

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 12, 2024
7:00 PM**

Supervisor Holdridge opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Attendance Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Present X	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Present X	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Present X	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Present X	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Present X	Absent

Determination of Quorum:	Yes	X	No
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Also present: Elizabeth Cassidy, Esq.

Pledge of Allegiance

ACCEPTANCE OF MAY 22, 2024 TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND MAY 29, 2024 TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilmember Dysinger and seconded by Councilman Courtenay to accept the special meeting minutes of the Town Board from May 22, 2024 and meeting minutes of the Town Board from May 29, 2024 as offered by Town Clerk Linda Zappala.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger

ADOPTED

SUMMARY OF BILLS

Supervisor Holdridge read the report from the Comptroller. Bills paid in the amount of \$408,707.33, which includes \$170,864.87 for Interstate Waste for the months of April and May that the comptroller was waiting on the invoices.

TOWN BOARD REPORTS

Councilmember Dysinger’s Report: The “Filling and Grading of Land Ordinance” proposed local law draft was reviewed with the town engineer in order to get his input. As a result of that meeting, the engineer recommended changing the name of the local law from the “Filling of Land” to the “Filling and Grading of Land”, so it was updated. He sent the latest version out to the Town Board, copying Attorney Cassidy and Town Clerk Zappala and is now waiting for comments. The “Property Maintenance” local law, based on comments from the last meeting, has been updated to include the proposed replacement of town code 95-A and to expand on property maintenance. He has sent the updated version out to the Town Board, Building Inspector, Town Engineer, and Attorney Cassidy and was waiting for comments. He still has not gotten any feedback on the proposed changes to the AR-.3 zoning district from the Town Board. It has been sitting for a month, and he would like to move forward. Councilmember Becker asked if this was from the recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee. Councilmember Dysinger answered yes. All Town Board members and Supervisor Holdridge replied that they are good

with the changes and to move forward. The next step would be to pass it to the Zoning and Planning Boards for comment. He asked for clarification of the process from Attorney Cassidy. She answered that he has the choice to either introduce it formally and start the referral process or can informally refer it to the Planning Board for comment. Supervisor Holdridge asked if there were any pros or cons for either or. Attorney Cassidy answered no, it's just a style and it does have to go for official comment once it is introduced. Councilmember Dysinger clarified that this is only the first zoning district for review and they are planning on reviewing all the other districts too. He wanted to submit them to the Town Board for comment as each one is done and not wait until the very end. He asked Attorney Cassidy if that changes anything. She replied that there are multiple approaches depending often times on the Comprehensive Plan Committee and their findings, other times recommendations can be made and can be done as one comprehensive zoning package together with the comprehensive plan. She can coordinate with Kristin O'Donnell as to her thoughts on the process. Councilmember Dysinger stated the committee felt that the AR-.3 zoning district was the most important to pursue right away. Attorney Cassidy replied that the biggest distinction is if the comments are brought up now, as opposed to a larger zoning package, there would need to be multiple SEQR reviews done along with multiple public hearings. Often times all the comments are saved for one package, because it is all done in one comprehensive plan. Councilmember Becker mentioned the current moratorium. Attorney Cassidy replied that the moratorium is ticking away and if there is anything exigent then she will look at it. No action will be taken tonight and that she will need direction from the Board. She can start the process if they wish through a resolution and introduce it for the next meeting. The Town Board was on board with it.

Councilmember Dysinger mentioned that he has been working on the revision of the "Noise Pollution" ordinance along with Councilmember Courtenay. He talked to Jon from the Planning Board and was waiting on his comments. They both did discuss about needing to talk to Chief Doellinger about the noise monitor and get his input on it. That was the last remaining thing to do. Supervisor Holdridge asked if he could remind Jon that his comments are needed. He said he will see him the following night at a meeting and will remind him they are needed.

His last item was that he had brought to the board about six weeks prior that in 2010 an amendment to the NYS Law 276-7.C removed the limit of no more than 2 additional extensions of 90 days for conditional approvals. It also set forth no limitations on a number of extensions. so long as the planning board's opinion allows such extension warranted by particular circumstances. He believes that is something that needs to be changed and just allowing only two additional extensions for conditional approval, not the final. Supervisor Holdridge asked if the NYS law made it more lenient. Attorney Cassidy replied under NYS law, a planning board can restrict it to two such extensions. The State Legislature removed that limitation, because in the mid-2000s people were in the development process and might have an approval and then the money dried up. The approvals were being lost because the money or circumstances weren't there. COVID was another example. If the approvals were not extended, then they needed to start over. The applicant has to have good cause shown in order to get the extension. That is why the Legislature revoked the limitations. Councilmember Dysinger said he doesn't like it and there are circumstances where it is outside of people's control, but there are others that the money has dried up and they are just trying to extend it out and that it been abused. Supervisor Holdridge suggested that he sends the Town Board and Attorney Cassidy what he has on the subject for further review.

Supervisor Holdridge mentioned that there was a guest from the Orange County New York Arts Council, Executive Director Todd Hulet, present and wanted to make a motion that the fee waiver request be moved up on the agenda.

ON A MOTION OFFERED BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilman Dysinger to move up the Orange County NY Arts Council fee waiver request on the agenda.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger

ADOPTED

SUGAR LOAF PAC RENTAL FEE WAIVER REQUEST FROM ORANGE COUNTY NY ARTS COUNCIL

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Ardisana and seconded by Councilmember Courtenay to waive the rental fee for the Orange County NY Arts Council’s “Art Affair ‘24” event at the Sugar Loaf PAC.

Discussion: Todd Hulet from the Orange County Arts Council spoke. He had sent a letter outlining what exactly he was looking for. He was there to answer any questions that the Board might have and to introduce himself. The whole mission of the OCNY Arts Council is to make sure that the arts and culture thrive throughout the county. They were hoping to have their event there, which would be an opportunity for the council to showcase the awesome things that are happening at the SLPAC and show off all the really great work being done there. Supervisor Holdridge stated that this event is designed to bring regional awareness to the most important projects, opportunities, and initiatives in the county’s art and culture sector. The OCNY Arts Council is willing to pay the cleaning fee of \$500.00. In lieu of that, the SLPAC will get a lot more recognition from around Orange County and other organizations.

Councilmember Becker asked if it was a weekend event. Todd Hulet answered it was a weekend event, it will take place on a Saturday evening, and that the date has already been scheduled.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

Councilmember Becker’s Report: The Sugar Loaf water district has gone on water restrictions many times in the past, just as many other water districts in the Town and surrounding areas. It is the duty of a water operator to manage a water system and to ensure that there is an adequate and safe water supply. It is disheartening when they do their jobs to the best of their ability to preserve this crucial natural asset, and it becomes an issue between water district users.

