

**TOWN BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 13, 2019  
7:00 PM**

**DRAFT**

Supervisor Valentine opened the meeting at 7:00pm followed by a salute to the flag. Members present: Supervisor Valentine, Councilman Perez\*, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Wensley

Also present: Scott Bonacic, Esq., Town Attorney, Al Fusco, Town Engineer

**TOWN BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Supervisor Valentine commented that the Town Board had 16 applicants that applied for and were interviewed for the vacancy on the Town Board. He said it was an impressive batch of people and at this time, the Board has selected Orlando Perez, and believes he is more than competent to serve in the capacity.

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to appoint Orlando Perez to fill the vacancy of Town Councilperson, for the term ending December 31, 2019.

**VOTE AYES 3: Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

\*Town Clerk Zappala administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Perez. He then took a seat at the dais.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilman Wensley and second by Councilwoman Smith to accept the Town Board Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2019 and January 23, 2019 as presented.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to approve payment of the bills from the following accounts.

GENERAL FUND	\$2,054,493.07
GENERAL - PART TOWN	89,640.83
HIGHWAY – TOWN WIDE	225,375.00
HIGHWAY – OUTSIDE	19,639.67
FIELDCREST WATER	4,298.91
LAKE HILL FARMS WATER	3,581.29
SUGAR LOAF HILLS WATER	3,283.02
SURREY MEADOWS WATER	3,669.10
GARBAGE DISTRICT	45,694.55
WALTON LAKE WATER	10,756.41
LR	18,819.92
S9	4,872.00
SC	536,716.37
SK	16,031.78
SS	125,466.17
TRUST AND AGENCY	5,835.18
Grand Total	\$3,168,173.27

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**DELEGATE THE CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY AS OWN APPOINTING AUTHORITY**

This matter was tabled.

**BDA PROPERTIES PRESENTATION**

Supervisor Valentine read the request received from Jim Dillon with regard to BDA Properties, which appears below in its entirety:

**James A. Dillin, PLS**

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR  
38 SCOTCHTOWN AVENUE  
GOSHEN, NEW YORK 10924  
PHONE (845) 294-9086 FAX (845) 294-3606

January 29, 2019

Robert Valentine, Supervisor  
Town of Chester Town Board  
1786 Kings Highway  
Chester, N.Y. 10918

RE: BDA Properties  
215 Black Meadow Road  
Section 6 Block 1 Lot 102

Dear Supervisor Valentine and Board Members:

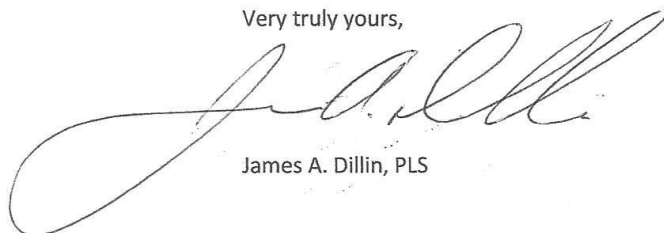
At the December 5, 2018 Planning Board meeting, BDA Properties was given a referral to the Town Board for your consideration and action on an Open Development Area (ODA) at 215 Black Meadow Road.

BDA Properties is proposing a 2 lot subdivision where the rear lot, a Solar Farm, would not have physical Road frontage on Black Meadow Road and would be accessed by an easement across the front lot containing an existing warehouse Use.

We would like to request being placed on the February 13, 2019 Town Board agenda to discuss this application further.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration on this matter.

Very truly yours,



James A. Dillin, PLS

JAD/td  
cc: Scott Bonacic, Esq.  
BDA Properties

Supervisor Valentine invited Mr. Dillon to speak on behalf of BDA Properties.

Mr. Dillon explained that the 23.3 acre property situated on Black meadow Road, in the IP Zone had received approval for a 9,600 sf warehouse in the front of the property on November 2, 2016, now occupied, and the 19 acre solar farm in December 2017, now under construction by Clean Energy. He said the two different uses have created problems with financing, taxes, mortgages, insurance and the like. He added that the leased solar farm, in the back of the property, needs road access, not a right-of-way and an Open Development Area would be required to subdivide the property. He is asking for the Town Board to consider creating the two parcels to enable the limited access for the solar farm. Supervisor Valentine asked if the owner were to keep title. The reply was that it would go to an LLC. Supervisor Valentine asked if there would be any opposition to deed restrictions on the lot. Mr. Dillon's reply was that it would not be opposed. Supervisor Valentine said the matter would be taken up with the Town Attorney and Engineer. He commented that the two lots would probably incur a higher tax bill and the attorney asked if there was a PILOT Agreement in place.

