

*DRAFT*

**TOWN BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING  
September 9, 2015  
7:00 PM**

Supervisor Jamieson opened the meeting 7:05 PM followed by a salute to the flag. Members present: Supervisor Jamieson, Councilman Murray, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Valentine.  
Absent: Councilwoman Ranni

Supervisor Jamieson read the letter received from Councilwoman Linda Ranni into the minutes:

To the residents of The Town of Chester,

I would like to take a moment to thank all of you whom believed in me and elected me to represent you this past year. I am forever grateful.

Serving as a councilwoman for the Town of Chester has been a great honor, and I am deeply thankful for the trust and confidence you had in me. My one regret is that I am not able to continue my position as town councilwoman.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve this wonderful community and to work alongside of such dedicated employees and elected officials. I'm grateful to have played a role in bringing about positive changes to our town. I know that the current town board will continue to serve you, the residents, of this town.

To my colleagues on the Town Board, thank you for your leadership and mentoring, and especially to your commitment to this community. I know that I leave my position in very capable and dedicated hands.

Please know that the Town of Chester will always be in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,  
Linda Ranni

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to open the public hearing for Special Districts in the Town of Chester. Motion carried 4-0.

Supervisor Jamieson read the notice as it appeared in the Times Herald Record on August 19, 30 and September 9, 2015.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT** the Town Board of the Town of Chester will hold a public hearing in the Chester Senior Center, 1784 Kings Highway, Chester, NY on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 7 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard for the purpose of reviewing, pursuant to Section 202-a of the Town Law, the assessment rolls prepared for the following special districts within the Town: Walton Lake Estates Water, Surrey Meadows Water, Lake Hill Farms Water, Sugar Loaf Hills Water, Fieldcrest Water, Refuse District, Benefit Area 1, Benefit Area 2, Benefit Area 1A, Consolidated Sewer

District 1, Consolidated Sewer including Operation & Maintenance, Consolidated Sewer Benefit, Sewer District 4A, Sewer District 4A Benefit Area, Sewer District 4A Operation & Maintenance, Sewer District 5, Sewer District 5 Benefit Area, Sewer District 5 Operation and Maintenance, Lake Region Sewer District 7, Lake Region Sewer District Operation and Maintenance, Sewer District 8, Fox Hill Drainage District and any other special districts within the Town of Chester.

Copies of the special district assessment rolls are on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, NY and may be inspected there during normal business hours by any interested party.

The Town Board will hear all persons who desire to comment either in favor of, or in opposition to, the adoption of said rolls at the time and place set forth herein. Persons may appear in person or by agent. Written comments should be addressed to the Town Board, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, NY 10918 or may be delivered to the Town Clerk at, or prior to, the hearing.

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

*Linda A. Zappala, Town Clerk*

1786 Kings Hwy., Chester, NY 10918

Dated: August 25, 2015

Supervisor Jamieson asked if there were any public comments on the special districts.

A resident of King Tract asked the Board the status of the water system in that development. Supervisor Jamieson said there have been ongoing discussions with the bank, but the Town is not willing to take over the water system at a cost. As this issue is outside of the Public Hearing, Attorney Bonacic advised that the Board hear only comments on the topic.

There being no further comments made, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to close the public hearing. Motion carried 4-0.

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilwoman Smith and passed 5-0 to approve payment of the bills in the following accounts:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 65,968.50
GENERAL - PART TOWN	9,595.90
HIGHWAY – TOWN WIDE	50,201.70
HIGHWAY – OUTSIDE	84,483.99
FIELDCREST WATER	142.50
LAKE HILL FARMS WATER	2,389.96
SUGAR LOAF HILLS WATER	1,271.20
SURREY MEADOWS WATER	981.26
GARBAGE DISTRICT	47,588.30
TRUST & AGENCY	13,566.88
WALTON LAKE WATER	<u>2,816.52</u>
	\$ 279,006.71

### **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Valentine and seconded by Councilman Murray to approve the Town Board meeting minutes through August 12, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

### **BID RESULTS – COMMUNITY PARK PAVILLION**

Supervisor Jamieson announced the low bidder on the Community Park Pavilion was Collier Construction, LLC at \$127,139. Engineer Al Fusco advised that the bids came in over the estimated budget. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Murray to reject all bids received on the Community Park Pavilion project. Motion carried 4-0.

### **INTERMUNICIPAL ICE AND SNOW AGREEMENT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Murray to accept the Orange County Inter Municipal Agreement for Snow and Ice Control on Certain County Roads for the 2015-2016 Season within the Town of Chester and allow Supervisor Jamieson to sign same. Motion carried 4-0.

### **BLS/ALS SERVICE PROVIDER DESIGNATION**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to designate Mobile Life as the Town of Chester BLS and ALS provider and to authorize Chief Daniel Doellinger to update information as requested by Orange County Emergency Communications Division. Motion carried 4-0. Supervisor Jamieson added that the partnership with Mobile Life has served the Town very well.

### **ACCEPT RESIGNATION**

Supervisor Jamieson read the resignation letter received from Kaitlin Moran. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Valentine and seconded by Councilwoman Smith accepting the resignation of Kaitlin Moran from her position in the Parks and Recreation Department.

