the dumpsters, possible need for a front end loader, and the possibility of trespassing/vandalism.

Supervisor Flach stated that they should consider it and try to get something going and asked that Councilman Burns look further into the cost of scales and he would talk with Highway Superintendent Searles about having it at the Highway Department.

Town Clerk Millious was asked if she has received calls inquiring about it.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she has received several calls about a Transfer Station as well as leaf and brush pick-up.

Discussion ensued regarding possibilities of establishing a program or possibly working something out with the Village

No decisions were made.

**Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Repeal Chapter 88, Environmental Quality Review**

Supervisor Flach stated that the Environmental Quality Review is the something that has been in the Town's law books since the early 70's and the Environmental Quality Review that they have now is the SEQRA process that pretty much everyone has to go through whether they are building a bridge or putting up a new building. He added that it is already done and it is like a duplicate review.

**PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2014**

**A LOCAL LAW, WHICH DEALS WITH THE REPEAL OF CHAPTER 88 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW, OF THE CODES OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS AS FOLLOWS:**

**§ 1 TITLE**

This Local Law (Chapter) shall be known as the “Repeal of the Environmental Quality Review Law”.

**§ 2 AUTHORIZATION**

This Local Law (Chapter) is adopted pursuant to the provisions of New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

**§ 3 INTENT**

It is the intent of this Local Law (Chapter) to repeal Chapter 88 of the Codes of the Town of Coeymans as unnecessary and superseded by state law.

**§ 4 REPEALER**

This Local Law (Chapter) repeals Local Law #3 of 1977, also known as the Environmental Quality Review as adopted on September 13, 1977, now Chapter 88 of the Codes of the Town of Coeymans.

**§ 5 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Local Law (Chapter) shall take effect upon the proper filing with the office of the Secretary of State.

**Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Repeal Environmental Conservation Board**

Supervisor Flach stated that there are three individual Boards in the Town, the Town Board, who is usually Lead Agency on a SEQRA Review if it is for the Town, the Planning Board that has Site Plan Review, which is pretty extensive and then the Zoning Board of Appeals who would issue variances if need be and the three Boards are actually doing the work of an Environmental Conservation Board.

**PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2014**

**A LOCAL LAW, WHICH DEALS WITH THE REPEAL OF CHAPTER 14 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION BOARD, OF THE CODES OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS AS FOLLOWS:**

**§ 1 TITLE**

This Local Law shall be known as the “Repeal of the Environmental Conservation Board”.

**§ 2 AUTHORIZATION**

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to the provisions of New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

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**§ 3 INTENT**

It is the intent of this Local Law (Chapter) to repeal Chapter 14 of the Codes of the Town of Coeymans as unnecessary.

**§ 4 REPEALER**

This Local Law (Chapter) repeals Local Law #1 of 1973, also known as the Environmental Conservation Board as adopted on April 8, 1975, now Chapter 14 of the Codes of the Town of Coeymans.

**§ 5 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Local Law (Chapter) shall take effect upon the proper filing with the office of the Secretary of State.

**Establish Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law – Modification of Planning Board**

Supervisor Flach stated that the Planning Board is a seven member Board and they currently have six members and in checking with other towns such as Bethlehem, they have 5 member Boards and he went to a Village Planning Board Meeting and they also have 5 members. He added that the one thing that he noticed is that the Village has a lawyer on hand and there have been some meetings where it would have been nice to have a lawyer here for answering questions rather than having to wait a month later when they have a meeting. He continued by saying that it would save some money and with the money that it saves, if the Planning Board knows of an issue that is coming up, they can hire an attorney.

**PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2014**

**A LOCAL LAW INTENDED TO CHANGE THE TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS PLANNING BOARD**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF COEYMANS AS FOLLOWS:**

**§ 1 TITLE**

This Local Law (Chapter) shall be known as “The Modification of Planning Board Membership Law”

**§ 2 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION**

The Town of Coeymans Town Board is hereby authorized pursuant to Town Law, §271(7) Decreasing Membership, and the Municipal Home Rule Law §10.

**§ 3 INTENT**

The purpose of this Local Law (Chapter) is to amend §34-5 Continuation; Appointment; Terms; of Town Codes to change the Planning Board membership from 7 to 5 members and their terms to 5 years as follows:

There shall be a continued Planning Board of the Town of Coeymans, appointed by the Town Board. Each member of the current Planning Board was appointed based on the seven members, of which one member expires per year for the next seven consecutive years. There are currently two vacant positions on the existing board. The next members term is to expire on December 31, 2014 shall be appointed to fill the remaining vacant term to expire on December 31, 2019 each member thereafter shall be appointed for five year terms consecutively. This is intended to meet the requirements of Town Law §271 for decreasing membership.

