

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 10, 2019
7:00 PM**

Supervisor Valentine opened the meeting at 7:05pm followed by a salute to the flag. Members present: Supervisor Valentine, Councilman Perez, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Finizia, Absent: Councilman Wensley

Also present: Al Fusco, Fusco Engineering, Town Engineer

ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Finizia and second by Councilwoman Smith to accept the Town Board Minutes of June 26, 2019 as presented by Town Clerk Zappala.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Perez and seconded by Councilman Finizia to approve payment of the bills from the following accounts.

GENERAL FUND	218,465.22
GENERAL - PART TOWN	135,701.75
HIGHWAY – TOWN WIDE	236,205.16
HIGHWAY – OUTSIDE	39,752.89
FIELDCREST WATER	8,631.31
LAKE HILL FARMS WATER	7,102.35
SUGAR LOAF HILLS WATER	7,019.83
SURREY MEADOWS WATER	1,523.76
GARBAGE DISTRICT	45,750.74
WALTON LAKE WATER	633.51
TRUST & AGENCY	<u>6,528.15</u>
Grand Total	<u>707,314.70</u>

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

JUSTICE COURT STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND CASH BALANCES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Perez to accept the Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and Cash Balances for years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018 with Independent Auditors' Report.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

SUBURBAN PROPANE PRESENTATION

Chris Somerset of Suburban Propane presented a check in the amount of \$15,000 in sponsorship of the Town of Chester Fireworks Extravaganza show scheduled for July 13, 2019. Many thanks to Suburban Propane for their ongoing support of this show which Mr. Somerset acknowledged has been a great success over the years.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF TOWN CODE

Supervisor Valentine explained that the Chester Fire Department has asked the Town permission to conduct a wet down at the Chester Commons Park and serve alcohol. The Town is in receipt of the proper insurance certificate.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Finizia and second by Councilwoman Smith to suspend 33-2 of Local Law 3 of 1980 to allow alcohol on Town Property during the Chester Fire Department wet down on August 17, 2019.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION BY Councilman Finizia and second by Councilman Perez to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Landlord Authorization Form giving permission to the Chester Fire Department to acquire the proper permitting from the New York State Liquor Authority to sell beer on August 17, 2019 at the Chester Commons Park.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

LPI PRESENTATION

Ms. Susan Gostissa presented to the Town Board on her company’s interest to work with the Town to create a newsletter for distribution. LPI has been in business for 45 years working with non-profit organizations to provide no-cost publications. The personnel would be trained in publisher to create templates and content and LPI would print for distribution. They sell ads to local businesses at a rate of \$375 per year minimum, with no ad requirement limits. A three-year agreement with the Town would be required, with a one-year cancelation clause. The publication could be updated bi-monthly or monthly with an email subscription to the newsletter included. She said they recently signed up Goshen.

RESOLUTION AMENDMENT – SMART METERS

Supervisor Valentine commented that the Smart Meter Resolution should be amended to require 90-day notification, to coincide with the Senate and Assembly bills.

TOWN OF CHESTER

A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO ORDER ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES, INC. TO ALLOW CUSTOMERS LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO RETAIN NON-AMI OR NON-AMR UTILITY METERS WITHOUT ANY FEES OR PENALTIES

July 10, 2019

TITLE: A resolution petitioning the New York State Public Service Commission to order Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. to allow customers located in the Town of Chester to retain non- AMI or non-AMR Utility Meters without any fees or penalties.

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, Orange County, New York, held at the Town Hall, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, New York, on the 10th day of July, 2019, at 7:00 PM prevailing time:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Valentine and upon roll being called the following were:

PRESENT: Robert Valentine, Supervisor
Cindy Smith, Deputy Supervisor
Orlando Perez, Councilman
Vincent Finizia, Councilman

The following resolution was offered by Councilwoman Smith, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Perez, to wit:

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2014, Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (“O&R”) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission Tariff Leaves which revised previously filed tariff leaves which sets tariff fees related to electricity and gas service for residential customers who choose to opt-out of using Automated Meter Infrastructure (“AMI”) and Automated Meter Reading (“AMR”) devices;

WHEREAS, the revised Tariff Leaves further state that the proposed tariffs would allow residential customers to opt-out of using AMI devices and instead elect to have O&R install and maintain non-AMI or non-AMR devices, such as Analog Meters, and manually read these meters through bi-monthly in-person meter readings; and