The original water district was about 54 homes with one well serving those homes. The Creamery Pond subdivision of about 65 homes was added to the water district and a tank was added, but no additional water supply was developed. Next was the Pewter Circle subdivision that brought about 30 more homes into the district along with another well to increase capacity and act as a back-up. This district, like so many others, have seen growth and will probably will have additional growth in the future. We should not be blaming others in the district for water restrictions that are put in place to best manage water supplies during critical times and drought conditions.

Our most recent critical time was when our main well ran for 24 hours straight to supply the needs of everyone and water restrictions were brought to everyone’s attention again. This issue, in-part, is caused by the fact that warmer weather brings people out and water is at the forefront of many outdoor activities, with close to 34 pools, many outdoor sprinkler systems and all of the other things we use water for. We need to be mindful of the most important use for water, our indoor daily needs.

Our back-up well has been a topic of debate for many years, because of the issue with E Coli bacteria that was present in the raw water. This supply was permitted and as such could readily be used as needed. Due to its issue and the concerns of several residents, we reached out for advice from a hydrogeologist for

our best option to improve the well and increase supply if possible. Following this we scheduled work to be done that was supposed to remove a section of well casing which would allow us to re-drill the well. When this was attempted, it was not successful. We then made a decision to drill an additional well next to the existing well. This well was then tested for approval for use and it was determined that when flowed it affected neighboring wells in the area. This fact was going to greatly reduce the capacity we so desperately needed and the permitting process through DEC would be difficult and time consuming. At this point the discussions with our hydrogeologist led to the decision to reopen the original well and put it back in service, because it was already permitted by the DEC. This was our best option for the future at this time.

That brings us to today where we are still waiting for a pit-less adapter so we can get this well back online.

Please be patient we are doing our best to improve this situation, we have no control over materials and supplies needed to complete this very important project.

Councilmember Courtenay's Report: This Saturday, June 15th is Touch a Truck from 10am- 2pm at Chester Commons. He met with Kristin Palmer and the Chester UFSD in regards to the fields at Chester Commons and came up with a plan to get the fields where they need to be. He is happy that the relationship is being rebuilt between the Town and school district. The district can donate bodies and equipment, but they cannot give supplies. They have a plan tentatively in place. Their groundkeeper will help with the process. Supervisor Holdridge mentioned that the school will provide a roller and aerate the field, and the town will supply the grass seed and everything else. Councilmember Courtenay also attended several meetings with the Supervisor and Councilmember Dysinger regarding the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Ardisana's Report: Sugar Loaf Engine Company is having a blood drive on June 13th from 1-7pm. There will also be a "Battle of the Badges" with the Police Department vs Fire Department on June 22nd at 8 am- 3pm. at Carpenter Field. Also, there is a Midsummer Night's Dream event from 11am-7pm in Sugar Loaf on the June 22nd.

Supervisor Holdridge's Report: He attended a meeting in Middletown for the 17M expansion plan which includes a proposal to close the Warwick/Sugar Loaf exit 127. This was a meeting put on by other elected officials and various organizations in Orange County, not the DOT, and is not happy with the plan. He's personally against the expansion plan, and doesn't think a third lane is going to help anything. There have also been many complaints about the plan for the closing of exit 127. He is going to follow up with the group he's been meeting with about the plan. Councilmember Dysinger commented that the DOT doesn't care what impact it has on the surrounding area by closing the exit. There's a lot of people that use that exit. Supervisor Holdridge replied that at the meeting they discussed that a lot of the traffic will be pushed off on exit 126 and through the Village on 17M, and that traffic is bad already. Councilmember Dysinger replied it will significantly compound the problem. Councilmember Becker stated that this closure wouldn't take place until exit 128 is revamped. Councilmember Courtenay said he had attended a couple DOT meetings and never got any answers from them. He said that when this is done the traffic is going to be pushed onto 17M and onto the bridge in the Village over the railroad tracks that needs to be redone. It's going to impact the Town and Village a lot and the DOT is not taking any consideration of it. Supervisor Holdridge suggested looking into creating a resolution to submit to the DOT. Councilmember Becker said a lot of impact will also come from the exit 128 area until the interchange is done. We would receive the traffic from all the warehouses proposed in that area. The roads there don't allow truck traffic to conveniently get back on the highway. Supervisor Holdridge brought up the third lane expansion, and those studies have shown when they are done, they are only good for 5-10 years and it then just promotes more car traffic, and then another lane will be needed. He would rather see all the money allocated from the DOT for the project be invested into local roads and public transportation, and in the long term keep it stable. Councilmember Courtenay mentioned that the cashless

tolls were supposed to lessen the traffic, but it still backs up. He also mentioned another thing not considered by the DOT is how emergency services are going to move through the congestion. Councilmember Becker feels a third lane is beneficial to keep as much traffic off the secondary roads. He says that emergency vehicles are getting through now and cars are moving over, and the third lane might free up even more space. Councilmember Dysinger said that in the summer, traffic going eastbound is horrendous and cars are sitting there giving off pollution. If there was a third lane, it would minimize the backup and pollution. Supervisor Holdridge said that the third lane is only good in the short term, but not the long term. It would be pragmatic to invest in public transportation. Councilmember Becker replied that the traffic is coming whether we have two lanes or three lanes. Councilmember Courtenay stated that the DOT also hasn't taken into consideration that Orange County is approximately 75%-80% built out, and Sullivan County is where that traffic is coming from. The population in Sullivan County jumps during the summer months. There is still a lot of undeveloped land there. He's hoping the study is looking for the train down the tracks, instead of putting a band aid on things. Supervisor Holdridge will send the other councilmembers information on the study. Councilmember Becker said he has sat in a Village meeting with DOT engineers and thought it was beneficial, because they were looking into the long term. They were looking for the town's masterplans and infrastructure plans. Supervisor Holdridge said that they will have another discussion later on the topic and need to move on.

The Community Preservation bill did not pass this year yet. There are talks about having another session up in Albany in July. He attended a land preservation meeting in Ulster County, and there are other options without the bill. He is working with the Conservation Advisory Council to prioritize parcels. The other 3 bills in Albany for the Town of Chester did pass, and he would like to thank Senator Skoufis and Assemblyman Maher for carrying the bills. They were for Officer Lee Weinstein to reinstate service credit, the residency for the Building Inspector and Comptroller, and the hotel/motel tax. The Governor just needs to sign off on them.

He met with the Independent Living & Jewish Family Services, two separate organizations that both service seniors. They have some services that they can provide to the residents.

He met with the Chester UFSD to talk about the fields and about installing a new fuse box for Chester Commons.

The Town of Chester received a municipal tourism grant from Orange County for \$5,000 that will be going towards advertising for the Sugar Loaf Film Festival.

There was a fraudulent check that someone tried to cash for \$12,000 drawn on the Town of Chester account, and because of the positive pay system that the Comptroller put into effect, there was no loss taken. There was no cost to the Town for the positive pay system.