### **PROPERTY INVENTORY AND ACCOUNTING COST RECORD REPORT**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to accept the Property Inventory and Accounting Cost Record Report updated to December 31, 2018 for the Town of Chester as prepared by Industrial Appraisal Company.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

### **STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLAN – MS 4**

Supervisor Valentine explained the recent audit conducted by the DEC. He said the rough draft plan had been sent to DEC and found some deficiencies which will be updated and brought back in newer form, under their guidance. He said the report is very informative and will be made available to the public. He added that illicit discharge is a big topic and if the public sees any pollution to groundwater such as the dumping of motor oil into drains they should report it to the Town Clerk. He said there is information available at Town Hall. Supervisor Valentine announced the MS4 Officers for the Town are Al Fusco and Anthony LaSpina.

### **TOWN HISTORIAN ANNUAL REPORT**

Supervisor Valentine read the report as submitted by Historian Clifton Patrick which appears in its entirety.

Clifton Patrick  
TownofChester Historian  
119 Brookside Ave  
Chester, NY 10918  
Phone/fax 845-469-7645  
email: [historian@thetownofchester.org](mailto:historian@thetownofchester.org)

Dear Supervisor Valentine and Board Members of the Town of Chester:

Below, please find a few highlights of activities conducted through this office in 2018 to promote the town's history, to educate our residents, students and public about our past, and to help preserve the record of our forbearers.

**Additional distribution:** Linda Zappala, Chester Town Clerk; Devin Lander, New York State Historian, Albany; Johanna Yaun, Orange County Historian, Goshen

### **Annual Report 2018**

**Number of phone/email/mail inquiries and responses:** 259+

#### **Exhibits:**

Assisted in the creation of "*Celebrating the Past Twenty Years of Chester*" exhibit for the Chester Historical Society's 1915 Erie Station, Chester's Local History Museum. The exhibit ran May through October.

#### **Public Lectures/Presentations:**

"A Rare Glimpse of the Enslavement of Indians In Orange County, New York" with Ginny Privitar for the Warwick

Library. March 4, 2018. 24 attended.

"A Rare Glimpse of the Enslavement of Indians In Orange County, New York" with Ginny Privitar at Elant in Goshen. April 8, 2018. 41 attended.

### **Historical Research:**

- Researched Cultural Resource Management inquiries for four projects.
  - Researched numerous inquiries from the general public, authors, and agencies on subjects including: burial grounds/cemeteries; Chester Lumber baseball field; Chester National Bank's "Mobile Bank"; Chester Volunteer Guard; Civil War vets; closest active train station; colonial period taverns; Dairies and their milk bottles; District No. 4 Schoolhouse (Oxford); Erie Railroad Stations; early maps of Chester; first person accounts; genealogical; historical businesses; historical designations; impact of developments on archeological sites; Lawrence Creamery & Cheese factory; Lord Blacksmith shop; local ghost stories; locations described in old deeds; Marvin farm, Elihu Marvin house, log cabin and Helme cemetery on Camp Laguardia grounds; mining; nineteenth century Chinese in our area; origins for the name of Chester; Paleo Indian rock shelters; Peter Townsend home and iron business; Placemaking Tour of Chester (which was postponed due to weather); Revolutionary powder mill; Revolutionary War vets; RR overpasses; "Seely's American Star," a trotter; Spanish flu epidemic; structure histories; Town of Chester Flag; various properties; WWI vets; yellow fever in the Hudson Valley; etc.
- Assisted several authors in locating sources of information and referred several of them to people knowledgeable about their subjects.

### **Historical Events/Celebrations:**

- Supported and advised Aaron Lefkowitz on his Veteran's Day Ceremonies presentation.
- Co-host with the Chester Historical Society: "Mules, Mountains & the Movies" by Bob McCue, at the 1915 Erie Station, August 12, 2018.

### **Historic Preservation Projects:**

- Preserved records held by the Chester Historical Society, Orange County Historical Society and a family archive dating from the early 1800s to the mid-1900s.
- Served on Orange County Historian's Advisory Committee.