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**§ 4 SEVERABILITY**

If any provisions of this Local Law (Chapter) are held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the Chapter shall remain in effect.

**§ 5 CONFLICTS OF LAW**

Whenever any Local Law (Chapter), Ordinance or Regulation of the Town of Coeymans, County of Albany, State of New York, or United States of America is inconsistent with this Local Law (Chapter), whichever Local Law (Chapter), Ordinance or Regulation is more stringent shall supersede the less stringent Local Law (Chapter), Ordinance or Regulation.

**§ 6 REPEALER**

This Local Law (Chapter) shall repeal and replace Chapter 136 of the Codes of the Town of Coeymans.

**§ 7 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Local Law shall take effect upon the proper filing with the office of the Secretary of State.

Supervisor Flach stated that he would like to set Public Hearings for the three and have members of the community come and express their opinions, which he would like to do on February 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00pm. He then asked if the Town Board had any questions, hearing none he offered a motion.

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Dolan, setting Public Hearings on February 10, 2014 at 6:00pm, 6:20pm and 6:40pm.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Supervisor Flach asked that Town Clerk Millious publish notices in the paper.

**Transfer of Property to Coeymans Recycling Center**

Supervisor Flach stated that there is a piece of property in front of Dick Tracey's, which is the piece of road that goes to the gate of the Recycling Center, currently plowed by the Town in addition to there being sewer. He added that Mr. Laraway's intentions are to put a bridge across from his south entrance to just above the Tracey Welding property and there are some road modifications that he would like to be able to do and if the Town were to turn the property over to Mr. Laraway, he would need to take care of a couple sewer issues that need to be fixed, which he would be responsible to do. He continued by saying that if and when that happens, they discussed it a bit and they would like to see Riverview Drive closed as a dead-end by the church, which he personally feels would stop a lot of the truck traffic going past the houses and church and his understanding is that the bridge project is a go. He concluded by saying that technically it is not Mr. Laraway's property, it is Mr. Trickey's and there is a lease with Mr. Laraway and in the transfer Mr. Tracey would also have any easement that he would need, and he is the only person that would be affected by the transfer.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board relative to Mr. Trickey wanting a gate by the church for access, no cost to the Town, saving money on sewer repairs, bringing sewer across the bridge and to some other homes currently without sewer.

Councilman Masti stated that he is in favor of it.

Councilman Langdon stated that he was in favor, didn't see any negatives to do it and possible negatives to not doing it.

Councilman Burns stated that he agreed.

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Councilman Dolan stated that personally he thinks it is premature and would like to see what is going to happen with the bridge first.

Supervisor Flach stated that his understanding is that there was a historical archeology study done, the Army Corp of Engineers gave their okay and DEC told him that they were waiting on DOT and he has now heard that they are all set. He concluded by saying that he will find out where the Bridge Project stands and they can discuss it at the next Town Board Meeting.

No decisions were made.

**New Sign for Town Hall**

Supervisor Flach stated that they had talked about a sign for Town Hall over a year ago and they need to decide where to put it. He continued by saying that he can get the board made fairly cheap and he has a friend that prints out the vinyl and Nelson Perry had said that he has a lot of the material to build it.

Discussion ensued relative to location and wording as well as handicap signs and parking lines, and a barrier to prevent vehicles from hitting Town Hall.

No decisions were made.

**Merging of Sewer Plant Properties**

Supervisor Flach stated that there was an oversight with the sewer properties and there are 0065 two parcels that should be merged and then asked if anyone had any thoughts.

Collectively the Town Board agreed that it was a good idea.

No decisions were made.

**Transfer of Bruno Boulevard Properties**

Supervisor Flach stated that the parking lot on Bruno Boulevard next to Senior Projects and basketball court, which are next to the Ravena Firehouse, Orchard Avenue and Bruno Boulevard, the Village has three easements and they need to dig up a line and the Town currently plows it and mows it. He continued by saying that the Village asked some time ago if the Town would be willing to turn it over to them and in turn they would maintain it by plowing and mowing it and they might do some kind of an ice rink on the basketball court. He added that he spoke with Attorney for the Town Wukitsch and he said that it is not a big deal to transfer it and at this point it is costing the Town money to plow and mow it.

Town Clerk Millious asked if the Senior's owned the parking lot.

Supervisor Flach stated that they do not and the parking lot would be transferred to the Village and he does not see a problem with the Village letting them continue to park there and it will not be an issue.