WHEREAS, the O&R AMI and AMR Opt-Out tariffs state that an existing customer receiving service through a non-AMI or non-AMR (e.g. analog utility meter) equipped meter may execute and submit an Application to request that service be continued through a non-AMI or non-AMR equipped meter, and that the customer will not be subject to a meter change fee, but will instead be subject to a monthly non-AMI or non-AMR service fee; and

WHEREAS, the O&R AMI and AMR Opt-Out tariffs state that an existing customer receiving service through an AMI or AMR equipped meter may execute and submit an Application to request that service be continued through a non-AMI equipped meter, but that the customer will be subject to the a meter change fee and a monthly non-AMI or non-AMR service fee; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Chester has received voluminous complaints from residents who want to retain their Analog Utility Meters under the terms of the AMI and AMR Opt-Out Tariff, but are being told by O&R that their current Analog Utility Meters are going to be replaced by Digital Utility Meters; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Chester, as the result of recent information related to the potential effects of chronic exposure to wireless radiofrequencies radiation, has serious concerns related to the potential health impacts of AMI and AMR meters on residents of the Town of Chester; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Town Board of the Town of Chester to allow residents in the Town of Chester to retain their existing Analog Utility Meters in the interest of public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Resolution, the following terms shall have the meanings hereinafter defined:

“**Utility Consumer**” shall be defined as an O&R electric ratepayer, including, but not limited to renters, business owners and consumers.

“**Electro-Mechanical Analog Utility Meter**” shall be defined as a device that measures the amount of electrical energy consumed by a residence, business or an electrically powered device which operates by counting the revolutions of a non-magnetic, but electrically conductive, metal disc that rotates at a speed proportional to the power passing through the meter. This device is purely mechanical and uses no electronic components, no switch mode power supply, no transmitter, no antenna and no radio frequency emissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Chester shall petition the New York State Public Service Commission to request the following relief:

1. O&R shall provide Utility Consumers in the Town of Chester with a 90-Day written notice in advance of installing any type of digital meter at no additional charges to said Utility Consumer, monthly or otherwise.
2. O&R shall fully inform Utility Consumers in the Town of Chester of their right to participate in the Opt-Out program, which will allow said Utility Consumers to retain their Electro-Mechanical Analog Meters.
3. O&R shall allow Utility Consumers in the Town of Chester who decide to participate in the Opt-Out program to retain their installed Electro-Mechanical Analog Meters and said Utility Consumers shall not be subject to the one-time meter change fee nor the monthly non-AMI or non-AMR service fee.

4. O&R shall offer to Utility Consumers in the Town of Chester Electro-Mechanical Analog Meters as a replacement for previously installed AMI and AMR meters and said Utility Consumers shall not be subject to the a meter change fee or a monthly non-AMI or non-AMR service fee.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Finizia asked why we are changing the language to 90 days. Supervisor Valentine said it was to provide additional notification to consumers. Town Clerk Zappala added that it was to be more consistent with the bills in the Senate and Assembly.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a roll call vote which resulted as follows:

Robert Valentine, Supervisor	Yes
Cindy Smith, Deputy Supervisor	Yes
Orlando Perez, Councilman	Yes
Vincent Finizia, Councilman	Yes

Yes 4 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 1

Dated: July 10, 2019

LETTER OF INTENT – ACQUISITION OF CR 13 FROM CR 13A AND BELLVALE ROAD INTERSECTIONS

Supervisor Valentine said the Town has been in negotiation with the County for the acquisition of County Route 13 (Kings Highway) from the intersection of 13A (Kings Highway bypass) and Bellvale Road (Route 82), which has culminated in their request for a Letter of Intent from the Town.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Finizia to authorize the Supervisor to sign a Letter of Intent to the Orange County Department of Public Works.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Perez stated he wanted to be sure the County would take care of the road conditions of concern so the Town would not have to work on them for the next 20 years. Supervisor Valentine said they have agreed to resurface and provide stamped crosswalks as well as additional work. He added, as part of the negotiation, the Town may acquire 300-400 acres for preservation and said there will be additional discussions on road improvements with the Highway Superintendent. Anthony LaSpina said he would like the County Engineer to check conditions and have the road milled and repaved and work done on drainage in and around the railroad crossing to address the flooding issues. Councilman Finizia asked that the Letter of Intent should not negate Anthony LaSpina’s comments. Supervisor Valentine said the agreement would be subject to the Highway Superintendent’s approval following discussions and negotiations, but the LOI is to get the process started.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