TOWN DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Comptroller Report:

The Accounting Department remains extremely busy as we continue to catch up.

- 1.) We continue to work with various telecom providers and solicit bids for the new VOIP telephone system. The Town has spoken with Voicecom, Granite and T-Mobile and should have a decision by the next Board meeting. The Town has been paying for both Optimum and Fiber for the past year and a half which has cost the Town \$60,000 during that period. This move should save the Town \$20,000 per year once complete. It was also discovered during this process that alarm lines the Town was paying for were transitioned to cellular alarm lines but that the land lines were never disconnected. We will be working with our providers to disconnect these lines which should have a net savings of approximately \$3,000 per year.
- 2.) In December of 2023 the Town had 3 fraudulent checks drawn on its accounts resulting in a loss of \$6,000. In January the new Comptroller transitioned the Town to Positive Pay as an added control to combat fraudulent checks being drawn against the Town's accounts. This week someone attempted to fraudulently submit a check for \$12,000 against the Town's accounts and thanks to having this added measure there was no loss to the Town.
- 3.) The Town continues to reconcile its accounts for 2023. We continue to find Journal Entries that were not recorded in 2023. Revenue for the Courts amounted to approximately \$194K but revenue had not been booked since June 2023.
- 4.) We continue to make progress in catching up and hope to have the Town's Annual Financial Report completed within the next 2 months.
We continue to work with Edmunds on the remapping of the Town's Accounts to get the Town's General Ledger updated to be within State Guidelines.
- 5.) We continue to work through the 2022 Audit with RBT and will be reaching out to RBT to set up the 2023 Audit soon
- 6.) Tonight, the Town Board will approve the licensing of the requisition module from Edmunds as the Town starts the transition away from a voucher system toward a requisition system.
- 7.) The Accounting Department is also working on Town ID's for all employees.

Town Historian Report:

Clifton Patrick
Town of Chester Historian
119 Brookside Ave
Chester, NY 10918
Phone/fax 845-469-7645 e-mail: historian@thetownofchester.org

June 1, 2024

May 2024 Historian's Report

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

I am pleased to report that:

- The repairs to the two damaged "Welcome to Chester" highway markers are finally underway.
- I attended the following webinars:
 - CatalogIt - Key Considerations for Analog and Digital Image Collections.
 - Housing and Historic Preservation: A Joint Webinar with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.
- In-person events that I attended in May:
 - Orange County Historical Society - Eric Sloane Museum Trustee, John Pennings discussed the legacy of Sloane in Orange County. Sloane, a prolific artist and author of Early Americana, who appeared annually at 'Eric Sloane Day' at Sugar Loaf.
 - A Writing Workshop at Albert Wisner Public Library.
- I conducted training sessions with several volunteers on documenting historical items.
- Inquires this month included:
 - Sara Katz from the Chester Agricultural Center looking for pictures of the flooding of the Black Dirt during the 1950s.
 - Assisted Mary Bolton find the location of her great-grandparent's farm, the former John T. Welsh Farm on Chester-Washingtonville Road.
 - Helped Kathryn Liesch research her ancestor John Carpenter, who had a mill in Craigsville that produced gun powder under contract with the Continental Congress during the Revolution.
 - Provided material to author Stuart McGregor on Chester's connection to Tuxedo Park's Gilded Age. He is specifically interested in documenting the activities in Chester of Richard Delafield, 1853-1930 (Brook Farm); Robert G. Goelet, 1880-1966 (Glenmere Estate); Edward Henry Harriman, 1848-1909 (St. Paul's Episcopal Church).

Respectfully submitted,



Cc: Linda Zappala, Town Clerk, Town of Chester.

www.thetownofchester.org

Water Department Report:

TOWN OF CHESTER WATER DEPT.

MONTHLY REPORT- MAY 2024

The water department processed and distributed 7,744,482 gallons of water for the month of May. The districts daily average ranged from 157 to 107,000 gallons. The breakdown is:

Lake Hill Farms- 2,915,000 gal.

Sugar Loaf- 1,488,500 gal.

Surrey Meadows- 1,855,900 gal.

Walton Lake Estates- 1,286,400 gal.

Fieldcrest- 193,800 gal. (Distribution only)

Town Hall- 4,882 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 4/2024 on all districts were submitted to DOH on 5/8/2024

Laboratory testing dates were 5/1 & 5/15.

Mowing dates at the plants were 5/2, 5/7, 5/8, 5/17, 5/22, 5/24 & 5/31

Bulk chemicals were delivered on the 16th.

Started doing interviews for new Laborer position on 5/1

Chevy truck was dropped off 5/16 to highway garage to do a transmission flush due to check engine light on.

SLPAC we installed crock and cl2 pump for future chlorine injection needed.

Joe Janots First Day 5/29

Other Business:

Sugar Loaf was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. 5/8 plant lost communication to tower had to reset system at top of the tower.

Surrey Meadows was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. 5/9 shut the valve to the hydrant at 1 Surrey Road since it needs to be replaced in future. 5/14 RC Kolstad rebuilt backwash system at the plant.

Lake Hill Farms was mostly quiet with normal operations and maintenance. 5/1 at 34 Harding way, highway dept struck service line and had to emergency repair. 5/7 TAM came to install new control box, breakers, and solar controller up at the tower due too old system rusting out and not functioning. 5/28

did a rebuild on the chlorine pumps in the plant. 5/29 had a radio issue again Tam came and we determined bad battery from old age, replaced with new one and all works. 5/30 new control panel was delivered for plant.

Walton Lake Estates was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance. 5/6 Backwash system for plant stopped working, just ran off one filter till company came to fix it. 5/14 RC Kolstad came to plant to rebuild the backwash system, which hasn't been done in years found out. 5/29 highway blacktop valve jobs in district and John helped putting in correct risers. 5/30 TAM came in to do final install of PH Monitor and controller at plant due to requirement from health dept. sent them an email to show its finally completed.

Fieldcrest was quiet with routine operations and maintenance. 5/15 we turned off the water to 88 Nancy Ln.

Parks Department Report:

Monthly report:

- Processed permits and organized scheduling for pavilion events and fields including PD vs FD vs Coachesannual memorial softball tournament during Little League closing ceremonies on 6/22/24 look for details posted to Chester Rec FB page coming soon (single elimination game times... 8am, 10amwith championship game at 1:00pm) Carpenter Field C2 please come out to support!
- Collaborated with the TOC PBA for the yearly free touch a truck event. Saturday June 15 10am-1pm at Chester Commons Park... Siren Free sensory friendly hour from 10:00am-11:00am. Flyer attached and on Chester Rec page
- Parks and Rec dept met with DGM and Sugar Loaf Community Foundation for outdoor movie nights at the SLPAC... flyer attached
- Working on design and plan for playground replacement at Carpenter Community Park
- Working on pricing for new fuse box for lights at the Chester Commons
- Working on pricing for a separation net between the pickle ball courts and tennis courts as well as possible privacy fencing
- Met with CUFSD AD And grounds department about field maintenance at the Chester Commons
- Attended shows/events at the SLPAC
- Dispatched maintenance requests
- Final meetings and prep for 7/13/24 TOC Block Party and Fireworks show.... Flyer attached details about food trucks and site map as event gets closer on Chester Rec Facebook page

Currently chaperoning a bus trip with Rec dept to Montreal & Quebec

Routine monthly operations

Kristin L. Palmer

Account Clerk (SLPAC, Parks & Rec.)

