

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 23, 2022
7:00 PM**

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

Also present: Scott Bonacic, Town Attorney, Fusco Engineering, Town Engineer

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Larry Dysinger, Odyssey Drive, suggested the use of the SLPAC property for the Farmer's Market. Councilwoman Smith replied that it might interfere with other events being held there. He asked for more details on the proposed Short-term Rental law. Larry asked the status of the noise ordinance proposed revisions.

Donna Sansone, Derose Lane, voiced her complaint about the noise levels coming from the Tin Barn Brewery. She said the excessive noise limits her quality of life as it vibrates her home and she can hear the music for 3-6 hours and cannot sit outside. She said the outdoor events and two-story deck were not part of the approved plan.

Bill Sabella, Derose Lane, echoed Ms. Sansone's comments. He voiced concern about the overflow parking onto Derose Lane and the crossing hazard. He said the original agreement was not to have outside festivals and inside by occasion only, and asked if there was any way to mitigate the issues.

Larry Dysinger, said as Planning Board member, 62 parking spaces were approved in 2019 and now there is three times the parking. He noted a building permit was issued in 2021 for the upper deck, classified as a field change. It was his personal opinion that it should have gone back to the Planning Board.

Tom Becker provided the Water Administrator's Report.

The new well was drilled last week to a depth of 650 Ft and produced only 10 GPM, which is very disappointing for the Walton Lake Estates Water District. He reached out to the Orange County Department of Health about possibly moving closer to the Palisades Interstate Park property but was told we must maintain the 100ft. distance. He spoke with Tom Cusack to discuss alternatives for a back-up well as he would like to abandon the high-sodium well in WLEWD.

He is getting pricing from Delfino Electric and Brian Galin on new down-facing motion-detection lighting at some of our water facilities, namely Surrey Meadows, Lake Hill Farms and Sugar Loaf Hills.

He met with Livy at the Greens of Chester to go over aspects of water meter installation with valves being installed above & below meters, a copper wire from the water service line inside the house to a point outside for direct connection for marking out water lines in the future.

The PFOS testing was done on the e-coli well at Sugar Loaf and depending on the outcome, we may move to camera inspection to determine if it was properly developed. Supervisor Valentine asked Tom to address Ms. Cuadros' concerns. Tom explained that the e-coli well was drilled in 1988 and it has now been determined that it may need correction to be used more in the future or possibly drill for a new well which would require DEC approval. Supervisor Valentine said we have been looking for grants over the years for this our newest water system. Tom added that the County will have to assess whether it has both the quality and quantity sufficient for the addition of the Broccoli Patch project and the Hamlet expansion. Councilman Holdridge asked if the well is treated. Tom said a redundancy in chlorination is used as extra precaution but the well is permitted for use by the Department of Health.

Lydia Cuadros asked if a well could be drilled in another location in Sugar Loaf. The Supervisor replied there is no reason for concern, but the Town is pursuing improvements.

ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to accept the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting of March 9, 2022 as presented by Town Clerk Zappala.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND (LGRMIF) GRANT

Supervisor Valentine announced a grant in the amount of \$36,894 has been submitted through the NYS Archives. The project includes the remodeling of an existing space in the lower level of Town Hall to create a fire-rated records archive vault to house maps and files for long-term storage. Shelving and map file cabinets to accommodate approximately 76 cu.ft. of documents and over 700 maps are also included.

SEASONAL PARK EMPLOYEES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Courtenay and second by Councilman Ardisana to approve the hire of Matt Popailo and Steven Smith as seasonal employees at a rate of \$15 p/hour.

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

ADOPTED

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2022, A LOCAL LAW ADDING CHAPTER 77A ENTITLED “SHORT-TERM RENTALS” TO THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER

Supervisor Valentine introduced the following local law he said was drafted by the Building Inspector based on other local codes with input by the Town Board and proper form by the Town Attorney.

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

Section 1. Title

This Local Law shall be referred to as, “A Local Law Adding Chapter 77A, Entitled, “Short-Term Rentals”, to the Town Code of the Town of Chester.

Section 2. Purpose and Legislative Intent

Due to the increase in tourism over the past years in the Town of Chester and adjacent local areas, there has been an increase in the number of property owners renting to tourists on a short-term basis. Many property owners in the Town of Chester list their properties as short-term rentals on web-based booking sites such as Airbnb or VBRO. These short-term rentals offer many benefits to property owners and residents in the Town of Chester, but also have the potential create health, safety and quality of life detriments to the community. Accordingly, the purpose and legislative intent of this local law is to regulate the use and safety of these short-term rentals so as to further secure and promote the public health, comfort, welfare, safety and peace for residents of the Town of Chester.

Section 3. Authority

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to Article 16 of the New York State Town Law, which expressly grants the Town Board of the Town of Chester authority to adopt local laws for the purposes of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the Town of Chester and its residents. This Local Law is further adopted pursuant to New York Municipal Home Rule Law Article 2, Section 10, which grants the Town Board of the Town of Chester the power to protect and enhance the physical environment of the Town of Chester.

Section 4. Short-Term Rentals

Chapter 77A, entitled “Short-Term Rentals” is hereby added to the Town Code of the Town of Chester, to read as follows:

§77A-1. Title.

This Local Law shall be referred to as, “A Local Law Adding Chapter 77A, Entitled, “Short-Term Rentals”, to the Town Code of the Town of Chester.

§77A-2. Purpose and Legislative Intent.

Due to the increase in tourism over the past years in the Town of Chester and adjacent local areas, there has been an increase in the number of property owners renting to tourists on a short-term basis. Many property owners in the Town of Chester list their properties as short-term rentals on web-based booking sites such as Airbnb or VBRO. These short-term rentals offer many benefits to property owners and residents in the Town of Chester, but also have the potential create health, safety and quality of life detriments to the community. Accordingly, the purpose and legislative intent of this local law is to regulate the use and safety of these short-term rentals so as to further secure and promote the public health, comfort, welfare, safety and peace for residents of the Town of Chester.

§77A-3. Authority.

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to Article 16 of the New York State Town Law, which expressly grants the Town Board of the Town of Chester authority to adopt local laws for the purposes of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the Town of Chester and its residents. This Local Law is further adopted pursuant to New York Municipal Home Rule Law Article 2, Section 10, which grants the Town Board of the Town of Chester the power to protect and enhance the physical environment of the Town of Chester.

§77A-4. Definitions.

All of the terminology and definitions contained in this Chapter which relate to the nature of sound and the mechanical detection and recordation of sound are in conformance with the terminology of the American National Standards Institute or its successor body. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

OWNER-OCCUPIED PROPERTY

Property which the record owner maintains as his or her domicile.

RESIDENT AGENT

An authorized representative of a property owner or landlord who resides within the designated boundaries of Orange County as defined at the time of the issuance of the permit and all subsequent permit renewals and who shall be contacted for emergencies or other matters that may arise at the short-term rental property. A resident agent must be an individual permit, not a corporation, limited liability company or similar entity.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL

Offering any residential dwelling, or space therein, to persons in exchange for a fee or compensation, whether monetary or otherwise, for a period of less than thirty (30) days, including, but not limited to, rentals provided by such companies as Airbnb and VRBO. Excluded from this definition are month-to-month tenancies, bed and breakfasts, and hotels and inns which have valid and approved site plans from the Town of Chester Planning Board.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL PERMIT

A permit granted by the Town Building Department for each use of property for short-term rentals.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTY

Any real property which is offered and/or rented for short-term.

§77A-5. Regulation of Short-Term Rental Properties.

- (A) Short-Term Rentals shall only be permitted in the SR-1, SR-2, LB-SL, and AR-3 residential zones in the Town. Any short-term rental located within the LB and AI zones that meets all other criteria provided for in this Chapter, and was in existence as of the date of adoption of this Local Law, may continue to operate provided, however, that such short-term rental be registered with the Town of Chester Building Department within 30 days of the effective date of this Local Law.

- (B) Only single-family and legal, owner-occupied two-family dwellings or a mixed-use structure with valid certificate of occupancy may be used as a short-term rental property.
- (C) Orange County Hotel and Motel Occupancy Tax. All short-term rentals shall comply with the Orange County Hotel and Motel Occupancy Tax (Local Law No. 13 of 2009). An operator of a hotel or motel may be responsible for the collection of tax on occupancy of hotel or motel room rentals. Included in the definition of Hotel/Motel rooms are short-term and/or vacation rentals and properties typically listed on sites such as Airbnb and VRBO.
- (D) In the event that a property being used as a short-term rental is located in a development that has an HOA (Home Owners Association), written consent from the established HOA must be submitted with the permit application.
- (E) All short-term rental properties must be registered with the Town of Chester Building Department within 30 days of the effective date of this article and/or prior to the premises being used as a short-term rental. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to register any short-term rental property as required by this Chapter. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of these regulations and is subject to the penalties set forth herein.
- (F) Clear signage is required to be posted within the short-term rental property to ensure the tenants, guests and invitees understand the local ordinances, occupancy limits, parking and garbage rules and have the number of the local contact.
- (G) Property owner is required to maintain a guest registry with contact information and is to be made available to the Town if/when requested.
- (H) No Additional parking spaces may be added or constructed between the primary residential structure and the street.
- (I) The following terms and conditions shall apply to all short-term rentals:
 1. No illegal conduct shall be carried on at the short-term rental property by the property owner, rental tenants, guests or invitees.
 2. A tenant of the short-term rental is prohibited from subleasing or other licensing the use or occupancy of any portion of the short-term rental property.
 3. The property owner and/or resident agent shall make all tenants aware of the Town's noise ordinance. Any conduct in conflict with this ordinance or which is unreasonable under the circumstances and which disturbs the health, safety, peace, or comfort of the neighborhood or which creates a public nuisance is prohibited.
 4. All garbage, rubbish and/or recyclables shall be stored and placed by the curb on designated removal days consistent with the Town Code and shall not be left stored in public view unless contained within proper containers.
 5. No trailers, recreation vehicles, campers, caravans or motor homes to be used as a short-term rental.
 6. The Building Inspector has the right to determine if and when the property would require fencing or privacy landscaping.

§77A-6. Registration of Short-Term Rental Properties.

- (A) It shall be a violation of this Chapter to offer or engage in short-term rentals unless the rental property has been registered with, and rental permit is obtained from, the Town of Chester Building Department as provided in this section within 30 days of the effective date of this chapter.
- (B) The registration of short-term rental property shall be accomplished by submitting a completed registration application on a form promulgated by the Town Building Department in accordance with the provisions of this section. Such form shall contain a minimum of the following information:
1. The name, address, telephone number and email address of the record owner of the property and any designated resident agency they may designate;
 2. The street address and Tax Map Number of the rental property;
 3. The total number of bedrooms in the rental property.
 4. Applicable overnight and daytime occupancy limit of the short-term rental;
 5. If the short-term rental property is not served by municipal water and sewer, proof shall be provided that the onsite utilities have been properly maintained and are in conformance with all applicable standards; and
 6. The permit application shall be accompanied by proof of liability insurance for the property with policy limits no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- (C) Upon submission of an application for as short-term rental permit, the property owner shall contact the Building Inspector to schedule an inspection and pay to the Town a permit fee, as prescribed in the Town's schedule of fees. The Building Inspector shall then conduct an inspection of the short-term rental property to determine whether it complies with the Town Code and all applicable New York State laws, rules, regulations, codes and ordinances, and to verify the occupancy limits of the structure.
- (D) Upon completion of an inspection of the short-term rental property and ascertaining that the property meets the Town Code's requirements, the Building Inspector shall issue a registration for the property as a short-term rental and the property will then be eligible to apply for as short-term rental permit.
- (E) Registration for short-term rentals shall remain in effect as long as there is no change in the record owner of the short-term rental property. Upon a change in ownership, the new owners of the short-term rental property shall be required to once again register it before offering it for short-term rentals.
- (F) In the event that the Building Inspector denies an application to register short-term rental property, the property owner may appeal the denial to the Town Board within thirty (30) days of issuance of notice of the denial to the property owner.
- (G) Short-term rental registration may not be transferred to any other person or property or used by anyone other than the person and property to whom it was issued.
- (H) In the event that there is any change in the information provided by a property owner in his application for a short-term rental registration, he/she shall advise the Town Building Department in writing of such change no later than forty-eight (48) hours after such occurrence. Failure to advise the Building Department of a change in the information provided by the property owner in his application shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

§77A-7. Short-Term Rental Permits.

- (A) Official notification for each instance a short-term rental property is rented must be made to the Town of Chester no less than 24 hours prior, and no more than 30 days prior to each use of the short-term rental property for as a short-term rental. Notification may be made via the Town's website on designated forms or can be made in person simultaneously with applications to register short-term rental property on a form promulgated by the Town of Chester Building Department.

- (B) The Building Inspector may deny an application for short-term rental permit if the application is incomplete or the property otherwise fails to meet the criteria for grant of a short-term rental permit.
- (C) Short-term rental permits and inspections must be renewed every year.

§77A-8. Suspension or Revocation of Short-Rental Rental Rights.

- (A) It is the responsibility of the property owner to comply with all terms and provisions of this Article and to ensure that short-term rental tenants, guests and invitees comply with this Article and the terms and conditions of the rental permit. Any failure of rental tenants, guests and invitees to comply with this Article and the terms and conditions of the short-term rental permit shall be attributed to the failure of the property owner to discharge his or her responsibility to ensure such compliance.
- (B) Upon receipt of a complaint or upon his/her own initiative, the Building Inspector may investigate any property for failure to comply with the terms of this Article.
- (C) If upon investigation, the Building Inspector determines that a violation of this chapter and/or of the terms and conditions of a short-term rental permit has occurred on the rental property, he/she shall issue a written notice of the violation of the property owner and shall provide a copy of the same to the Town Board.
- (D) The Building Inspector may also issue a notice of suspension if it is determined any of the information contained within the permit application is false or if the short-term rental property is found at any time to be in violation of the NYS Building Code or other aspect of the Town Code.
- (E) Revocation and suspension notices shall be in writing shall identify the property shall specify the violation or remedial action to be taken and shall provide that said violation must be corrected within 10 days from the receipt of said violations unless otherwise extended by the Building Inspector. The property owner or resident agent shall take the remedial action prescribed or may file a written notice of appeal received by hand delivery or certified mail by the end of the identified period of remediation. The revocation or suspension of the short-term rental shall be stayed pending either a decision on the appeal by the Town Board or a finding by the Building Inspector that the remedial action is acceptable to correct the violation.
- (F) If more than two (2) violation notices are issued in any 12-month period, the property owner or Registered Agent will be suspended from receiving a permit for short-term rental for 6 months. There will be no deduction or refund of fees.
- (G) If property owner and/or agent continues to operate while under suspension, the Building Inspector has the right to automatically revoke the short-term rental permit and issue an appearance ticket.

§77A-9. Fees for Registration and Issuance of Permits.

The Town Board shall set such application and permit fees as it may find appropriate for short-term rentals by resolution and such fees shall be listed in the Town's Schedule of Fees.

§77A-10. Penalties for Offenses.

- (A) Violations of this Article will constitute a municipal violation and will be subject to applicable penalties under article. The penalties for violation of this Chapter shall be in addition to any penalties imposed for violations of other provisions of the Town Code and NYS Uniform Fire Prevention, Building Code and Energy Conservation Code.
- (B) Conviction of violation of the provisions of this article shall be punishable by fine of not more than \$500.00 per violation and \$750.00 per day for subsequent offenses.
- (C) The imposition of penalties herein prescribed shall not preclude the Town or any person from instituting appropriate legal action or proceeding to prevent unlawful short-term rental of a property in violation of this article, including, without limitation, civil actions for injunctive relief to immediately terminate any existing short-term rental occupancy of buildings, land or premises.

Section 5. 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 6. Effective Date.

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

SET PUBLIC HEARING - INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2022, A LOCAL LAW ADDING CHAPTER 77A ENTITLED “SHORT-TERM RENTALS” TO THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to set a Public Hearing on the matter of the Introductory Local Law No. 1 Of 2022, A Local Law Adding Chapter 77A Entitled “Short-Term Rentals” To The Town Code Of The Town Of Chester on April 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm, and to direct Town Clerk Zappala to cause to publish notice of same.

The proposed local law will be referred to the Orange County Planning Department and Town of Chester Planning Board for comments.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION

Supervisor Valentine read the request from the Highway Superintendent. An increase in price has affected their budgeted purchase of a new skid steer.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Holdridge to approve the increase of fund DA5130.2 in the amount of \$2,356.14 to be transferred from the reserve account.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

SUGAR LOAF HILLS WATER DISTRICT WELL REVIEW APPROVAL

The matter for approval for camera work through WSP was tabled awaiting test results as noted in Water Administrator’s report.

K9 TOWN OF CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT PROPOSAL

Chief Doellinger addressed the Town Board. He explained the initial expense for a K9 program is usually high but the ongoing maintenance is affordable. The Town has been considered top-of-the-list for free donations through “Throw-Away Dogs” in the way of the dog, crate, vests, door release handle protection, etc. Training will be provided by a local resident instructor and Officer Dunlop is K9 experienced. The new Tahoe can accept equipment for transport. The Chief explained, dogs are identified from shelters as suitable working dogs. They could work in explosive detection before festivals, during fireworks and SLPAC events, in the schools, for search and rescue, community outreach as well as an offer-back to other municipal agencies. Staffing, overtime and off-hours compensation would be negotiated through contract. An annual insurance increase of \$994 is anticipated.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilman Holdridge and second by Council Courtenay to authorize Chief Doellinger authority to accept a K9 donation on behalf of the Town of Chester.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

NY SOLAR 101 LLC PILOT LETTER

Supervisor Valentine updated the Town Board that a letter had been received referencing a Notice of Intent on the PILOT formation for the Greycourt solar project.

EDUCATION REQUESTS

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Sergeant Vitale to the Active Attack Integrated Response Train-the-Trainer course in Middletown from April 4-April 8, 2022 at no cost.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Officer Bird to the Safe Travels for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs course in Goshen on April 19 and 20, 2022 at no cost.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Planning Board members Dot Wierzbicki and Larry Dysinger to the SEQRA and the Development Process course on April 6, 2022 at \$175p/person.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Tanya McPhee and Julie Tiller at the Annual Town Finance School in Albany on May 16 and 17, 2022. Cost includes registration of \$200 p/person and hotel at \$114 p/person p/night.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to approve the attendance of Nicole Griffin at the Annual Town Finance School in Albany on May 16 and 17, 2022. Cost includes registration of \$200 and hotel at \$114 p/night.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

RESIGNATION

Supervisor Valentine read the letter received by Chief Doellinger.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to accept the resignation of Police Officer Grahn, effective April 2, 2022.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

REPORTS

Supervisor Valentine read from the following reports, which appear below in their entirety.

Engineer’s Development Report

- Greens at Chester: SWPPP systems adequate working on silt fence.
- Cappelli Sports (Primo Sports): SWPPP working well.
- Sugar Loaf PAC: getting drawings and specs ready for ADA.
- PAC Playground: doing field work, prepared estimate. Will reevaluate the estimate based on the Towns input.
- Dog Park: started field work.
- Working on water systems regarding improvements and grant possibilities.
- Working on MS4 annual report.

Animal Control Report – February 2022

During the month of February 2022, the Town of Chester Police Department responded to 12 animal complaints and investigated 3 motor vehicle crashes involving a deer. A breakdown of the complaints for the month is included below:

- 6 of the calls for service were for loose, lost or found dogs
 - 3 of the calls for service were for barking dogs
 - 1 of the calls for service was for an injured deer
 - 1 of the calls for service was for a person bitten by a dog
 - 1 of the calls for service was for a fight between a dog and an opossum
- The monthly report for February from the Warwick Valley Humane Society is attached.

Warwick Valley Humane – February 2022

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

Number of calls received:	6	5 Police, 1 other
Number of times ACO dispatched to calls:	3	2/5 – stray dog hit by car on West End 2/11 – stray dog on Heritage Trail (owner located) 2/17 – sick cat Whispering Hills
Number of dogs impounded by ACO:	2	2/26 – stray found on Hambletonian Road
Number of dogs impounded by police:	2	2/3 – stray dog on Sugar Loaf Mtn. Road 2/19 – supposed stray dog from Industrial Park brought to station by finder.
Number of dogs returned to owner:	2	#20873, 20948
Number of after hour call-outs:	4	2/5, 2/11, 2/17, 2/19
Amount of impoundment fees collected:		\$100
Amount of license fees collected:		\$0
Amount of impoundment fees paid to Town:		\$100 check #16863
Amount of license fees paid to Town:		\$0

Number of hours of enumeration:	4 hrs.
Number of bite reports received:	1
Number of appearance tickets issued:	5
Number of unlicensed dogs:	27
Status of unlicensed dogs:	20 Notices to Comply prepared for delivery
Number of Chester cats admitted to shelter:	1

Location of enumeration: Preparation and delivery of 20 Notices to Comply to various addresses per Town Clerk.