### **EDUCATION REQUESTS**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Valentine and seconded by Councilman Murray to approve the attendance of Joseph McGowan to attend the seminar on transitioning from staff to supervisor in White Plains, NY on October 5, 2015 at a cost of \$199.00. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTON WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the attendance of Sgt. Vitale to Gordon Graham's Risk Management on October 27, 2015 at Marist College at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTON WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the attendance of Officer Bird to the Land Navigation course on November 3 and 4, 2015 in Oriskany, NY at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTON WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the attendance of Officer Bird to woodland Tactics and Operations on October 24 and 25, 2015 in Oriskany, NY at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine To approve the attendance of Sgt. Vitale to the Ulster County Police Chiefs' Association fall training seminar on October 6, 2015 in Rosendale, NY at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the attendance of Sgt. Eckert to a seminar on the Connection Between Domestic Violence and Animal Cruelty on September 30, 2015 in Albany at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

### **BUILDING USE APPROVAL**

Supervisor Jamieson explained that Project Sunshine is a group who compiles care packages for children in hospitals. The local chapter is head by a Chester resident college student. An insurance certificate has been provided. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the use of the Senior Center room when available to Project Sunshine. Motion carried 4-0.

### **LIBRARY HVAC**

Supervisor Jamieson explained that the air condition systems in both buildings were not in great shape and part of the Library and Town Hall has needed new units this year. Recently, the Library building had a collapse in the remainder of the system. The two new units includes one for both heating and a/c. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Valentine and seconded by Councilman Murray to approve the emergency repair and replacement of the HVAC system in the Library, up to a cost of \$23,417.00. Motion carried 4-0.

### **EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Supervisor Jamieson explained to the Board that the cost of the current insurance plan with CDPHP has risen with deductibles going through the roof. Initially there were savings with this plan but now the costs have gone up and the plan has lost major participating doctors, including Crystal Run. There will be a loss of dental coverage but a plan may be offered with employee contribution. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to change insurance companies to NYSHIP, effective December, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

### **LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

Supervisor Jamieson said the Library has appointed a new trustee but she was not available to come to tonight's meeting. Item tabled until the September 24, 2015 meeting.

### **TOWN JUSTICE COURT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Valentine and seconded by Councilman Murray to accept the Town Justice Court Audit Report for year-end 2014. Motion carried 4-0.

### **ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to approve the Town's membership to the Association of Towns for 2016 in the amount of \$1,500. Motion carried 4-0.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Jamieson announced that the Chester Historical Society is hosting an open house on the occasion of their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on October 25, 2015 from 2-4pm at the Erie Train Station Museum.

Supervisor Jamieson read the Leaf Pickup notice as scheduled by Highway Superintendent Anthony LaSpina:

“Highway Superintendent, Anthony LaSpina has set the dates for this fall’s leaf pickup. Pickup will begin on Monday, October 26, 2015 and will continue through Friday, December 4, 2015, WEATHER PERMITTING. Residents should put leaves curb side (NOT IN THE ROADWAY, PLEASE), un-bagged, free of rocks, brush and debris. The Highway Department will pick them up with the leaf machine. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the Highway Department at (845) 469-4101. Thank you.”

## **TOWN BOARD COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Smith announced that she has received some donations towards the Sugar Loaf lights installation.

Councilwoman Smith asked about the status of the parking issue in Sugar Loaf. Supervisor Jamieson replied that he did speak with Don Serotta concerning the formation of a committee. Supervisor Jamieson added that Joe Mlcoch had sent a final letter to the owner of Scott’s Meadows as the Town is intent on getting the property up to code.

Supervisor Jamieson gave an update on the Walton Lake Tank project borrowing. He stated that because of the small amount of the borrowing, \$400,000, a 25-30 year bond might incur interest at around 5-1/2%. Another option the Town has is to secure short-term financing in the form of a BAN and pay it down if the Town is awarded the grant that is being sought. Also, the Town can wrap the borrowing with the ambulance corp. building renovation for the future police department location.

Councilman Valentine commented to the lady who spoke during the public hearing about King Tract, that all monies spent on creating and repairing a water district would only be borne by the residents of that neighborhood. He explained that the Town could not apply for grant monies since the Town does not own the system.

Chief Doellinger announced the Kiwanis 9/11 Memorial Service to be held on Friday, September 11, 2015 at Community Park.

Chief Doellinger also announced the Touch-a-Truck event to be held by the Town on Saturday, September 19, 2015 at the Chester Commons Park from 9am to 1pm. Free child safety seat inspections would be held as well as free food, ice cream and give-a-ways. The siren-free hour is from 9-10am.

Chief Doellinger announced the repaving on the bypass by the O.C. Department of Public Works from September 21 – October 12, 2015.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sheri Denes – Creamery Pond Road, Chester, NY

She asked about the status of the parking issue in Sugar Loaf. She asked if the Town could take on the issue separately from the code updates. She noted the problems new businesses face when coming into Sugar Loaf. Supervisor Jamieson said he would propose to do something similar to the Village of Warwick in counting spots. Councilman Valentine added that the current code looks at square footage in determining parking needs. Changes would require a new local law which could take 6 mos. to a year. Attorney Bonacic added that the Town could get the process going.

Walter Popailo announced the fields at the Community Park would be redone after next year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. He added that he would like to hold the block party event again.

Tracy Shuh – Preservation Collective

Ms. Shuh said that changes in the code concerning Sugar Loaf parking were proposed 2 years ago. She asked if someone could be tasked with looking at Warwick's code. She asked if the new zoning committee would include comprehensive plan members. She said they could offer some input for prioritizing and itemizing.

Supervisor Jamieson said he spoke with Alan Sorensen and he is on board. He said he told the Planning Board Chair that he'd like to get this process moving ahead. He added that we need to tighten up the zoning codes and eliminate the gray areas, such as next door neighbors who may have different zoning. It is his goal to make it black and white. He said that sometime in October he would plan a meeting.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Valentine at 7:55pm to enter into an Executive Session on a personnel matter, concerning a possible new hire. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Smith and seconded by Councilman Valentine at 8:10 pm to adjourn the Executive Session. Motion carried 4-0.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to hire Kristin Palmer as a part-time clerk in the Parks and Recreation Department. Motion carried 4-0.

There being no further business brought before the Board, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine at 8:10pm to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala  
Town Clerk