### **Conferences, Continuing Education and Workshops Attended:**

- "Practical Nuts & Bolts Strategies: Day-to-Day Protection of Small Museums" webinar, January 16th, 2018.
- "Records Appraisal for Records Managers" webinar, January 31, 2018.
- "Introduction to Historical Records for Local Governments" webinar, March 7, 2018.
- Association of Public Historians of New York State (APHNYS) Region 3 Meeting, April 20th, 2018, Spain Cornerstone Park Building, 1 Fair St, Carmel, NY.
- "Hidden Treasures of the Hudson Valley" presentation by Anthony P. Musso, at Orange County Historical Society, Headquarters, Arden NY, May 5, 2018.
- HRVH Users Group meeting: migration of digital collections to NY Heritage, Southeastern NY Library Resources Council, 21 S. Elting Corners Rd., Highland, NY 12528, September 6, 2018.
- "The Comprehensive Plan & Government Efficiency" webinar, December 13, 2018.

### **Other:**

- Lobbied for reasonable, clear and concise laws, regulations and rules for records custodians concerning historical records containing personally identifiable information.
- Provided feedback to consultant Alan Sorenson on proposed Town of Chester Zoning Changes and Village of Chester Comprehensive Plan.
- Reviewed proposed changes to Village of Chester Code, sending corrections and suggestions to Building Department.
- Maintained databases of Chester's history including:
  - CHS Collection Database. 16,715 items. (376 added in 2018)
  - Biographical notes: 34,498 people (1,057 added in 2018)
  - 66 Historic Chester Photographers. (1 added in 2018)
  - Chester Trade names/companies: 2,471 (net 2 reduced in 2018, reconciled discrepancies)
  - Chester Servicemen & Women: 842 (net 52 reduced in 2018, reconciled discrepancies)

**Summary of time devoted to Town of Chester Historian duties in 2018:**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Time (hours)</b>
Administrative	20
Commemorations, Create Exhibits	13
Continuing Education/Conferences & preparation/followup	68
Advisory Services	28
Cultural Resource inventory	6
History Promotion	18
Inquiries, Author	45
Inquiries - CRM	3
Inquiries, general public	76
Inquiries, students/teachers	4
Meetings - Municipal	60
Meetings, other	6
Meetings - Planning Boards	6
Presentation	6
Presentation preparation	7
Preserve Records	257
Projects	98
<b>Total (hours)</b>	<b>721</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Clifton Patrick, Town of Chester Historian

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – JANUARY 2019**

Supervisor Valentine read the Police Department Reports which follow in their entirety:

**TO: Supervisor Robert Valentine**  
**FROM: Chief Daniel Doellinger** *DM*  
**DATE: February 8, 2019**  
**RE: Monthly Report for Animal Control for January 2019**

---

During the month of January 2019, the Town of Chester Police Department responded to 13 animal complaints and investigated 3 motor vehicle accidents involving deer. A breakdown of the complaints for the month is included below:

- 4 of the calls for service were for injured or deceased deer
- 4 of the calls for service were for loose, lost or found dogs
- 3 of the calls for service were for welfare checks on dogs
- 1 of the calls for service was for a lost cat
- 1 of the calls for service was for a sick raccoon

**Warwick Valley Humane Society**

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

**WARWICK VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY  
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE TOWN OF CHESTER  
MONTH: JANUARY 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>11</u>	2 Police, 9 other
Number of times ACO dispatched to calls:	<u>2</u>	Welfare checks on outside dogs: Akita Central Asian Shepherd
Number of dogs impounded by ACO:	<u>3</u>	1/17/19-Court ordered seizure – 2 small dogs, no shelter 47 Joseph Ct. #11964,19965 1/25/19-stray lab Glenmere Road #19977
Number of dogs impounded by police:	<u>1</u>	#19979 stray- Sunset Ridge
Number of dogs returned to owner:	<u>4</u>	#19964,19965,19977,19979
Number of after hour call-outs:	<u>0</u>	
Amount of impoundment fees collected:	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	#19964,19965,19977,19979
Amount of license fees collected:	<u>\$ 20.00</u>	#19977
Amount of impoundment fees paid to Town:	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	Ck#5559
Amount of license fees paid to Town:	<u>\$ 20.00</u>	Ck. #5560
Number of hours of enumeration:	<u>5.75 hrs.</u>	2.25 hrs. owed for January 2019
Number of bite reports received:	<u>0</u>	
Number of appearance tickets issued:	<u>0</u>	
Number of unlicensed dogs:		One impounded stray + 11 various notices to comply
Status of unlicensed dogs:		One dog licensed upon redemption,
Number of Chester cats admitted to shelter:	<u>0</u>	