Other: 2/5 – ACO transported dog hit by car to Guardian Veterinary Clinic, Middletown, met owner there, dog died.

2/11 – Owner located before ACO was able to respond.

2/17 – Sick cat from Whispering Hills died at vet.

2/19 – Stray dog found in Industrial Park – shelter received bite report naming finder as owner. When confronted, owner confirmed dog had bitten and she couldn't keep him. Surrendered dog to Warwick, dog transferred to original shelter it was adopted from (Middletown Hume) to complete confinement period.

SNR certificates sold in February: 2

Notes: SNR certificates are available by appointment only. Shelter is open by appointment only Monday through Sunday, 12-4pm for pre-approved adoptions, return to owners and SNR certificates, visitors and volunteers!

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilwoman Smith said she worked with Michele to make the Farmer's Market program simple and easy. There is enough room for 16 spots. There will be no liquor sales allowed as per Town Attorney. She reported that Michele would like to change the vendor at the Senior Center and SLPAC for first aid products; a price quote to be submitted. Councilwoman Smith said the casino trips were a success, as in winners, and the bus on Monday was full. She announced the PBA Easter Egg Hunt on April 9th at Chester Commons. She noted that besides the concerts at the SLPAC, the show, "Matilda" is being performed by Warwick Performing Arts.

Councilman Holdridge thanked the Supervisor, Engineer and residents who came out to the proposed playground site in Sugar Loaf. He said it was a productive meeting. He mentioned the cyber policy that he forwarded from the Town of Warwick. He asked about the Ethics Committee. Supervisor Valentine is to follow up. With regard to the Kings Highway acquisition, he reached out to democratic legislators who are open to the idea. He suggested residents send an email to Legislator Ehlers in support. Supervisor Valentine said he met with Chair Bonelli and Legislator Cheney to positive response and the matter will be on the Physical Services Committee agenda next week to hopefully move it forward. Councilman Holdridge said he discussed the PDR with Supervisor Sweeton of Warwick and will be participating in the related webinar on March 29th. He has called the Governor's office to try to make headway. He reported the pothole on Laroe that had been repaired by the County. He asked the Board to consider the residents requests and see if there is any room for change on the noise ordinance. Supervisor Valentine said it will be an open discussion at the next Town Board meeting. Councilman Holdridge asked about the RFP for legal services for the Ward System. Town Clerk Zappala replied that no proposals had been received as of yet.

Councilman Courtenay said he will be meeting with Supervisor Sweeton next Wednesday to discuss the PDR initiative. He is to meet with Senator Martucci on April 23rd to discuss the roadway issues in Chester with a possible press conference to be held at the SLPAC. He announced the film festival public announcement to be scheduled in August. He is working on finalizing the paver work at the theater and lights and pavers at the 911 Memorial. He is also looking into a 1st Responders

tribute there. Councilman Courtenay is working on the PDR funding mechanisms with budgeting strategies and identifying 30 properties for consideration. He also asked the residents to support the Chester Unified School District Senior Prom fundraiser.

Councilman Ardisana noted the increased truck traffic through Sugar Loaf. Supervisor Valentine said not using the bypass is an inherent problem. Don Serotta added the County will not reduce the speed limit and no signs have been allowed to be posted. Chief Doellinger commented that weight limits are only set for bridges. Councilman Ardisana said that when a K9 becomes available they have to be grabbed because they go fast.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilwoman Smith and second by Councilman Courtenay to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, there being no further business brought before the Board.

VOTE: AYES (5): Valentine, Ardisana, Courtenay, Holdridge, Smith

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala
Town Clerk
2022-2-23