The Town Of Chester

Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center Report:

- We finalized a theater summer camp for the weeks of Aug 12-16 and Aug 19-23. 9am to 1pm each day and Rachel Scali from Chester High School will be directing the camp.
- SUNY Orange nursing program had their annual "pinning" ceremony for graduates.
- Almost Queen sold out the SLPAC on May 10
- PAC will be purchasing, in conjunction with the parks dept, a new commercial lawn mower
- 5 dance schools had their mid-season performances during May and June
- 3 Outdoor movie nights added to SLPAC lawn on June 28, July 26 & Aug 30 in conjunction with Chester Rec and Sugar Loaf Community Foundation

Walter Popailo
Recreation Director
The Town of Chester
Sugarloaf Performing Arts Center

Animal Control May 2024 Report:



**Town of Chester
Police Department**

79 Laroë Road
Chester, NY 10918

Office: (845) 69-7000
Fax: (845) 469-7994
police@thetownofchester.org
Chief Daniel J. Doellinger, N.A.

TO: Supervisor Brandon Holdridge
FROM: Chief Daniel Doellinger *DM*
DATE: June 11, 2024
RE: Monthly Report for Animal Control for May 2024

During the month of May 2024, the Town of Chester Police Department responded to 16 animal complaints and investigated 3 motor vehicle crashes involving a deer. A breakdown of the complaints for the month is included below:

- 5 of the calls for service were for loose, lost or found dogs
- 5 of the calls for service were for sick or injured raccoons
- 2 of the calls for service were for injured or deceased deer
- 1 of the calls for service was for an abandoned fawn
- 1 of the calls for service was for a welfare check on a dog
- 1 of the calls for service was for an injured groundhog
- 1 of the calls for service was for a turtle in the roadway

Warwick Valley Humane Society

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

Community Commitment

**WARWICK VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE TOWN OF CHESTER
MONTH: May 2024**

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:	13	0 Police, 13 other
Number of times ACO dispatched to calls:	0	
Number of dogs impounded by ACO:	2	
Number of dogs impounded by police:	0	
Number of dogs returned to owner:	2	
Number of after hour call-outs:	0	
Amount of impoundment fees collected:	\$ 100.00	
Amount of license fees collected:	\$ 10.00	
Amount of impoundment fees paid to Town:	\$ 100.00	Pd. 6/7/24 #17767
Amount of license fees paid to Town:	\$ 10.00	Pd. 6/7/24 #17768
Number of hours of enumeration:	0 hrs.	
Number of bite reports received:	0	
Number of appearance tickets issued:	0	
Number of unlicensed dogs:	0	
Status of unlicensed dogs:	- 0	
Number of Chester cats admitted to shelter:	0	

Notes:

New staff being trained.

SNR certificates sold in May: 1

NOTE: SNR certificates are available by appointment only

Note: 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 of Chester Police Department May Report:



**Town of Chester
Police Department**

79 Large Road
Chester, NY 10918

Office: (845) 469-7000
Fax: (845) 469-7994
police@thetownofchester.org
Chief Daniel L. Doellinger, MA

TO: SUPERVISOR BRANDON HOLDRIDGE
FROM: CHIEF DANIEL DOELLINGER *DM*
DATE: June 11, 2024
RE: Report of Police Department for May 2024

The Town of Chester Police Department remained active in the community in May. We continued to maintain our objective of community commitment while taking a proactive stance towards detecting crime and enforcing the laws. In May, the police department responded to **271** calls for service. Officers drove **18,493 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 **15 arrests** during the month. A summary of the arrests is as follows:

- 11 charged with Operating a Vehicle with a Suspended Driver License or Registration misdemeanor
- 1 charged with Assault in the second & third degrees, Resisting Arrest & Harassment in the second degree
- 1 charged with Dog at Large
- 1 charged with Operating a motor vehicle with expired inspection after failing to identify himself
- 1 arrested on an outstanding bench warrant from town court

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 April. A summary of those calls for service is as follows:

- 24 medical calls
- 19 residential, commercial or automatic fire alarms
- 11 reports of suspicious persons, vehicles or activity
- 10 domestic complaints, disputes, disturbances or mental health crises

- 4 motor vehicle crashes with injuries
- 15 motor vehicle crashes without injuries
- 3 motor vehicle crashes involving deer

Please refer to Attachment B for complete details.

Officers also issued **241 uniform traffic tickets** during the month.

Community Commitment

SEX OFFENDERS

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

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

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 1118 **business security checks** in May.

Officers were assigned to setup and remove traffic control devices for the Sugar Loaf Spring Festival on May 4th and 5th. Officers were also assigned to dedicated patrols of the hamlet during the event.

Officers were assigned to assist during the annual town cleanup on May 11th.

Sergeant Dugan and Officers Bird, Weinstein, Stack and Narain continue to complete child passenger safety seat checks and installations when needed. There was one seat check completed in May.

We continued to assign School Resource Officers to the Chester Academy and Chester Elementary School during each school day. Officers Perez, DeLuca and Donato are fulfilling this assignment.

TRAINING

Our department monthly training session for May was held on May 14th in our training room.

Officer Calderone completed the two-week DCJS Sniper Course in Goshen on May 3rd.

Tactical response unit officers attended an active shooter drill at the Woodbury Commons on May 14th.

Department semi-annual firearms training was started in May.

Officer Calderone assisted with instruction in firearms training at the police academy on several days in May.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commercial vehicle enforcement details were held on May 1st and 22nd with the NYS Department of Transportation. Eight vehicles were inspected and four unsafe vehicles were taken out of service with major violations. Officer Santosky-Wright also assisted the Town of Warwick PD with an inspection detail on May 28th in the Greenwood Lake area.

We assisted the Chester School District with a lockdown drill on May 2nd.

Community Commitment

Officers were assigned to a Tactical Response Unit detail during the wake for a Town of Newburgh police officer on May 8th.

The annual Mock DWI Crash Demonstration was held at the Chester Academy on the morning of May 18th. We were assisted by several other emergency response organizations. The prom was held later that evening.

Officers attended the community Memorial Day ceremony sponsored by American Legion Post 1167 on Memorial Day at the Main Street firehouse.