---

Location of enumeration: Preparation of 11 various Notices to Comply and summons, delivery of 4 Notices to Comply

Other: ACO responded to Officer Perez concerning Akita regarding adequate outdoor shelter  
ACO responded to request by Chester Police Officer to check on adequate shelter for dog on Bull Mill Road, dog is a Central Asian Shepherd, dog house compliant, owner to license once dog is vaccinated against rabies.

**TO: SUPERVISOR ROBERT VALENTINE**  
**FROM: CHIEF DANIEL DOELLINGER**   
**DATE: February 12, 2019**  
**RE: Report of Police Department for January 2019**

---

During the month of January, 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 January, the police department responded to **293 calls for service**. Officers patrolled for **12,858 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 **23 arrests** during the month. A summary of the arrests is as follows:

- 8 arrests for Vehicle and Traffic Law misdemeanors
- 6 arrests on outstanding warrants
- 2 arrests for Unlawful Possession of Marihuana
- 2 arrests for Emergency Admission of the Mentally Ill
- 2 arrests for Dog at Large
- 1 arrest for Operating a MV without a Required Ignition Interlock Device
- 1 arrest for Bail Jumping in the third degree
- 1 arrest for Criminal Contempt in the second degree
- 1 arrest for Soliciting without a Permit

*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:

- 28 medical calls
- 23 reports of suspicious conditions, people and/or vehicles
- 16 residential & commercial alarms
- 13 animal complaints
- 5 domestic disputes, criminal contempts or family court matters
  
- 2 motor vehicle crashes with injuries
- 9 motor vehicle crashes without injuries
- 3 motor vehicle crashes involving deer

Officers also issued **197 uniform traffic tickets** during the month.

## MIDNIGHT SHIFT

67 Vehicle & Traffic Stops  
33 UTTs Issued  
89 Calls for Service  
5 Arrests

## SEX OFFENDERS

There were no changes to our registered sex offenders living in town in January.

LEVEL	BEGINNING OF MONTH	END OF MONTH
1	3	3
2	1	1
3	0	0
TOTAL	4	4

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

During the month, Town of Chester police officers assisted members of the community in many ways.

Officers completed **70 house security checks** and **1026 business security checks**.

There were three car seat checks completed at the station in January. Officers Bird, Weinstein and Stack continue to remain available for child passenger safety seat checks and installations.

Officer Perez was assigned as the School Resource Officer in the Chester schools for one day a week beginning in January.

Officer Monsees contacted all of the local Scout leaders and reminded them of what programs we can provide for them.

## TRAINING

All officers attended training on January 17<sup>th</sup> in our training room for the annual Use of Force refresher training.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Chief Doellinger attended a Breaking the Cycle event at the Bruderhof's Mount Academy where the keynote speaker was NYPD Commissioner O'Neill.

Officers completed foot patrols during JV and Varsity basketball games at the Chester Academy on several days in January.

Officer Michael Dunlop continued his field training in January.

---

## SCHEDULING

There were 199.75 hours of overtime paid in January.

Shift Coverage	152.5
Monthly Training	22.5
Pickup from 1033 program in Chambersburg	9
Late Calls/Arrests	5.75
Staff Meeting	5
Police Traffic Services Grant	2
Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation	1
Assist Woodbury PD at MWMS	1
Investigations	0.5
Court	0.5

Part-time police officers were used to fill 199 hours of shift coverage (190 regular hours and 9 overtime hours).

---

### WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2019

Supervisor Valentine reported that the water department has processed and distributed 8,508,128 gallons of water for the month of January within the six districts of the Town. Supervisor Valentine read the detail of the report and advised that if there is an increase in water district taxes, that money is used to repair and replace water main and associated costs.

### BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2019

Supervisor Valentine reported Building Department receipts totaled \$7,290 for the month of January for the following:

**Building Permits – 12 Miscellaneous**  
**Certificate of Occupancies – 4 – Single Family Residences**  
**Municipal Searches – 12**  
**Letters – 6 – Fire Inspection Letters**

### EDUCATION REQUESTS

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to approve the attendance of Officer Perez to the Basic School Threat Assessment and Response Methodologies Course for School Resource Officers. The course provides general awareness of the fundamentals of school threat assessment and management. It will be held at the State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany on February 19th and 20th. There is no fee for the course or the lodging.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilman Wensley and second by Councilwoman Smith to approve the attendance of Chief Doellinger, Sgt. Vitale and Officer Monsees to Controlled Party Dispersal Training. The course will be held on February 20<sup>th</sup> in Goshen. Controlled Party Dispersal is an effective law enforcement strategy to combat underage drinking by preventing parties and safely dispersing participants. The training attempts to enhance the knowledge of law enforcement and the community at large in understanding the dramatic shift of perception about alcohol consumption. There is no fee for the course.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to approve the attendance of

Sgt. D'Agness to the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Program Officer Safety and Awareness Training. The course objective is to assist law enforcement managers, trainers and personnel in the identification of training issues for the purpose of preventing deaths and/or serious injuries of law enforcement personnel. It will be held in Rockland County on February 21<sup>st</sup>. There is no fee for the course.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilman Wensley and second by Councilwoman Smith to approve the attendance of Det. Slaughter to the Hate Crimes Investigation Training Seminar hosted by the NY State Police. It will be held in Albany on March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The training will include presentations by the NY State Police on the definitions, elements and reporting of hate crimes, computer and digital investigations and evidence handling. The seminar will also feature presentations by experts from the Anti-Defamation League on hate crime laws and case studies, as well as extremist groups, the NYS Division of Human Rights and the Queens District Attorney's Office Gang Violence and Hate Crimes Bureau. There is no fee for the course. One night's lodging will be required at the rate of \$113 per night.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to approve the attendance of Nicole Griffin to the Edmunds Regional User Group Conference on March 13 in Albany, New York. The cost to include mileage and toll reimbursement.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to approve the attendance of Tanya McPhee to the Edmunds Regional User Group Conference on March 13 in Albany, New York. The cost to include mileage and toll reimbursement.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

**ON A MOTION OFFERED BY** Councilman Wensley second by Councilwoman Smith to amend the prior motion to approve the attendance of Sharon Conklin, and Tanya McPhee to the Edmunds Regional User Group Conference on March 13 in Albany, New York. The cost to include mileage and toll reimbursement.

**VOTE AYES 4: Perez, Smith, Valentine, Wensley**

**ADOPTED**

### **RESIGNATION**

Supervisor Valentine accepted the letter of resignation from Police Officer Laura Gannon, effective February 7, 2019.

### **FRONTIER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT**

Attorney Bonacic explained that Frontier is offering cable services as a competitor. He said after several versions, back and forth, the Board may consider adopting the following resolution authorizing the signing of the most recent version of the franchise agreement.

#### **TOWN OF CHESTER RESOLUTION**

**Grant a Franchise to Frontier Communications of New York, Inc. to Provide Cable Services;  
Authorization to Sign Franchise Agreement  
Introduced by: Councilwoman Smith**

**Seconded by: Councilman Wensley**

**Dated: February 13, 2019**

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, County of Orange, State of New York, held at the Town Hall on the 13th day of February, 2019;

**WHEREAS**, Frontier Communications of New York, Inc. ("Frontier") has submitted an application to the Town of Chester ("Municipality") for a cable franchise to serve portions of the Town of Chester; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was held with respect to said application for the Town Board of the Town of Chester on July 11, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has the requisite authority to grant such franchise; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality after full consideration of the application and the results aforementioned Public Hearing, finds that Frontier has the appropriate character, financial condition, and technical ability to operate as a franchise within the Municipality and that the grant to Frontier of the subject franchise is in the best interests of the Municipal community; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Frontier is granted a franchise to provide cable services within the Municipality or as more particularly set forth in the annexed Franchise Agreement and that the Supervisor of the Municipality is authorized on behalf of the Town to enter into and sign the annexed Franchise Agreement.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Robert Valentine	AYE
Councilperson, Cindy Smith	AYE
Councilperson, Ryan Wensley	AYE
Councilperson, Orlando Perez	AYE

Vote: Resolution carried by vote of 4 to 0.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Valentine read the following email received from Representative Collin Schmitt regarding AIM Funding cuts. The Town is set to lose \$30,000.