RELEASE OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Valentine read the request from Highway Superintendent LaSpina regarding the release of the vehicles and equipment destroyed in the garage fire.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Finizia and second by Councilman Perez to allow the Supervisor to sign all necessary documents including titles for the vehicles and equipment involved in the garage fire on April 22, 2019 in order to have them removed and receive the insurance proceeds.

DISCUSSION: Councilwoman Smith asked what will happen to the equipment. Supervisor Valentine said it will be removed and we will receive the insurance proceeds less the deductible.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

SUMMER CAMP TEMPORARY HIRES

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Health Director, the Recreation Department requests the following temporary employees be appointed for one day.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Perez to appoint the following temporary Health Directors:

- Jennifer Wittekind
- Elizabeth Garvey
- Elizabeth Trappe
- Brian Wieczorek
- Tyler VanBuren

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

CFA GRANT 2019

Supervisor Valentine said the Town will be submitting a grant application to be used for the purchase of equipment for the Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center. Mr. Fusco added the following resolutions are required for the \$100,000 grant application due July 26, 2019.

**TOWN OF CHESTER
RESOLUTION
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW
2019 CFA GRANT APPLICATION
NYSCA ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
MIDSIZE CAPITAL PROJECT FUND**

At the meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, held on July 10, 2019, the following resolution was introduced by Councilman Finizia and seconded by Councilwoman Smith:

WHEREAS, the Town of Chester wishes to approve a CFA grant for the Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center Interior Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Town has cause to have prepared a Short Form Environmental Assessment under the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has taken and determined that the application process to be a uncoordinated review and a Type II Action under 617.5(c)(2); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Chester has declared itself to be Lead Agency.

The vote of the motion: Ayes 4 Nays 0

**RESOLUTION
State Environment Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance**

This notice is issued pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environment Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Town of Chester Town Board, as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action: NYSCA 2019 Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program Midsize Capital Project Fund CFA Grant Application for Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center Interior Improvements

SEQR Status: Type II

Negative Declaration: Yes

Description of Action:

Application for approval of Local Law for revised Zoning Regulations

Facts & Reasons Supporting This Determination:

Based on its careful review of the application, the plans and revisions thereto submitted by the applicant, Short Form Environmental Assessment Form, with supporting information and public comment, the Town Board has identified the no areas of environmental concern in connection with the proposed project.

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT based on the Town Board's review and consideration of the Project, Short Form Environmental Assessment Form, supplementary technical information, public comments and consideration of the criteria for determining significance set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2), the Project as designed together with the applicants completion of the Local Law for revisions set forth herein will not result in any significant impact to the environment.

ON A MOTION BY Member Finizia, seconded by Member Perez

The foregoing resolution was adopted on a vote of 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

**TOWN OF CHESTER
RESOLUTION
2019 CFA GRANT APPLICATION
NYSCA ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
MIDSIZE CAPITAL PROJECT FUND**

WHEREAS, the Town of Chester has recently purchased the Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center (PAC); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chester Sugar Loaf PAC requires capital improvements for the facilities and capital funding; and

WHEREAS, the NYSCA Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program Midsize Capital Project Fund in the CFA grant program has funds available for said purpose;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Chester hereby authorizes the Supervisor to direct the Town Engineer to prepare the CFA application for NYSCA Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program Midsize Capital Project Fund;

FURTHERMORE, the Supervisor is authorized to sign any and all documents. The Town Board also appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 for the local match for the project and respectfully requests the \$50,000.00 match in funds from the CFA grant program.

ON A MOTION OFFERED by Councilman Finizia and second by Councilwoman Smith.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on a vote of 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

POLICE DEPARTMENT SURPLUS VEHICLES

Supervisor Valentine read the memo from Chief Doellinger on the result of the auctions. Signatures are required on the titles for transfer.

2014 Ford Taurus	110,835mi.	\$2,550
2014 Ford Taurus	125,873	\$2,800
2014 Ford Explorer	124,619	\$4,200

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Perez to authorize the Supervisor to sign the foregoing police vehicles for title transfer.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS

Supervisor Valentine acknowledged the request from the residents of Ridgefield Drive and Sunrise Pointe to hold a block party. As this road has not been dedicated, the Supervisor tabled the request for attorney consultation.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Perez to approve the road closure on Harding Way on August 3, 2019 from 2-10pm.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

REPORTS

Supervisor Valentine read the Departmental Reports for the month of June which appear below in their entirety:

TOWN OF CHESTER WATER DEPT.

The water department processed and distributed 8,753,327 gallons of water for the month of June. The districts daily average ranged from 276 to 123,000 gallons. The breakdown is:

- Lake Hill Farms- 3,694,000 gal.
- Sugar Loaf- 1,839,900 gal.
- Surrey Meadows- 1,910,700 gal.
- Walton Lake Estates- 1,152,200 gal.
- Fieldcrest- 148,232 gal. (Distribution only)
- Town Hall- 8,295 gal.

Distribution sampling by us as well as random sampling by Orange County DOH showed adequate disinfection levels, and tested negative for any type of bacteria.

Monthly DOH 360 forms and test results for 5/2019 on all districts were submitted to DOH on 6/6/19.

Laboratory testing dates were 6/5 & 6/19.

Other Business:

The water dept. attended a workshop in Montgomery on 6/12. The subjects were primarily focused on valves and regulatory updates. Mandated state education credits were granted.

Mowing dates were 6/4 & 6/5.

The water dept. worked with highway on a drainage project in Walton Lake Estates for 10 days. It ran from 6/17 through 6/28.

Sugar Loaf was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. Highway repaired curb and road damage from Winter breaks on Pewter Circle on the 4th. Leak detection was performed on Pewter circle on the 7th. There were no new leaks detected on Pewter. There was a break on Creamery Pond road on Sunday the 9th. We had to use TAM Enterprises with their hydro-vac excavation truck. Service was interrupted for less than one hour on approximately 12 houses.

Surrey Meadows was mostly quiet with routine operation and maintenance.

Lake Hill Farms was mostly quiet with normal operations and maintenance.

Fieldcrest was mostly quiet with normal operations and maintenance.

Walton Lake was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. There was a break at 4 Maple on Saturday the 29th.

Highway assisted with the backhoe and trucking. The 6” main was broken in two places approximately ten feet apart.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the month of June, the Town of Chester Police Department remained highly active in the community. We continued to take a proactive stance towards detecting crime and enforcing the laws, while maintaining our overall objective of community commitment. In June, the police department responded to **328 calls for service**. Officers patrolled for **12,893 miles** during the month. A breakdown of the criminal and non-criminal activity for the month is included below:

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

The Town of Chester Police Department made 17 arrests during the month. A summary of the arrests is as follows:

- 9 arrests for Vehicle and Traffic Law misdemeanors
- 1 arrest for Criminal Mischief in the third degree
- 1 arrest for Criminal Mischief in the fourth degree
- 1 arrest for Driving While Intoxicated
- 1 arrest for Driving While Ability Impaired by Alcohol
- 1 arrest for Harassment in the second degree
- 2 arrests for Unlawful Possession of Marihuana
- 1 arrest for Emergency Admission of the Mentally Ill

Please refer to Attachment A for complete details.

NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

In addition to the arrests listed above, officers also responded to other calls for service. A summary of those calls for service is as follows:

- 26 medical calls
- 26 animal complaints
- 24 residential & commercial alarms
- 22 reports of suspicious conditions, people and/or vehicles
- 11 domestic disputes, disturbances or family court matters
- 0 motor vehicle crashes with injuries
- 3 motor vehicle crashes without injuries
- 5 motor vehicle crash involving deer

Please refer to Attachment B for complete details.

Officers also issued 203 uniform traffic tickets during the month.

MIDNIGHT SHIFT

- 71 Vehicle & Traffic Stops
- 48 UTTs Issued
- 58 Calls for Service
- 6 Arrests

SEX OFFENDERS

There were no changes to the sex offender registrations for our residents in June.

LEVEL	BEGINNING OF MONTH	END OF MONTH
1	1	1
2	1	1
3	0	0

TOTAL	2	2
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COMMUNITY RELATIONS

During the month, Town of Chester police officers assisted members of the community in many ways. Officers completed 31 house security checks and 1080 business security checks.

A child safety seat checkpoint was held at the station on June 1st (the last day of the Technician certification course we held in our training room beginning May 29th) . Officers Bird, Weinstein, Stack and Dugan continue to remain available for child passenger safety seat checks and installations.

Officer Perez continued his assignment as the School Resource Officer in the Chester schools for one day a week through the last day of classes on June 17th.

TRAINING

Officer Dugan completed the Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician course on June 1st in Chester.

Officer Monsees attended a Long Gun Familiarization and Tactics course from June 3rd to 7th in New Windsor.

Officer Santosky-Wright attended the DWI Documentation and Testimony course on June 7th in Goshen.

Officer Grahn attended the Radar/LIDAR Operator course from June 17th to 20th in New Windsor.

Officer Weinstein attended the FBI Basic Digital Photography Course from June 25th to 27th in New Windsor. Officer Dunlop attended the first week of Commercial Vehicle Inspection school from June 24th to 28th in Albany.

MISCELLANEOUS

DWI Detection Checkpoints were held on Friday evening June 14th on state route 17M and Kings Highway. One driver passing through the checkpoint was arrested for driving while impaired.

A commercial vehicle enforcement detail was held in conjunction with the NYS DOT on June 17th. Two unsafe commercial vehicles were taken out of service.

Officer Perez assisted Washingtonville PD with a lockdown drill in their schools on June 21st.

Chief Doellinger attended a Raise the Age District Committee meeting at Woodfield Cottage in Valhalla on June 21st and received a tour of the facility after the meeting.

Chief Doellinger represented the town at the graduation ceremony for the Chester Academy on June 26th. Patrol officers were present to assist the arrival and departure of guests at the ceremony.

Two thank you cards were received in June. The first one was from a longtime resident who is moving to Florida and wanted to express her thanks for all of the assistance provided by the police department over her years in Chester. The second one was from the Knights of Columbus Council #8637 for our assistance with the carnival they held at the beginning of the month. Copies are attached.

SCHEDULING

There were 115.5 hours of overtime paid in June.

Shift Coverage	56
DWI Checkpoints	26.5
Police Traffic Services Grant	13.5
1033 Program Equipment Pickup	5

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Detail	4.5
Late Calls/Arrests	4.25
Speed Enforcement Detail	4
Court/Hearings	1.75

Part-time police officers were used to fill 191 hours of shift coverage (191 regular hours and 0 overtime hours).

CALLS FOR SERVICE - JUNE 2019

911 HANGUP CALL	5	FIREWORKS COMPLAINT	2
ALARM-COMMERCIAL	13	FRAUD	2
ALARM-RESIDENTIAL	11	HARASSMENT	2
AMBULANCE ASSIST	26	HAZARDOUS CONDITION	4
ANIMAL COMPL(WILDLIFE)	19	HOUSE SECURITY CHECK	19
ANIMAL COMPLAINT(DOG)	4	INFORMATION ONLY	14
ANIMAL COMPLAINT(OTHER DO	3	LARCENY	
ARREST/DWAI	1	LOCKOUT	4
ARREST/DWI	1	LOST PROPERTY	4
ARREST/TRAFFIC	9	MN COMPLAINT	2
ARRESTNIOLATION	1	MISSING PERSON RETURNED	1
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	30	MOTORIST ASSIST	1
ASSIST FIRE DEPT	6	MV/TRAFFIC STOP	1
ATV COMPLAINT	2	MVC/CAR/DEER	4
AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM	2	MVC/NO REPORT	1
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION	25	MVC/PROPERTY DAMAGE	3
BUSINESS CHECK	1	NEIGHBOR DISPUTE	4
CITIZEN SERVICE	5	NOISE COMPLAINT	5
CIVIL MATTER	3	NOTIFICATION	
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	1	OPEN DOOR	3
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	4	PARKING PROBLEM	1
DEBRIS IN ROADWAY	1	SHOTS FIRED	1
DEPARTMENT DETAIL	4	SUSPICIOUS COND/MV/PERSON	22
DISABLED VEHICLE	6	TAC TEAM ACTIVITY	1
DISTURBANCE	5	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	8
DOMESTIC COMPLAINT	4	TREE DOWN	1
EMOT DISTURBED PERSON	4	TRESPASS	1
EQUIPMENT CHECK	6	UNWANTED PERSON	2
FAMILY COURT MATTER	2	VANDALISM	
FINGERPRINTING	3	WELFARE CHECK	3
FIRE	1		

ANIMAL CONTROL

During the month of June 2019, the Town of Chester Police Department responded to 26 animal complaints and investigated 5 motor vehicle accident involving deer. A breakdown of the complaints the month is included below:

- 6 of the calls for service were for injured or deceased deer
- 6 of the calls for service were for bear sightings
- 4 of the calls for service were for loose, lost or found dogs
- 2 of the calls for service were for injured or deceased raccoons
- 2 of the calls for service were for assistance relocating snakes
- 2 of the calls for service were for deceased cats
- 1 of the calls for service was for a found fawn
- 1 of the calls for service was for fox sightings
- 1 of the calls for service was for sheep in the road
- 1 of the calls for service was for a coyote on a deck

Warwick Valley Humane Society

The monthly report for June from the Warwick Valley Humane Society is attached.

**WARWICK VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE TOWN OF CHESTER
MONTH: June 2019**

All totals include calls from the Town of Chester, Village of Chester, Village of Sugar Loaf, and Orange County 911 Center for calls located within the geographic area of the Town of Chester.

Number of calls received:	<u>10</u>	0 Police, 10 other
Number of times ACO dispatched to calls:	0	
Number of dogs impounded by ACO:	<u>1</u>	#20105 stray from Cardinal Lane*
Number of dogs impounded by police:	<u>0</u>	
Number of dogs returned to owner:	1	#20105
Number of after hour call-outs:	1	#20105*
Amount of impoundment fees collected:	\$ 50.00	#20105
Amount of license fees collected:	\$ 0.00	
Amount of impoundment fees paid to Town:	\$ 50.00	Ck#5972
Amount of license fees paid to Town:	\$ 0.00	
Number of hours of enumeration:	<u>6 hrs.</u>	3.5hrs. owed from May + 2 hrs. for June
Number of bite reports received:	<u>0</u>	
Number of appearance tickets issued:	<u>0</u>	
Number of unlicensed dogs:	<u>0</u>	
Status of unlicensed dogs:	<u>0</u>	
Number of Chester cats admitted to shelter:	<u>0</u>	

Location of enumeration: Preparation of 12 and delivery of 12 various Notices to Comply

Parks Department

Little League ends for the season tonight at Carpenter Park with the 2019 New York State Little League Championship for the intermediate Division. Chester Little League was awarded the games for this division for 3 years this being the first. Games were hosted at Carpenter Community Park. Teams enjoyed the recently completed Pavilion and we received numerous compliments on our facilities. One of our own made it to the championship game, Montgomery faces Syracuse for the title. The game began at 5:30pm

Signs will be ordered with information on where to call for a permit to use the new Pavilion as well as the Pavilion at the Chester Commons and any of our sports fields. If anyone is interested in information about renting these facilities you can contact Kristin Palmer at 610-3485 her office is located at the SLPAC.

Town Fireworks THIS SATURDAY!!! Block Party begins at 5:00 pm...The BLACKDIRT BANDITS go on at 6:00 and will bring us to the fireworks display at dark (approximately 9:00-9:15 pm).Bring your chairs, blankets, yard games to set up on the ballfields... the band will be on the black top overlooking right field. Please visit Walton Fire Co. who is fundraising during this event by selling Hot dogs, funnel cakes, popcorn, snow cones, and water. Food trucks and port-a-johns will be located on the basketball courts at the Maple Ave. School (Ice Mother, Allan's Falafel, Thank Goodness it's Vegan, and TLC concession)

Chester NY music series brought to you by the town and village of Chester continues every Tuesday evening in downtown Chester from 7-9pm. Next week is Floyd Pink- a Pink Floyd tribute band. It's a relaxing fun evening with great music, food and local vendors.... Rushing Duck, American House Ice Cream, Meadow Blues Coffee as well as some local produce.

The all-day Bill Perry blues Festival is on Sunday July 28 11:30am-7:30pm 7 different bands slotted to play as well as several local businesses with food and drink available.

The Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center is continuing to work to get the facility ready for events. Coming soon will be a web page and social media with current information about the center. We will post that on our Chester Rec Facebook page when it is available as well as send it in the weekly newsletter.

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Valentine announced the Inaugural 99th Assembly District Salute to First Responders event. Assemblyman Schmitt requests the nomination of one First Responder that truly stands out in the community by August 9, 2019. A ceremony will be conducted on September 16 at 6:30 pm at the Orange County Emergency Services Center.

Supervisor Valentine read the email from Building Inspector Farr to the owner of 191 Lehigh Avenue with comments from landscape architect, Karen Arent, which follow.

Joel,

Please find attached recent correspondence from the Town's landscape architect and a local resident who has raised concerns.

As you can see the fence needs to be installed per the approved plan as well as other work she noted.

Also please provide a response to me in regards to the resident's concerns.

Please provide a schedule and response to me by 8 July showing your proposed work schedule.

Thank-you and have a great day.

Jim

KALA

Karen Arent Landscape Architect

To: Chairman Donald Serotta and the Town of Chester Planning Board

From: Karen Arent, Landscape Architect

Date: June 25, 2019

Subject: 191 Lehigh Avenue, Plans, site visit

Consultant: Fellenzer Engineering

RECEIVED

JUN 26 2019

TOWN OF CHESTER
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

COMMENTS:

I visited the site and observed landscape plantings and overall condition of the site. The site is poorly maintained, and it is possible to clearly see into the site from several vantage points. The fence and gate should be installed in accordance with the approved plans.

There is a lamp dangling off one of the columns, another column is lopsided, and weeds fill the planting beds. A large dumpster is plopped in the northeastern corner of the site. Some of the evergreen trees are dead. It does not appear that the landscape beds were mulched to help keep weeds out. It also does not appear that all evergreen trees were installed. The applicant should mulch landscape plantings, repair the broken piers and lights and install all trees as shown on the approved plans.

Page 1 of 1

12 Old Minisink Trail, Goshen, New York 10924
Phone (845) 294-9958, Fax (845) 294-6545, Email: KALA@hvc.rr.com

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Finizia and second by Councilman Perez to enter into Executive Session at 8:10pm to discuss contract negotiations. Motion carried 4-0.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Perez to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:45pm. Motion carried 4-0.

APPOINTMENT

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Finizia to appoint Michele Deshler to full-time status, pending the appropriate paperwork, effective July 22, 2019.

VOTE AYES 4: Valentine, Finizia, Perez, Smith

ADOPTED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Valentine acknowledged letters received regarding an event in Sugar Loaf on the 4th of July. He said he would review the Town Code and State laws with the attorney to see if there was something that could be done to tighten the code.

Lydia Cuadros, 158 Creamery Pond Road, opined on her statement submitted to the Town Board which appears below in its entirety:

Lydia Cuadros
158 Creamery Pond Road
Sugar Loaf, NY 10981

July 9, 2019

Supervisor Robert Valentine
Town of Chester
1786 Kings Highway
Chester, NY 10918

Subject: Proposed changes to Chester town law pertaining to Fireworks in residential areas

Dear Supervisor Valentine and Town Board:

According to NY State Penal Law:

“All other types of consumer fireworks, including firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles, spinners and aerial devices, remain illegal statewide.”

Section 270.00 <http://www.dhses.ny.gov/ofpc/laws/documents/270.pdf>

Members of the Sugar Loaf Community Foundation and residents of Creamery Pond are concerned about the private fireworks displays that have been put on in our neighborhood. These are not sparklers, they are professional grade fireworks. This type of activity jeopardizes the safety and wellbeing of residents in the community.

In view of what happened the evening of July 4th, a car drove on to private property and parked close to a vacant building. Someone started shooting off fireworks, the car and the building went up in flames causing a near catastrophic fire. Luckily the fire was put out before it could spread to neighboring homes. We need more police patrols to prevent such incidents from occurring in the future. We recommend that the Town of Chester put in surveillance cameras on both entry points of the hamlet so illegal activities can be recorded.

Please let us know how you plan to correct these issues. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Lydia Cuadros

Ms. Cuadros added that Chapter 98-17 of the Zoning Code speaks to “dangerous fire and explosives that causes disturbances” as it relates to the activities on July 4th. Supervisor Valentine noted that the car fire was not apparently due to the fireworks.