Retired Chief Gene Iannuzzi passed away in May. He was the department's second police chief, serving from 1977 to 1992. We parked a vehicle outside the funeral home during his wake on May 30th. Chief Doellinger and two on-duty officers attended the wake. We also participated in the escort from the funeral home to the cemetery and attended the cemetery service in Goshen on May 31st.

SCHEDULING

There were 283 hours of overtime paid in May.

Part-time police officers were used for 214 hours of patrol coverage (213.5 regular hours and 0.5 overtime hours).

Shift Coverage	125
Stop DWI Grant Patrols	38.25
Buckle Up NY Grant Patrol	27
Monthly Training	18.5
School Resource Officer Overtime	15.5
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Detail	12.25
Firearms Qualifications	12
Sugar Loaf Festival Details	7.5
Investigations	7
Tactical Response Unit Details	7
Town Cleanup Detail	3.5
Late Calls/Arrests	3.25
Court/Hearings	3
Police Traffic Services Grant Patrol	3
Transport marked unit to Chief Iannuzzi's wake	0.25

Community Commitment

ARRESTS - MAY 2024

TC-00093-24	5/1/2024	40F Warwick, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00094-24	5/4/2024	26M Middletown, NY	VTL 0306 B OPER MV W/O INSPECT CERTIFICAT
TC-00095-24	5/9/2024	19F New Windsor, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00095-24	5/10/2024	32F Harriman, NY	VTL 0512 MV VIOL:REGISTRATION SUSPENDED VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD VTL 0511 02A4 AGG UNLIC OPER-2ND:3>SUSPENSNS
TC-00097-24	5/11/2024	37F Tuckahoe, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD VTL 0512 MV VIOL:REGISTRATION SUSPENDED
TC-00098-24	5/12/2024	22M Wurtsboro, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00099-24	5/16/2024	32M Port Jervis, NY	CPL 530.70 03 EXECUTE BENCH WARRANT
TC-00102-24	5/17/2024	44M Hopewell Junction, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00101-24	5/17/2024	45M Middletown, NY	VTL 0512 MV VIOL:REGISTRATION SUSPENDED VTL 0511 01 AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER MV-3RD
TC-00100-24	5/17/2024	21M Walden, NY	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00103-24	5/21/2024	73F Chester, NY	TO 42 -4A Town Code - DOG AT LARGE
TC-00105-24	5/24/2024	29M Greenwood Lake, NY	VTL 0511 02A4 AGG UNLIC OPER-2ND:3>SUSPENSNS VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00104-24	5/24/2024	29M Toms River, NJ	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD
TC-00106-24	5/25/2024	28F Chester, NY	PL 205.30 RESISTING ARREST PL 120.05 12 ASLT-2: INJURE VIC 65 OR OLDER PL 120.00 01 ASLT 3-W/INT CAUSE PHYS INJURY PL 240.26 01 HARASSMENT-2ND:PHYSICAL CNTACT
TC-00107-24	5/29/2024	36M Greentown, PA	VTL 0511 01A AGGRAVATED UNLIC OPER VEH-3RD

CALLS FOR SERVICE - MAY 2024

911 HANGUP CALL	4	ILLEGAL DUMPING	2
ABUSE-NONSEXUAL	1	INFORMATION ONLY	25
ALARM-COMMERCIAL	5	JUVENILE COMPLAINT	3
ALARM-RESIDENTIAL	6	K9 DETAIL	3
AMBULANCE ASSIST	24	LARCENY	1
ANIMAL COMPL(WILDLIFE)	10	LOCKOUT	4
ANIMAL COMPLAINT(DOG)	6	LOST PROPERTY	2
ARREST/CRIMINAL	1	MISSING PERSON	1
ARREST/TRAFFIC	11	MVC/CAR/DEER	1
ARREST/VIOLATION	1	MVC/HIT AND RUN	3
ARREST/WARRANT	1	MVC/NO REPORT	3
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	12	MVC/PERSONAL INJURY	4
ASSIST FIRE DEPT	2	MVC/PROPERTY DAMAGE	6
AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM	8	NEIGHBOR DISPUTE	2
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION	18	NOISE COMPLAINT	7
CHILD SFTY SEAT FITTING	1	PARKING PROBLEM	2
CIVIL MATTER	2	PROPERTY RETURN	1
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	4	RECKLESS DRIVER	2
DEPARTMENT DETAIL	14	SCHOOL SAFETY	3
DISABLED VEHICLE	8	SHOTS FIRED	1
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1	SUSPICIOUS COND/MV/PERSON	11
DISTURBANCE	1	TAC TEAM ACTIVITY	3
DOMESTIC COMPLAINT	1	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	9
EMOT DISTURBED PERSON	4	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMNT DETAIL	3
EQUIPMENT CHECK	3	TREE DOWN	1
FAMILY COURT MATTER	1	TRESPASS	3
FIRE	3	UNATTENDED DEATH	1
FOUND PROPERTY	2	VEHICLE OFF ROADWAY	1
HARASSMENT	2	WELFARE CHECK	4
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	2		
		TOTAL	271



Dear Lexipol Customer,

On behalf of the team here at Lexipol, I'd like to offer our congratulations on your achievement in policy management as part of the Lexipol Connect Recognition Program.

To highlight your dedication to updating and training on your policies, we are happy to present this plaque to your department to showcase your success this past year. To share this accomplishment with your staff and community, please reference the Connect Recognition Program media kit sent earlier this year which included a sample press release, social media posts and agency bulletin.

If you have any questions on the program, you can visit www.lexipol.com/connect-recognition-program or contact us at info@lexipol.com.

We are honored to partner with your agency and assist the important work of your department in protecting your communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Fordham".

Mark Fordham
Senior Vice President of Customer Experience
mfordham@lexipol.com

TOWN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mortgage tax receipts for the Town of Chester in May 2024 were \$43,217.74.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dylan Skriloff, the Chronicle Newspaper, asked about with the DOT plan was it permanent, is it both directions, and did anyone bring up the contradiction of trying to speed up the traffic while also creating a huge traffic jam at the Chester exit? Supervisor Holdridge answered that they just did address that. He didn't know about the meetings with the DOT, specifically because it was Councilmembers Courtenay and Becker, but that is definitely a concern. The expansion lanes are on both sides for only a portion of 17 to his knowledge. Councilmember Courtenay believes it will go up to exit 113. Supervisor Holdridge says the plans are very in motion, and the DOT is not really sure what it wants. Mr. Skriloff asked if there was a possibility of a petition drive. Supervisor Holdridge said that could be a possibility, and he also said that they were looking into writing a resolution on making the Town of Chester's stance clear to the DOT. The Town Board would have to talk about it. Mr. Skriloff asked how much time before the DOT starts the project? Supervisor Holdridge said it could take years. They have been talking about this project for a long time already, but it seems like they're finally trying to move forward and get it done and estimated within the next 3-5 years. Councilmember Dysinger answered it is still in the design stages. Councilmember Becker said that this all involves having 17 become Interstate 86.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND AUTHORIZE THE EDMUNDS REQUISITION SYSTEM PROPOSAL

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to accept and authorize the Edmunds requisition system as presented by the Comptroller for \$2,000 for 3 years, with a onetime implementation fee of \$1,000.