Dear Local Officials:

I wanted to give you an update regarding Governor Cuomo's proposed AIM funding cuts.

As ranking member of the Assembly Local Governments Committee, I immediately sent a letter to the Governor and Legislative Leaders requesting full restoration of the aid when the cuts were first announced.

We also joined together at New Windsor town hall for a press conference to demand full restoration and explain to the Governor and the public the deep impact these cuts would have on taxpayers if not fully restored.

Yesterday, the local government's budget hearing was held in Albany. I participated in the hearing where a strong focus was on the restoration of the Governors AIM cuts.

Both the Association of Towns and Association of Counties delivered critical testimony in favor of full restoration and I am happy to report they were met with bipartisan support from all corners of the state.

Our efforts have triggered a direct response from the Governor who stated yesterday that he will take a "second look" at the AIM cuts.

While this is not the final indication of success, it does show all of our efforts are producing results and moving things in the

right direction.

My suggestion is that you continue to anticipate the funding will be cut until the final budget is passed but all recent developments have been positive.

I will continue to advocate for full restoration of AIM funding and will keep you posted as new developments arise.

Please contact me and my staff at any time with any questions on this or any matter.

Sincerely,  
Colin Schmitt  
Member of Assembly  
99<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Valentine announced the upcoming Public Hearing on Orange County Comprehensive Plan Update and Transportation, which follows in its entirety.

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ORANGE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CORE DOCUMENT UPDATE AND NEW ADDITIONAL CHAPTER 6: TRANSPORTATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Orange County Legislature will hold two Public Hearings regarding updates to the Orange County Comprehensive Plan. The two public hearing dates are as follows:

February 20, 2019 meeting will be held in Legislative Chambers, Orange County Government Center, 255 Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York at 5:00 PM; and

February 27, 2019 meeting will be held at OCCC-Newburgh Campus at 3:00 PM; alternative date/snowdate March 13, 2019 at 3:00 PM at OCCC-Newburgh Campus.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that copies of said Comprehensive Plans (Core Document Update and Chapter 6: Transportation) are available at the Office of the Clerk of said County Legislature, 255 Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, in the Orange County Government Center, Goshen, New York, where they may be inspected by any interested person during usual business hours.

Copies of the plans are also available for inspection at:

- The Office of the Orange County Department of Planning, 124 Main Street (1887 Building), Goshen, NY 10924
- A copy of the comprehensive plan will be deposited with each reference desk of every library in the County.
- The Orange County Website: <https://www.orangecountygov.com/376/Orange-County-Plans- Documents>
- Copies of public comments to date may also be found on the website.

### **2019 COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE PUBLIC OUTREACH TO DATE**

The County Planning Department, in cooperation with the County Planning Board, has completed significant public outreach to date. This outreach – summarized as follows – was focused on:

- Use of coUrbanize social media tool and related digital and in person outreach.
- A public hearing on a first draft of the proposed Update, held Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at the County Emergency Management Center in Goshen.
- An open comment period on the first draft of the proposed Update, as available online and at the offices of the Planning Department. That comment period closed Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

These comments have been reviewed by staff, with the County Planning Board, and when relevant have been incorporated into the Final Draft Plan Update provided to the Legislature for review and adoption.

**coUrbanize –**

To help determine the focus of this new Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Department led public outreach to gauge what issues were most important to County residents. Outreach included discussions with the Orange County Planning Board, three public meetings held throughout the County, press releases, and an outreach project facilitated by coUrbanize. The last-mentioned outreach technique was especially helpful in reaching a wide audience because it was based on an interactive website where people were able to respond to questions posed on the site. The site was linked to outdoor signs the Department installed throughout the County, each of which posed a question and asked pedestrians to text their answer to a specific phone number; these questions asked, “Why do you ride public transit?” and “What housing options does your community need?” among others. Those answers would also be posted on the website automatically. All answers were pinned to a map on the coUrbanize site. In total, this generated 425 comments from 64 users, and 199 responses from County Planning.

Outreach has continued for this process by way of a Facebook page created specifically for this project. Although public engagement on this page has been very sparse, it offers another way for ongoing community outreach, and another way for the public to contact us with other concerns.