Councilman Dolan inquired as to if it is just the Mayor's desire or the whole Village Board.

Supervisor Flach stated that he spoke with Trustee Bailey and he said that the Village would be willing to take it.

Councilman Dolan stated that Trustee Bailey told him something different and they should check with him as well as it being a stipulation that there be a continuation of the senior's parking in the lot.

Supervisor Flach agreed that it should be a stipulation in the transfer that the parking lot needs to remain a parking lot for the Seniors Project.

Collectively the Town Board agreed.

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Supervisor Flach stated that he would check with the entire Village Board and if they wish to do so, the transfer can be a resolution for the next meeting.

No decisions were made.

**Alcove Preservation Association**

Supervisor Flach stated that no one was present to talk about the Alcove Preservation Association and they need to locate the folder in order to discuss it.

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Langdon stated that he went to a Zoning Board Meeting last week and scheduling came up because of the County having their meetings once a month and the Town's Meetings a day or two before, which means when the Town has something they need to put before the County for some feedback, it has to be presented to the County 10 days prior to get on their agenda. He added that as a result of that, instead of things being done the following month it now takes two months for feedback and then asked if there was any opposition to possibly changing what week they meet per month because Building Inspector/CEO Conrad thought it was a good idea and he would sit down and with Mr. Conrad to try and come up with dates that would be more appropriate with the timing of the County.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board relative to what dates make sense and whether or not it would throw off the Planning Board's timing.

Councilman Dolan suggested that Mr. Langdon work with Mr. Conrad on working out a new schedule.

Supervisor Flach suggested that Mr. Langdon speak with Planning Board Chairman Irwin to make sure that he was okay with it.

Councilman Langdon stated that he would speak with Mr. Conrad and Mr. Irwin.

Supervisor Flach asked if the Town Board if they had gotten his memorandum about the train.

Collectively the Town Board said that they had.

Supervisor Flach stated that he wanted to make sure that they knew what he was doing and then asked if there were any other comments.

Town Clerk Millious stated that she wanted to remind the Board of the voucher process, which has to be done prior to the last Town Board Meeting each month. She continued by saying that they were given a schedule of dates to look at the vouchers, which is from Friday to Monday prior to the Workshop and if they see anything that they want to question they should put a note on it and turn it sideways.

Councilman Masti inquired about a voucher that had been marked pulled from the abstract.

Town Clerk Millious explained that it was pulled by Bookkeeping Clerk King because the check got reimbursed to where it needed to go right away, which means the Town was bypassed and the money went to where it needed to go and because it was numbered, it was a part of the abstract and had to be left in the abstract. She continued by asking if the Town Board was going to be going to the Association of Towns Meeting in New York because they have a Workshop scheduled for then and would be gone from Sunday to Wednesday.

Supervisor Flach stated that they are going to the Association of Towns Meeting.

Councilman Masti suggested that they cancel the Workshop.

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Supervisor Flach stated that he would offer a motion to cancel the Workshop on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Langdon, to cancel the Town Board Workshop scheduled for February 18, 2014.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Burns stated that he noticed in the vouchers that there was one advertising for something with the Hannacroix Creek and then asked if it was for the advertisement for the bids.

Town Clerk Millious stated asked if it was for a newspaper ad.

Councilman Burns stated that it was.

Town Clerk Millious stated that it was an ad that was run twice for bids on the project.

Councilman Burns stated that he has been talking to a lot of people about the Hannacroix Creek and getting it taken care of and the biggest advocate for it, Jerry Hall is moving from the Town of Coeymans. He added that a lot of the local contractors are very interested in doing the job and will do it for the material and not charge for the labor.

Supervisor Flach stated that it would be great but there are certain things that have to be done.

Town Clerk Millious interjected that there are many regulations when you are talking about a creek.

Councilman Dolan stated that they would have to respond to the bid.

Supervisor Flach stated that they legally have to put it out to bid, which has already been done and the lowest bid was \$325,000.00 and if they would do it only for the materials, which is what they would bid.

Councilman Burns stated that it baffles him because it is such a simple solution and it has dragged on for so long but he understands.

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments, hearing none he offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

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**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Dolan, the Town Board Workshop was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 7:15pm

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session convened in the Supervisor's Office immediately following adjournment from the Town Board Workshop with the entire Town Board present. Discussion ensued regarding a personnel issue, no decisions were made.

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Time – 8:20pm

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**RECONVENE MEETING AND ADJOURN**

Supervisor Flach called the meeting back to order and asked for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION**

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Burns, the Town Board Workshop was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 8:20pm

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**APPROVED** – As Read February 10, 2014



*Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk*