

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
AND PUBLIC HEARING
August 9, 2023
7:00 PM**

Deputy Supervisor Smith opened the meeting at 7:00pm followed by a salute to the flag. Members present: Deputy Supervisor Smith, Councilman Ardisana, Councilman Courtenay, Councilman Holdridge, ABSENT: Supervisor Valentine

Also present: Scott Bonacic, Esq., Town Attorney, Fusco Engineering

**PUBLIC HEARING - INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2023 - A LOCAL LAW TO UPDATE AND AMEND
CHAPTER 33 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO PROHIBIT SMOKING, VAPING, AND THE
USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

The following is the notice as appeared in the Times Herald Record on July 26, 2023, posted on the Town Clerk's signboard and Chester-NY.gov.

**TOWN OF CHESTER
1786 KINGS HIGHWAY
CHESTER, NY 10918**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW**

**INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2023
A LOCAL LAW TO UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 33 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO PROHIBIT
SMOKING, VAPING, AND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Be it enacted by the Town of Chester in the County of Orange, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Intent

It is the intent and purpose of this Local Law to update and amend Chapter 33 of the Town Code of the Town of Chester, entitled "Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis", to add provisions which prohibit smoking, vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes on public property located in the Town of Chester. It is the finding of the Town Board of the Town of Chester that smoking, vaping, and the use of electronic cigarettes on public property owned by the Town of Chester is detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Chester, and that such public use contributes to the creation of nuisances and otherwise impedes upon the welfare of Town residents. The Town of Chester enacts this local law an exercise of its police power to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Chester.

Said public hearing will take place in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, NY on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 7 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

All persons interested in the subject matter may appear in person or by agent. All written communications should be addressed to the Board at the above address.

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF CHESTER**

**LINDA A. ZAPPALA
TOWN CLERK
Dated: July 14, 2023**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to open the Public Hearing at 7:03pm on the matter of Introductory Local Law 5 Of 2023 - A Local Law to Update and Amend Chapter 33 Of the Town Code of The Town of Chester to Prohibit Smoking, Vaping, And the Use of Electronic Cigarettes on Public Property.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

Joshua Kopf supports the local law. He reported the CDC estimate of 1/5 of the population as impacted by second-hand smoke. With 8% of Americans with asthma, 5.6% with COPD and 100-200,00 with lung cancer, he stated there is no safe exposure. He said his brother and girlfriend have asthma and when at public places worry about the risk of having an asthma attack due to second-hand smoke, creating undue hardship. Orange County's 9.3% of asthma related hospital visits is double the State average. He said the law will make Chester safer for everybody who calls it home.

Howard Cohen supports the local law. He stated the US Surgeon General reported back in 1972 that second-hand smoke was dangerous. He read excerpts from various health organizations regarding second-hand smoke, including the National Institute of Health stating harmful and deadly; CDC - 7,000 chemicals in tobacco smoke including toxic chemicals; EPA - there is no safe level of second-hand smoke whether in or outdoors. He quoted statistics: 1,400 deaths in NYS annually from heart disease, cancer and strokes from smoke-related exposure, and effects on children such as ear infections, wheezing, breathing issues. He referred to NYS 50-year study of 100,000 health-related deaths in babies exposed to second-hand smoke. He made reference to the Town's cannabis prohibition local law which was founded as a detriment to the public. He said it behooves us to add smoking to that list.

Cheryl Kopf thanked the members for their service, and supports the local law. In addition to the health risks, she addressed the uncomfortable smell caused by smokers outside of buildings. She stated the loss of her father to lung cancer and relatives who are asthmatic subject to the habits of others who are infringing on their rights. She said it is hard to see children exposed to second-hand smoke in public places. As an educator, mother, and concerned citizen she supports the law that people should not smoke in public places.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to close the Public Hearing at 7:15pm.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2023 - A LOCAL LAW TO UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 33 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO PROHIBIT SMOKING, VAPING, AND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to adopt Local Law No. 4 of 2023.- A Local Law to Update and Amend Chapter 33 Of the Town Code of The Town of Chester to Prohibit Smoking, Vaping, And the Use of Electronic Cigarettes on Public Property.

Be it enacted by the Town of Chester in the County of Orange, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Intent

It is the intent and purpose of this Local Law to update and amend Chapter 33 of the Town Code of the Town of Chester, entitled "Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis", to add provisions which prohibit smoking, vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes on public property located in the Town of Chester. It is the finding of the Town Board of the Town of Chester that smoking, vaping, and the use of electronic cigarettes on public property owned by the Town of Chester is detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Chester, and that such public use contributes to the creation of nuisances and otherwise impedes upon the welfare of Town residents. The Town of Chester enacts this local law an exercise of its police power to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Chester.

Section 2. Amend and Replace Chapter 33, Entitled, "Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis", to Read:

Chapter 33. Alcoholic Beverages, Cannabis, Smoking, Vaping and Electronic Cigarettes.

Section 3 Add Article III, to Read:

Article II. Smoking, Vaping, and Use of Electronic Cigarettes on Town Property.

§33-10. Legislative Findings.

The Town Board of the Town of Chester finds that smoking, vaping, and the use of electronic cigarettes on public property owned by the Town of Chester is detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Chester, causes hazardous, unsightly and unsanitary conditions, and creates a public nuisance.

§33-11. Definitions.

ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE

As used in this Article, “Electronic Cigarette” or “E-Cigarette” shall mean an electronic device that delivers vapor which is inhaled by an individual user, and shall include any refill, cartridge and any other component of such a device. This shall also have the same meaning as defined in New York State Public Health Law §1399-n, as may be amended from time to time.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

As used in this Article, Public Property shall mean any highway, street, sidewalk, park, playground, municipal-owned building or public parking lot.

SMOKING

As used in this Article, Smoking shall mean the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter or substance which contains tobacco. This shall also have the same meaning as defined in New York State Public Health Law §1399-n, as may be amended from time to time.

VAPING

As used in this Article, Vaping shall mean the use of an electronic cigarette. This shall also have the same meaning as defined in New York State Public Health Law §1399-n, as may be amended from time to time.

§33-12. Prohibited Acts.

No person shall smoke and/or vape any tobacco substance using any device or method including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, Electronic Cigarettes and pipes on any Public Property within the Town of Chester.

§33-13. Penalties for Offenses.

Each violation of this Article shall constitute an offense punishable by a civil penalty of up to \$200, at the discretion of the Town of Chester Justice Court.

Section 6. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 7. Effective date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

DISCUSSION:

Deputy Supervisor Smith said there should be more discussion before adoption.

Councilman Courtenay agreed to align the law with the cannabis prohibition, although he thought that a 50-75ft distance from the building would have been allowed. Attorney Bonacic said the introductory law does not allow smoking at all on public property. Councilman Courtenay said we heard from the residents we represent.

Deputy Supervisor Smith stated the law should be amended for distance to allow for smoking in designated areas outside the theater, when court is in session, and highway employees.

Councilman Holdridge said we heard from the people and since the Board voted the same on marijuana prohibition when cigarette smoking is more dangerous, he believes it should be prohibited.

Councilman Ardisana said although there are certain rights of smokers he agrees with the law as written.

VOTE: AYES (3): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge; NAYS (1) Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

PUBLIC HEARING - INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2023 - A LOCAL LAW TO FURTHER UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 87, ARTICLE VI, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO AUTHORIZE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS WHO HAVE ACCUMULATED AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF SERVICE

The following is the notice as appeared in the Times Herald Record on July 17, 2023, posted on the Town Clerk's signboard and Chester-NY.gov.

**TOWN OF CHESTER
1786 KINGS HIGHWAY
CHESTER, NY 10918**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW**

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2023

A LOCAL LAW TO FURTHER UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 87, ARTICLE VI, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO AUTHORIZE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS WHO HAVE ACCUMULATED AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF SERVICE

Be it enacted by the Town of Chester in the County of Orange, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Intent

It is the intent and purpose of this Local Law to further update and amend Chapter 87, Article VI, of the Town Code of the Town of Chester, entitled "Exemption for Volunteer Emergency Personnel", to grant a partial real property tax exemption to qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance who have accumulated at least two years of service.

Said public hearing will take place in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, NY on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

All persons interested in the subject matter may appear in person or by agent. All written communications should be addressed to the Board at the above address.

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF CHESTER**

**LINDA A. ZAPPALA
TOWN CLERK**

Dated: July 13, 2023

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to open the Public Hearing at 7:20pm on the matter of Introductory Local Law 6 Of 2023 - A Local Law to Further Update and Amend Chapter 87, Article Vi, Of the Town Code of The Town of Chester to Authorize Property Tax Exemption to Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Who Have Accumulated At Least Two Years of Service.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge; NAYS (1) Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

Larry Dysinger, 46 Odyssey Lane, was in favor of the local law. He asked that the Town insure that people are active members by some form of measurement.

Councilman Holdridge said the purpose of this amendment is to correct the law for service of two years prior to submitting tax exemption request. He said qualifications would be determined by the Fire Department.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to close the Public Hearing at 7:25pm.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2023 - A LOCAL LAW TO UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 87, ARTICLE VI, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER TO AUTHORIZE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS WHO HAVE ACCUMULATED AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF SERVICE

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to adopt Local Law No. 5 of 2023.- A Local Law to Update and Amend Chapter 87, Article Vi, Of the Town Code of The Town of Chester to Authorize Property Tax Exemption to Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Who Have Accumulated At Least Two Years of Service.

Be it enacted by the Town of Chester in the County of Orange, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Intent

It is the intent and purpose of this Local Law to further update and amend Chapter 87, Article VI, of the Town Code of the Town of Chester, entitled "Exemption for Volunteer Emergency Personnel", to grant a partial real property tax exemption to qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance who have accumulated at least two years of service.

Section 2. Amend §87-9, Subsection (A), Paragraph (4), to read as follows:

§87-9. Exemption Granted

A. Any qualified member who has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction (hereinafter the "AHJ") for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or volunteer ambulance service as an enrolled

member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or volunteer ambulance service shall be entitled to a 10% reduction in the taxable value of their real property for Town real property tax purposes so long as:

- 4) The applicant has been an enrolled member of incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or volunteer ambulance service for at least 2 years prior to submitting an application for tax exemption; and

Section 3. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 4. Effective date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

E.J. Szulwach, 9 Elm Street, thanked the Board for the opportunity to follow up on his comments from May 24th through July 26th concerning climate change. He appreciates the formation of a committee and looks forward to Town Board action.

Donna Sansone, 1 DeRose Lane asked why it is taking so long for members to opine back to the Town Attorney concerning the noise ordinance as requested by Councilman Holdridge.

Preservation Collective submitted the following written comments:



PO Box 721
Chester NY 10918
www.thepreservationcollective.com

Find us on Facebook
Email: Info@thepreservationcollective.com

August 9, 2023

Town of Chester 1786 Kings
Highway
Chester NY 10918

Dear Chester Supervisor and Town Board members –

It has come to our attention that a resident of Chester has requested the Town Board create a **Climate Smart Community Task Force**. We would like to express our support for Chester to take on this action and join other participating municipalities in the County such as Woodbury, Monroe, Goshen, Blooming Grove, Tuxedo, Warwick and others.

Not only will the designation as a Climate Smart Community open up opportunities for additional grants and technical assistance, there are benefits to having a working task force bringing like-minded individuals together in your community for a common goal. They can help the Town distribute information to residents on a variety of environmental topics, which is important to educate new homeowners from more urban areas who are now on well and septic. A task force can also engage the community to join in family projects like planting trees, pollinator gardens, composting, and recycling. A task force can also help the Town with more time-consuming, cost saving projects such as reviewing community choice aggregation to save Chester residents money on their energy bills, which Woodbury and Warwick are currently exploring a town wide default energy supplier. These are just a few ideas to get the community working together to improve public health and safety for a more resilient future.

We thought it might be helpful to provide you with some additional information in supporting the reasons why you should become a Climate Smart Community including the ease to get started and goals to consider (see links below). Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,
Tracy Schuh,
President TPC, Inc.

FACTSHEET: Office of Climate Change | New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
https://climatesmart.ny.gov/fileadmin/csc/documents/CSCFactSheetModelRes2020_v2.pdf

FREE WEBINAR: Conserving Nature is Climate Smart
<https://meetny.webex.com/recording-service/sites/meetny/recording/fc10ee39c5b8103bbfb7005056814772/playback>
protect the region's scenery, natural resources, and cultural heritage.

The Preservation Collective, Inc. is a non-profit 501c(3) tax-exempt corporation whose mission is to educate the community by bringing attention to and defending against the environmental impacts of new development and advocating for improved controls for sustainable growth to protect the scenery, natural resources and cultural heritage of Orange County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to enter into Executive Session at 7:30pm on a matter of personnel.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to adjourn the Executive Session at 7:45pm.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Holdridge to accept the Minutes of the Town Board Meetings of July 26, 2023 as presented by Town Clerk Zappala.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Ardisana to transfer \$2,500 from ARPA fund to WL8320.4 for payment to Delfino Electric emergency work.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Holdridge to transfer \$300 from ARPA fund to SL8320.4 for payment to Delfino Electric.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Ardisana to transfer \$56,285 from A6772.4 to A6772.2 for payment to Landscape Structures for gym equipment grant.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Ardisana to transfer \$69,510 from ARPA to4 to A6772.2 for payment to Landscape Structures for installation grant.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Ardisana to approve payment of the bills from the following accounts.

	<u>PREPAIDS</u>	
GENERAL FUND	72,377.81	41,725.43
GENERAL - PART TOWN	56,878.02	31,307.63
HIGHWAY – TOWN WIDE	2,128.40	16,925.47
HIGHWAY – OUTSIDE	28,165.01	73,087.63
FIELDCREST WATER	462.03	4.58
LAKE HILL FARMS WATER	15,114.54	12,203.00
SUGAR LOAF HILLS WATER	15,999.99	9,206.46
SURREY MEADOWS WATER	2,727.81	1,160.20
WALTON LAKE WATER	7,083.26	1,323.45
TRUST AND AGENCY	<u>3,409.22</u>	<u>4,742.00</u>
Grand Total	\$204,346.09	\$191,685.85

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

SUGAR LOAF HISTORIC DISTRICT

Lydia Cuadros addressed the Board concerning the amended agreement submitted by Neil Larson for the Sugar Loaf Historic District nomination, which would have to be paid by the Town since the grant was not received. The submission would be done by March 2024 and Mr. Larson would like to hold a meeting in September to gather information from residents and officials.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the agreement with Neil Larson in the amount of \$10,000.00

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

RFP FOR GARBAGE/REFUSE COLLECTION

Deputy Supervisor Smith said the RFP for garbage services is being finalized for submission since the current contract expires December 31, 2023. The matter was tabled.

ROAD CLOSURES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Holdridge to approve the closure of Wilson Road on September 2 (September 3 rain date) for a block party.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Ardisana and second by Councilman Holdridge to approve the closure of Harding Way on August 26, 12noon to 10pm for a block party.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

PICKLE BALL COURTS

Deputy Supervisor Smith provided three quotes for fencing for a 2-sided enclosure.

Ketchum	\$14,890.
Capernus	\$19,800
Fesco	\$22,398

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Holdridge to approve the estimate in the amount of \$14,890 from Ketchum Fencing.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Ardisana to approve the estimate in the amount of \$2,400 from A-Plus Striping for the damage repair at the pickle ball courts.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

BILLBOARD POLICY CHANGE

Deputy Supervisor Smith read the request for Walter Popailo to have permission to change the billboard slot daily as needed for holiday, special achievements, town happenings and Town Board requests without prior Town Board approval. The graphics would be done by Diamond Grade Media and run at no cost by Lamar. Councilman Holdridge asked why a request could not come ahead of a meeting. Deputy Supervisor Smith said she was concerned about timing. Councilman Courtenay said he would be okay with communication of changes being reported to the Town Board.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Ardisana and second by Councilman Courtenay to allow Walt Popailo to change the billboard slot daily as needed for holiday, special achievements, town happenings and Town Board requests without prior Town Board approval.

VOTE: AYES (3): Ardisana, Courtenay, Smith; NAYS (1) Holdridge; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

POST FOR HIGHWAY FOREMAN POSITION

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Ardisana to approve the posting for the Highway Foreman position and direct Town Clerk Zappala to cause to publish same.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councilman Holdridge said following numerous requests and to affect positive change he proposes the formation of a Climate Change Advisory Committee. The Climate Change Advisory Committee will comprise of interested members (around 5-10) of the community and a liaison from the Town Board. The committee's goal is to study the town's internal policies and code in order to figure out how, if any, improvements could be made to further contribute to climate change prevention. Although some practices in Chester have been already been made towards that end, some members of the community and myself, feel that there is no reason to not explore more opportunities to curb our own contributions to the worsening condition of the planet's climate. The committee will be able to speak with town department heads, employees, and elected officials as well as request any internal documents in order to thoroughly review our practices and then advise any town entity as well as the Town Board on how they could improve on themselves. The committee will physically meet no less than four times a year (unless extenuating circumstances prevent it), but they may meet as often as they see fit.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to establish a Climate Change Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Courtenay said it would be a good point to tie into the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Ardisana said he thought we should put it within the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Holdridge said they overlap but there are enough separate and different goals to justify the establishment of a separate and standing committee.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the posting for the Climate Change Advisory Committee and direct Town Clerk Zappala to cause to publish same.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

EDUCATION REQUESTS

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Ardisana to approve the attendance of Historian Clifton Patrick to the three-day virtual conference of the 2023 Association of Public Historians of New York State at a cost of \$150.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Officer DeLuca and Officer Donato to the Basic School Resource Officer course in Ulster Country from August 21st through August 25th at no cost.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine

ADOPTED

REPORTS

Animal Control Report – July 2023

During the month of July 2023, the Town of Chester Police Department responded to 5 animal complaints and investigated 2 motor vehicle crashes involving a deer. A breakdown of the complaints for the month is included below:

- 2 of the calls for service were for lost dogs
- 1 of the calls for service was for an injured goose
- 1 of the calls for service was for rattlesnakes on the property
- 1 of the calls for service was for a snake caught in a glue trap

Warwick Valley Humane Society – July 2023

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.

Police Department Report – July 2023

The Town of Chester Police Department stayed active in the community again last month. We maintained our objective of community commitment and continued to take a proactive stance towards detecting crime and enforcing the laws.

In July, the police department responded to 344 calls for service. Officers patrolled for 14,889 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 8 arrests during the month. A summary of the arrests is as follows:

- 5 charged with Operating a Vehicle with a Suspended License and/or Registration misdemeanors
- 1 charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance and Operating a MV with a Suspended License
- 1 charged with Driving While Intoxicated and Driving with a Blood Alcohol Content >.08%
- 1 taken into custody 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 in July. A summary of those calls for service is as follows:

35	medical calls
20	residential, commercial or automatic fire alarms
15	reports of suspicious persons, vehicles or activity
1	motor vehicle crash with injuries
11	motor vehicle crashes without injuries
2	motor vehicle crashes involving deer

Please refer to Attachment B for complete details.

Officers also issued 102 uniform traffic tickets during the month.

SEX OFFENDERS

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

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

COMMUNITY POLICING

During the month, Town of Chester police officers assisted members of the community in many ways. Some of the community policing activity is listed below.

Officers completed 50 house security checks and 1096 business security checks.

Sergeant Dugan and Officers Bird, Weinstein, Stack and Narain continue to remain available for child passenger safety seat checks and installations.

Officers were assigned to foot, bicycle and vehicle patrols during the town's annual Fireworks Event held in the village on July 8th. Officers were also assigned to traffic posts at the conclusion of the event to assist guests leaving the area.

TRAINING

Monthly training for July was a refresher course in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing taught by Del. Grosso from the Village of Chester PD. It was held at the senior center on July 17th and July 27th. All full-time officers and sergeants except SRO Perez (vacation) attended on one of the dates.

Our semi-annual firearms training concluded in July at the range in Port Jervis. All officers have completed spring training with instructors Sgt. D'Agnese and Officer Calderone.

Sgt. Chambers attended a webinar on July 12th on the Most Common Pitfalls in the Accreditation Process. Chief Doellinger watched a recording of the same webinar later in the month.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commercial vehicle enforcement details were held on July 7th and 21st with the NYS Department of Transportation. Fifteen vehicles were inspected and two unsafe vehicles were taken out of service with major violations.

Tactical Response Unit officers assisted Monroe PD with their fireworks event on July 7th.

Part-time Officer Michael Lawrence continued his field training in July.

SCHEDULING

There were 174 hours of overtime paid in July.

Part-time police officers were used for 140 hours of patrol coverage (140 regular hours and no overtime hours).

Shift Coverage	104
Town Fireworks Event	36.5
Monthly Training	12.5
Firearms Qualification	6
Tactical Response Unit Details	6
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Detail	4
Late Calls/Arrests	3
Police Traffic Services Grant Patrols	2

ARRESTS - JULY 2023

TC-00093-23	7/11/2023	37F	Florida, NY	VTL051101 AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER MV-3RD VTL0512 MV VIOL:REGISTRATION SUSPENDED
TC-00091-23	7/12/2023	22F	Salisbury Mills, NY	VTL 0512 MV VIOL:REGISTRATION SUSPENDED
TC-00092-23	7/13/2023	25M	Haverstraw, NY	VTL051101 AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER MV-3RD VTL0512 MV Vldl: REGISTRATION SUSPENDED
TC-00094-23	7/17/2023	31F	Saugerties, NY	VTL 051101A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00095-23	7/21/2023	20M	Monroe, NY	VTL 051102A4 AGG UNLIC OPER-2ND:3>SUSPENSNS VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD PHL 3345 CONTR SUBS IN NON ORIG CONTR
TC-00096-23	7/21/2023	34M	Brooklyn, NY	VTL 051101 AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER MV-3RD
TC-00097-23	7/22/2023	19F	Chester, NY	MHY 9.41 CUSTODY OF MENTALLY ILL PERSON
TC-00098-23	7/30/2023	64M	Spring Valley, NY	VTL 1192 02 OPER MV BAC .08 OF 1% -PRIOR VTL 1192 03 DWI- 1ST OFFENSE VTL 0600 01A OPER LEAVE SCENE PROP DAM ACC VTL 0600 01A OPER LEAVE SCENE PROP DAM ACC

CALLS FOR SERVICE - JULY 2023

911 HANGUP CALL	1	FIRE	2
AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT	2	FRAUD	3
ALARM-COMMERCIAL	6	HAZARDOUS CONDITION	4
ALARM-RESIDENTIAL	4	HOUSE SECURITY CHECK	72
AMBULANCE ASSIST	35	IDENTITY THEFT	1
ANIMAL COMPL(WILDLIFE)	3	INFORMATION ONLY	27
ANIMAL COMPLAINT{DOG}	2	K9 DETAIL	1
ARREST/CRIMINAL	1	LARCENY	1
ARREST/DWI	1	LOST PROPERTY	8
ARREST/MHL	1	MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORT	1
ARREST/TRAFFIC	5	MVC/CAR/DEER	2
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	23	MVC/HIT AND RUN	1
ASSIST FIRE DEPT	3	MVC/NO REPORT	5
ASSIST WATER DEPARTMENT	1	MVC/PERSONAL INJURY	1
ATV COMPLAINT	1	MVC/PROPERTY DAMAGE	5
AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM	10	NOISE COMPLAINT	8
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION	19	OPEN DOOR	1
CITIZEN SERVICE	4	ORDER OF PROTECTION	1
CIVIL MATTER	2	PARKING PROBLEM	2
COMM VEHICLE ENF DETAIL	1	PROPERTY RETURN	1
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	1	RECKLESS DRIVER	2
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	2	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	1
DEATH INVESTIGATION	1	SUSPICIOUS COND/MV/PERSON	15
DEBRIS IN ROADWAY	1	TAC TEAM ACTIVITY	2
DEPARTMENT DETAIL	3	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	7
DISABLED VEHICLE	4	TRAFFIC ENFORCENMT DETAIL	2
DISTURBANCE	2	TREE DOWN	7
DOMESTIC COMPLAINT	2	TRESPASS	6
EMOT DISTURBED PERSON	2	WARRANT RECALLED	1
EQUIPMENT CHECK	3	WELFARE CHECK	5
FAMILY COURT MATTER	1	WIRES DOWN	2