Discussion:

Supervisor Holdridge read an email regarding the requisition system process from Comptroller Meyer: "The approval of the requisition system by the Board will allow the Town to start the transition from a voucher system to a requisition system. This will improve controls and management of the Town's budget. Essentially it will allow Departments to approve and track purchases from start to finish, instead of purchases being approved and entered into the system after the purchase is made. Department Heads will have a better ability to manage their budgets by giving them access to the Accounting System and allowing them to view their budget lines prior to making purchases instead of receiving reports after the fact when they may have already overspent their lines. Ultimately it should allow for better management and oversight of the Town's finances and budgeting. The Accounting Department will be working on implementation of the system with each department and will be creating policies and procedures which will ultimately be incorporated into a new procurement policy toward the end of the year." Supervisor Holdridge commented that this will help departments see in real time how purchases are affecting their budget and it's going to draw out the process a little more, other than emergencies, but there is a lot more oversight. Councilmember Dysinger asked about if we have to purchase the module from Edmunds, and Supervisor Holdridge answered yes. The software would be \$2,000 for the first 3 years with a onetime \$1000 implementation and training cost. It would be pennies on the dollar on what the town will save on organization and management. Councilmember Dysinger asked if the \$2000 per year include maintenance and updates, and Supervisor Holdridge answered yes. He will send the service agreement to the board members. The procurement policy will be worked on with the attorney.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE SPEED LIMIT ON KINGS HIGHWAY FROM 40 MPH TO 30 MPH FROM THE INTERSECTION OF COUNTY ROUTE 13A (SUGAR LOAF HAMLET) AND COUNTY ROUTE 82 (BELLVALE ROAD) PURSUANT TO NYS VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW 1622

TOWN OF CHESTER

A RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON KINGS HIGHWAY FROM THE INTERSECTION OF COUNTY ROUTE 13A (SUGAR LOAF HAMLET) AND COUNTY ROUTE 82 (BELLVALE ROAD) PURSUANT TO NYS VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW 1622.

JUNE 12, 2024

TITLE: A resolution to request a reduction in the speed limit and create a local law from the County of Orange and the New York State Department of Transportation.

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, Orange County, New York, held at the Town Hall, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, New York, on the June 12, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. prevailing time:

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

PRESENT: Brandon Holdridge, Supervisor

Antonio Ardisana, Councilmember

Tom Becker, Councilmember

Robert Courtenay, Councilmember

Larry Dysinger, Councilmember

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Holdridge, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilmember Courtenay, to wit:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Chester has received concerns about the speed limit within and near the Hamlet of Sugar Loaf; and

WHEREAS, the residents and business owners have voiced concerns over vehicles and commercial vehicles not abiding by the posted 40 MPH speed limit leading into the hamlet, causing a public safety issue; and

WHEREAS, the speed limit on Kings Highway in part of said area is 40 MPH. The Town Board, Police Department, and Highway Department request to reduce that maximum speed to 30 MPH; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Board of the Town of Chester, request that the Town Clerk of the Town of Chester send a certified copy of this resolution to the County of Orange for review and for approval and submission to the New York State Department of Transportation.

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

Yes 5 No Abstain Absent

Dated: June 12, 2024

ON A MOTION MADE BY Supervisor Holdridge and seconded by Councilmember Courtenay to approve the resolution to reduce the speed limit on Kings Highway from the intersection of County Route 13A (Sugar Loaf Hamlet) and County Route 82 (Bellvale Road) pursuant to NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law 1622.

Discussion: Councilmember Dysinger asked for clarity on the location of which this resolution targets. Supervisor cleared up that is from the SLPAC to the intersection of Bellvale Road, which is currently 40 mph. It is only a request to the DOT to have them look it. This is was asked by the business owners to slow down traffic. In the past, the speed limit was tried to be changed to 25 mph, but it was denied by the DOT.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT KODE ELECTRIC’S PROPOSAL FOR CHESTER COMMONS PARK FUSE BOX REPLACEMENT

The Kode electric proposal was \$5,984.14 to replace the fuse box in Chester Commons Park. This resolution was tabled by Supervisor Holdridge due to the parks department still waiting on a proposal from Rotolo.

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MARTINE DIPASQUALE AS THE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE CHESTER CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to appoint Martine DiPasquale as the chairwoman of the Chester Conservation Advisory Council.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge said that the Conservation Advisory Committee had an internal vote and picked Martine to be their chairwoman. The Town Board is just formalizing the committee’s decision. The former chairman moved to Virginia, and had to step down, but is going to continue to serve on the committee for now. While voting, Councilmember Becker asked if he could vote for her since he personally knew her, and if it would be a conflict. Attorney Cassidy said it was alright because it does not involve business between the two and there is no conflict.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE \$5,400 FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT ON SURREY ROAD

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to authorize the water department to spend \$5,400 on a replacement hydrant on Surrey Road.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge said that this hydrant was already replaced due to it being an emergency for fire protection. He had given them the authorization to go ahead and do it, but still wanted to bring it before the Board for their approval.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR HOLDRIDGE TO SIGN FOR CDBG

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to authorize Supervisor Holdridge to sign for the Orange County CDGB grant.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge stated that this is the grant that there was a public hearing on earlier. The engineer thought that the best interest for use of the grant money would be to improve Carpenter Community Park by paving the pathways for ADA compliance and accessibility, update playground equipment, and put a new surface on the playground area for ADA compliance as well.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger **ADOPTED**

TOWN HISTORIAN EDUCATIONAL REQUEST FOR VISION HUDSON VALLEY PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE AT THE SUGAR LOAF PERFORMANING ARTS CENTER

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to allow Town Historian Clifton Patrick to attend the VHV Annual Placemaking Conference at the Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center on June 21, 2024 from 11am to 4:30pm.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge stated that the registration fee was \$51.50 for ticket and registration fee.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESIGNATION OF JOHN HAND AS BUILDING INSPECTOR

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Courtenay to accept the resignation of John Hand as Building Inspector effective June 21, 2024.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge said that John Hand had received another offer from Woodbury that the Town couldn't match, and that it was very unfortunate. When you have a quality building inspector, they are hard to come by, and other's want them. Attorney Cassidy suggested making a resolution to appoint John O'Rourke as the interim building inspector until the Town hires a new building inspector from the civil service list.