CoUrbanize users typically commented around a few major themes:

- Traffic issues around the Harriman/Monroe area and Newburgh area, but transportation related projects such as increased ferry service, better commuter train service, and train connections to Stewart Airport were also brought up frequently. Better/more convenient public transportation and a county-wide bus network were big topics of conversation.
- The desire for more trail connections to the Heritage Trail, particularly North- South connections, and the creation of a county-wide trail network.
- Nonmotorized transportation in general was commented on frequently, with people wanting more opportunities for biking/walking and a focus on pedestrian safety and sidewalks.
- Open space protection and preserving the character of the County were common topics.
- There was a big discussion on economic development in towns and villages across the County, but revitalization in Newburgh and Port Jervis were popular.
- Arts and culture were a hot topic, with many areas interested in more museums and performing arts/concert venues.

The coUrbanize users focused so strongly on the transportation and transit concerns that the County determined there was an immediate need for a Transportation Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan to address the existing concerns and the needs of future users of the transportation network. Some of these issues are addressed within this Plan, while others can be addressed through separate processes, by other agencies, or in future Plan updates.

### **Orange County Planning Board Public Hearing 12/11/18 -**

Summary of the Orange County Planning Board public hearing, including attendance, may be found at <https://www.orangecountygov.com/376/Orange-County-Plans-Documents>

### **Other Public Comments –**

Three (3) written public comments were received by the Department prior to closing of comment period, January 2, 2019. Two (2) comments were from individuals offering a range of general and specific suggestions. The third set of comments was made on behalf of a set of committees of the Orange County Citizens Foundation. All comments are on file with the Department, and all comments were reviewed and used towards final edits to the Final Draft Plan Update provided to the Legislature.

Supervisor Valentine announced the Kiwanis Annual Fish and Chips dinner on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm at the Chester Academy. Tickets can be purchased for \$16. Contact Kiwanis at 800-8622 or [kiwanisclubofchester.com](http://kiwanisclubofchester.com).

### **TOWN BOARD COMMENTS**

Councilman Perez had no comments this evening.

Councilwoman Smith welcomed Orlando as the best choice for the Town Board. She discussed having the Recreation Department Policy updated for the next meeting. She said there are many well attended events happening including line dancing and the upcoming casino trip on the 28<sup>th</sup> with only 4 seats left to fill. Councilwoman Smith said that 191 Lehigh has removed the sheds as requested and is on schedule to be in compliance.

Supervisor Valentine explained that the dumpster located at the old Police Department is there to scrap surplus furnishings to ready the space for remodeling into a conference room and offices.

Councilman Wensley welcomed Orlando to the Town Board and thanked all the candidates. He said the Town's request for interest was well received.

Engineer Al Fusco commented that the presentation made to the DEC worked out well.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Vincent Finizia, 28 Pewter Circle, Chester, asked about the water main issues at Pewter Circle. Supervisor Valentine explained that the saddles in the development are made of cast iron and stainless steel. He said something corrosive has broken down the cast iron causing the water valves to get loose and pump water. He added that age also has a part. Currently, code calls for all stainless steel but it is unclear if it was code at the time the development was built.

Steven Keahon, 8 June Road, Chester, congratulated Councilman Perez. He added that the Town Board should put deed restrictions in place before approving the BDA request due to the LLC formation.

Tracy Shuh, 94 Pickerel Road, Chester, thanked the Board for announcing the County Public Hearing as it relates to and affects the Town. She asked for clarification on the BDA application for an ODA. It was explained that the formation is under 280A of State law. Ms. Shuh commented that a public hearing on the Social Media Local Law was announced on January 23, 2019 for this night. She asked about the Greens of Chester stormwater runoff and the possibility of posting the DEC officer contact info. She addressed the Engineer's letter of December 31 citing deficiencies and asked how long they had to comply. Engineer Fusco said the site has been stabilized with 6-12 inches of hay to the DEC's satisfaction. He said the site would be re-inspected next week to see silt fence repair after the thaw. He suggested stronger action could be taken if not in compliance. Ms. Shuh commented on the building permit dispute on size of units. She noted the Findings Statement that spoke to affordable housing, but thought bigger units would not be more affordable. She said they need to stick to the findings or have new studies. She noted water tests need to be done before permits issued to meet water quantity needs. She questioned the HOA documentation as a condition of approval as the Town Attorney was to be able to review before it goes to the Attorney General.

Reuben Estrada commented that he was happy for Orlando Perez as he believed he is the first Latino named to the Town Board.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ON A MOTION BY** Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Wensley to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm, there being no further business brought before the Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala  
Town Clerk  
2019-2-13