TOTAL 344

Water Department – July 2023

The water department processed and distributed 6,620,017 gallons of water for the month of July. The districts daily average ranged from 436 to 66,000 gallons. The breakdown is:

Lake Hill Farms- 2,047,000 gal.
Sugar Loaf- 1,473,100 gal.
Surrey Meadows- 1,546,100 gal.
Walton Lake Estates- 1,323,200 gal.
Fieldcrest- 217,074 gal. (Distribution only)
Town Hall- 13,543 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 6/2023 on all districts were submitted to DOH on 7/5/2023.

Laboratory testing dates were 7/5 & 7/19.

Mowing dates at the plants were 7/6, 7/25 & 7/31.

Bulk chemicals were delivered on the 28th.

Picked up Chlorine at All Gas 7/1.

Replaced front brakes on F150.

Other Business:

Sugar Loaf was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. 7/6 Quackenbush came in to lower well 1A down 100ft for stepdown test. Underwater Solution 7/11 replaced anodes at water storage tank. 7/17 WSP started 72hr step down test at well 1A at 80gpm. Pump test creating too much drawdown of private wells. cancelled test to start over at lower gpm in few weeks. 7/31 WSP started new 72hr step down test at well 1A at 66gpm.

Surrey Meadows was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance.

Lake Hill Farms was mostly quiet with normal operations and maintenance. Underwater Solutions cleaned and inspected welded storage tank 7/12. TAM 7/12 came and replaced broken radio system at plant and tower. Underwater Solution 7/13 replaced anodes on the new water storage tower. 7/26 repaired shutoff at 51 Lincoln with help from vac truck from Monday. 7/31 we painted the outside of the water plant building.

Walton Lake Estates was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. Call out On 7/2 for water in the house from PD for 8 Tulip. Put in a service shut off at 8 Tulip with help from Hwy Dept to determine leak is homeowners' responsibility. 7/10 Water main break at 19 oak Dr, new wrap around help from Hwy Dept. Underwater solutions came in 7/10 to do storage tank cleaning. Dropped off spare booster motor off to get rebuilt as a backup 7/19. 7/24 replace 3" pipe in the plant due to a leak. 7/28 cleaned up plant of brush and over grow.

Fieldcrest was quiet with routine operations and maintenance. Replaced backflow valve at parks bathroom 7/20.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deputy Supervisor Smith acknowledged receipt of a letter from Assemblyman Brabenec with regard to the Town's request of DOT for repair to Route 94 from Chester to Florida.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilman Holdridge announced the SEPTSA sensory movie to be held on Saturday from noon-2pm at the Senior Center. He asked the members to respond to the noise ordinance change request.

Deputy Supervisor Smith said the trees are ordered for the dog park to be planted end of August with a September opening. She said the Sugar Loaf sign is three weeks to completion. She announced the On-the-Lawn concerts have four more weeks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to enter into Executive Session at 8:25pm on a matter of personnel.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:00pm.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Councilman Courtenay to adjourn the meeting at 9:01pm, there being no further business brought before the Town Board.

VOTE: AYES (4): Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith; ABSENT (1): Valentine **ADOPTED**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala
Town Clerk
2023-8-09