Ms. Cuadros commented that the day after the fire at the Broccoli Patch property she went to the property and witnessed doors open, graffiti on the building and the back deck falling off, and with an ongoing investigation, she noted there was no hazard tape around the sight. She added, the Town Code speaks to unsafe buildings and said this and the neglect in Scott’s Meadow should be looked into. Supervisor Valentine suggested she send a letter to the Building Department concerning these issues.

Ms. Cuadros asked if the benefit of taking over Kings Highway through the hamlet was worth the financial responsibilities that we would be taking on. Supervisor Valentine replied that the Town would not take a decrease on the county roads’ maintenance agreement. She opined that the County should take care of the infrastructure. Ms. Cuadros added that she was involved with a sidewalks’ grant with Senator Skoufis but she had obtained a letter from Steve Neuhaus that the County would put in sidewalks. Supervisor Valentine replied that the taking of the road would open grant opportunities for a possible improvement district.

Chris Maurer, Sugar Loaf opined on her statement submitted to the Town Board which appears below in its entirety. She stated that the use of professional grade fireworks in Creamery Pond was frightening and that it poses a serious situation for loss of life or home. She said fireworks are illegal in New York State and asked the Board to send out letters to that affect and asked for extra police enforcement.

Police Chief Doellinger commented that if there was any specific information that could be provided concerning this matter, to contact Detective Slaughter, as the matter is under active investigation.

July 6, 2019

Supervisor Robert Valentine
Town of Chester
1786 Kings Highway
Chester, NY 10918

Dear Supervisor Valentine,

As a homeowner and resident of the Hamlet of Sugar Loaf, I’m urging the town board to look into why the New York State fireworks laws are not being enforced in the town of Chester. As you know, on July 4th, a person or persons drove onto private property next to a vacant building and started shooting off fireworks. Both the car and building ignited, causing a near catastrophic fire.

There were also professional grade fireworks being shot from Creamery Pond. If an errant shell had landed on a neighboring rooftop, residents could have lost their homes and possibly their lives.

All across Chester there were numerous illegal backyard fireworks displays including cherry bombs, bottle rockets, firecrackers and other illegal explosive devices. Not only does this pose a fire hazard to surrounding homes, but it stresses pets, veterans with PTSD, and disturbs households with young children and babies.

I respectfully request that prior to any celebratory holiday traditionally involving fireworks, a letter by the Chester Police Department be sent out to residents and/or sent to our local newspapers reminding them of the law and warning that there will be zero tolerance for those who break it. I further ask that the Chester Police Department send out additional enforcement patrols during those times.

State law only allows for the sale and use of ground based sparkling devices. Fireworks that project into the air are strictly prohibited. The illegal devices include sky rockets,

bottle rockets, missile type rockets, helicopters, aerial spinners, roman candles, mines, shell devices, aerial shell kits, reloadables and audible ground devices which are commonly referred to as firecrackers and chasers.

Under New York Penal Code § 270.00, possession of illegal fireworks can result in a fine of up to \$250. For fireworks valued over \$50, it's a Class B misdemeanor carrying a fine of up to \$500. It's time we enforce this.

Sincerely,
Chris Maurer

Susan Bahren, 3103 Whispering Hills Drive, commented on the new sign at the Chester Community Park, labelled, "Carpenter Community Park". She stated, although a matter of semantics, and as both a former Mayor and Board member for 13 years prior she believed that the name, "Chester Community Park" was selected by resolution by both the Town and Village Boards for the jointly owned park. She said there would have to be something formally done to change it. Supervisor Valentine said he would speak to the Mayor about the name change.

Tom Becker, 11 Sanford Ave., asked if the CFA grant might include a water main expansion. Supervisor Valentine said the grant would only allow interior work be performed. Al Fusco said there would not be any site work allowed under this grant. He added there are other grants available but would only cover 20% for water. Mr. Becker said he was concerned that with the use of the theater going forward, as it could not operate without water.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilman Finizia, as President of the Chester Fire Department, stated that there is no campaigning in the firehouses or Department meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Perez and second by Councilman Finizia to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm, there being no further business brought before the Board.

VOTE AYES 4: Finizia, Perez, Smith, Valentine

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala
Town Clerk
2019-07-10