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to appoint John O'Rourke from Lanc & Tully as the acting building inspector for the Town of Chester until there is a full-time permanent hire from the civil service list.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger **ADOPTED**

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF TAX RECEIVER BOND TO ORANGE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR, TOWN BOARD, AND TOWN CLERK TO SIGN

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to approve the submission of the tax receiver bond to Orange County and authorize Supervisor Holdridge, the Town Board, and the Town Clerk to sign.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge said that this is approval for the Receiver of Taxes to be filed with the County of Orange, June 12, 2024. Western Surety Company Bond #70644089 beginning January 7, 2024 and ending January 7, 2025.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO ADD A RIGHT-TURN-ONLY TRAFFIC LIGHT ARROW TO THE 17M/KINGS HIGHWAY INTERSECTION

TOWN OF CHESTER

A RESOLUTION TO INQUIRE OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL A RIGHT-TURN-ONLY ARROW TO THE 17M / KINGS HIGHWAY TRAFFIC LIGHT GOING NORTH

JUNE 12th, 2024

TITLE: A resolution to inquire of the Orange County Department of Public Works to install a right-turn-only arrow to the 17M / Kings Highway traffic light going north.

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, Orange County, New York, held at the Town Hall, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, New York, on the June 12, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. prevailing time:

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

PRESENT: Brandon Holdridge, Supervisor

Antonio Ardisana, Councilmember

Tom Becker, Councilmember

Robert Courtenay, Councilmember

Larry Dysinger, Councilmember

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Courtenay, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Dysinger, to wit:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Chester has received complaints and traffic concerns with respect to 17M at the intersection of Kings Highway; and

WHEREAS, based upon knowledge of traffic history in this area, the Town Board believes that the addition of a right-turn-only arrow to the traffic light at the intersection going north would be in the best interest of vehicles and residents traveling along on 17M turning right onto Kings Highway.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Board of the Town of Chester, submit a request to the New York State Department of Transportation to install a right-turn-only arrow to the traffic light at this intersection in the Town of Chester for the efficiency of vehicle travel on this road; and

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

Yes 5 No Abstain Absent

Dated: June 12, 2024

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to add a right-hand turn only arrows to the 17M/Kings Highway intersection.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge mentioned that the goal is to allow for more traffic to turn right onto Kings Highway. To clarify where this would apply to, it would be when coming down Route 17M coming out of the Village of Chester going towards Monroe or you can make a right onto Kings Highway or a diagonal left Lehigh Ave. There is a right on red onto Kings Highway, but to add the green arrow when usually there is a red light could possibly help with the flow of traffic, especially during the school hours. This is just a request for the DOT to look at and issue a study. Councilmember Becker asked Chief Doellinger about the red/green arrow rules, and if it is a designated turn lane and does it restrict a right on red? There is usually a sign “No Turn on Red” like at the McDonald’s intersection. Chief Doellinger responded that in theory you would have a red arrow and green arrow there, when it’s clear to make a right on red you would have a green arrow and when you have cross traffic coming off of Lehigh Ave that’s trying to go on Kings Highway, it would probably be a red arrow at that point. Councilmember Becker stated that that’s an issue he has at that intersection, that he had people cut him off when he has a green and the opposing has a red. Supervisor Holdridge said that he thinks that this would be good for efficiency and safety. Chief Doellinger said that this could have the alternate effect as well, and not everybody coming up Lehigh Ave is going onto Kings Highway, and there are cars that are going straight, but now nobody will be able to turn. Councilmember Becker once again asked by putting a light there, does it make it a designated turn? Chief Doellinger answered you cannot make a right on a red arrow, Councilmember Ardisana said that there is only one lane, and it gets pretty backed up whether you are making a right or a left because the lines were messed up. Supervisor Holdridge said that there are 2

lanes, but Councilmember Dysinger answered that when the DOT painted the lines they messed up and he sees a lot more people going to the right-hand lane to go straight.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE SUGAR LOAF PERFORMING ARTS CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ON A MOTION MADE BY Supervisor Holdridge and seconded by Councilmember Courtenay to appoint Brian Boone, Jeff Zahn, Lee Squires-Sussman, Chris Maurer, Kat Parrella, Elisa Maruottolo, and Ryan Senning to the SLPAC Advisory Committee.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge stated that this was a long time coming. Councilmember Courtenay worked hard in getting the interviews together. There were 15 people total interviewed, and they were all done in one day. Supervisor Holdridge and Councilmember Becker did half the interviews, while Councilmember Courtenay sat through them all. They talked as a board and in the original resolution decided there would be a 5-7 person board, and because so many people signed up, after the interviews chose seven members to be on it. He also mentioned that this will be a fully functional town committee and meetings will be open to the public and will always be posted. Anyone is welcome to go to them and be part of the discussion, but voting positions are only done by this advisory board of these seven people. These seven people have a lot to bring to the table. He will be attending the meetings as much as he can and would like them to work with the current staff and promoter of the SLPAC. Councilmember Courtenay also want to encourage people that aren't on the voting committee to attend the meetings. Everyone that came in for an interview brought something that came in for an interview, and it was a difficult decision to decide on the final seven.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE WIIA GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE WALTON LAKE ESTATES WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE WALTON LAKE ESTATES WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Chester wishes to submit an application to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for the Water Infrastructure Improvement ("WIIA") program grant funding in connection with improvements to Walton Lake Estates Water Infrastructure (the "Project"), which are necessary due to capacity demands and inefficient equipment; and

WHEREAS, the recommended Project improvements consist of completing the development of new and in-progress wells, and the running of lines to tie new wells and electric; and

WHEREAS, the total maximum costs associated with the Project are \$2,092,500.00, inclusive of construction costs in the amount of \$1,350,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Village's required local match of forty percent (40%) of the Project construction costs shall be funded through cash on hand acquired through the municipal budget; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Town Board that it is in the best interests of the Town to submit the aforesaid grant application,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor, or his designee, to execute and submit any and all documents necessary to apply for a grant from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for the Water Infrastructure Improvement ("WIIA") program grant funding in connection with the various drinking water improvements at Walton Lake Estates

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to authorize the WIIA grant application for the Walton Lake Estates water improvement project.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge said the last engineer had previously tried to get this grant last year, but it was woefully denied. Councilmember Becker asked about the 40% of the project constructions costs are funded by cash verses being bonded. Attorney Cassidy clarified that it may be bonded. Supervisor Holdridge said the new engineer had put the numbers together. Councilmember Becker also said that he will be looking, along with the engineer, into using the previous \$130,000 grant that they already have to put towards this project also.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CHESTER AND THE TEAMSTERS LOCAL 445 (WHITE COLLAR BARGAINING UNIT)

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to accept the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Chester and Teamsters Local 445 (White Collar Bargaining Unit) effective January 1, 2024-December 21, 2026.

Discussion:

Supervisor Holdridge said that unfortunately the board was unable to talk about the details of this agreement throughout its process with the public. There were a couple of “no” votes from the board. He believes that everybody on the board feels that way and wishes that everyone could vote no, but unfortunately this was the best deal the Town was going to get. He asked each member their reasoning of their vote for the contract.

Councilmember Dysinger stated that his “no” vote has nothing to do with employees, the town has great employees working for them. He believes the collective bargaining agreement hurts the employees and doesn’t help them. He doesn’t think they realize that. If they weren’t in a union, there would be more flexibility on how they can compensate wages, with the union they can’t. There were many things lacking in the agreement such as job descriptions for all the applicable positions as well as listing all the current employees that fall under the agreement. There were no hourly rates specified or what the current rates are. It states that there would be a 3% increase January 1, 2024, even though the employees already received it from the Town. If the subject is pushed, they could possibly have the increase again, which he has concerns about. Bottom line is it doesn’t serve the Town well.

Councilmember Becker stated that he was disappointed with the entire process that took place before he came on the board. His opposition to the contract stems from the fact that they were left unable to negotiate certain items because they were previously done. The items that stand out are 1) The jump from 3 personal days to 5 days. 2) The \$20,000 dollar life insurance policy paid for by the Town. Employees already have a policy built into the retirement system. 3) The half pay buy out for retiring employees. He does not feel that there is a true savings by having experienced personnel leave, thinking the new employee taking their place is being paid a lower rate to start. After 5 years, they are making the full salary and we are paying the benefits to the new person and the retired employee. What would the true savings be with all the factors included? 4) Holidays. Currently there are 15 paid Holidays. I feel the time off for these days should be based on hours taken, because the 4-day work week is a longer day than the 5-day work week. A 5-day work week would be 105 hours off while the 4-day work week is 131.5 hours off, or the same as having 18 days off. He believes in being fair to the employees and the tax-payers that cover the cost of these expenses. He believes the town has great employees, but it just sticks out in the contract and is not beneficial to the tax payers of this community.

Councilmember Courtenay stated it was 5 years in the making, and the process was disheartening that the newer board could not negotiate the contract. This was brought up and sat on, then come last November this went from 0 to 60 trying to ram this agreement through. He said that behind closed doors last year he expressed his concerns that the new board should have had an opportunity to look at this contract. The only reason why he voted yes was that most of the town employees were looking for this for the past 5 years, and the police and highway have unions. Himself and Councilmember Becker did try and do some negotiating, because there is the responsibility to the taxpayers, but they were stuck between a rock and a hard place. They did get some concessions that will affect the future as they move forward, but it was

distasteful on how it was done. The town's employees are the town's greatest asset. The negotiations should have been done by this Board or it should have been done 5 years ago and in the rear-view mirror.

Councilmember Ardisana agreed with Councilmember Courtenay. He had voted no for it last November, because it was rammed at him. It has been 5 years and something had to be done

Supervisor Holdridge stated this was the best deal they were going to get at the end of the day. If they would have dragged this out in arbitration it would have cost the taxpayers even more money and would have gotten nowhere. The previous supervisor had negotiated a lot of these benefits and variables in the contract, and once you negotiate you set the bar, and even though the previous supervisor was not going to be supervisor the following year, they could not regress. They would be hit with unfair practices if they would have tried to change anything and would have lost the arbitration. It wouldn't be productive or a good use of taxpayer's money. He agreed with Councilmember Courtenay that it was just a disheartening, unfair, and done in such an ingenuine way. When he was a councilman, he questioned the previous supervisor on what benefits he was negotiating and what were the benefits to the Town overall in the contract, because they were only apprised on some of it. He was told he was just trying to protect the people he wasn't going to protect. It was a very disgusting way to govern. He is just very unhappy on how this all turned out.

Councilmember Courtenay mentioned that they did include the new people that were hired through attrition and did get those concessions. Again, this board should have had the opportunity to negotiate.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	No X	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	No X	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR HOLDRIDGE TO SIGN THE CDPHP DELTA PLAN G RENEWAL AGREEMENT

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Courtenay and seconded by Councilmember Ardisana to authorize Supervisor Holdridge to sign the CDPHP Delta Plan G renewal agreement.

Discussion: Supervisor Holdridge stated that there is 0% increase and 0% changes to the existing plan.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

ARPA DISCUSSION

Supervisor Holdridge stated that after the department head meeting today, the departments are in favor of security cameras for the buildings and parks, heating and plumbing fixes for the Police Department, a new truck for the Buildings and Grounds department, and possibly filing cabinets for the Building Department. He just wanted to update the other Councilmembers from the department head meeting earlier in the morning. There are other projects around the Town that the ARPA money can be used for, but these were the highlights of what was discussed. The security cameras are fairly cheap, the majority of the cost will be coming from the labor of putting them in. The heating and plumbing fixes at the Police Department runs approximately \$7,000 for heating and there isn't an estimate for the plumbing yet. Councilmember Dysinger asked Chief Doellinger to clarify why the heating is needed at the police station. Chief Doellinger clarified that they have a detached garage and when it was built a gas line and regulator was set up in the building, but the connection and the meter was never followed through with. He just needs overhead garage ceiling heaters. Councilmember Dysinger asked why the garage needed to be heated, and Chief Doellinger replied so they can bring the temperature to above freezing in order to use the garage for storage and also to melt the snow and ice off the police vehicles. The plumbing issue at the police station has to do with the drain. It clogs up in the same spot every couple months, and Drain Works has to be called in to clear the clog. The toilet has to be removed and the drain snaked. It costs the Town money every time this work has to be done. Supervisor Holdridge said the new truck for the Buildings and Grounds department is a priority, because they are down to only one. Councilmember Dysinger asked what the specs for the truck would be, and Supervisor Holdridge said there weren't any yet, this was just the preliminary discussion stage. He mentioned that the Highway Department suggested it should probably be a dump truck because that would be utilized more. Councilmember Dysinger said that he never hears or sees the specs or what the requirements are for new vehicles. Supervisor Holdridge answered that the Highway Department recommended that it should be a certain kind of dump truck and when it comes time they will be prepared with the specifications. It may possibly be a mason dump truck. These all don't take into account some of the water related projects throughout the Town. That can be talked about at a work session at some point. There is about \$73,000 left unallocated, and there is expected to be up to \$110,000-\$120,000 in unallocated money left over from previously budgeted projects. The generator is not expected to cost the total \$125,000, and \$100,000 was allocated for the comprehensive plan and survey of Kings Highway, so there should be money left over there. They need to do this sooner rather than later, because the deadline is April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE AUCTION VALUES FOR FOUR PREVIOUSLY
AUTHORIZED VEHICLES THROUGH THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND BUILDINGS
AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENTS**

Supervisor-
Brandon Holdridge

Town Board-
Antonio Ardisana
Thomas Becker
Robert Courtenay
Larry Dysinger

Town Justice-
Janet M. Haislip
Sharon Worthy-Spiegel

TOWN OF CHESTER

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

77 Laroe Rd.
Chester, NY 10918

Tel: (845) 469-4101
Fax: (845) 469-7591

Town Clerk-
Linde Zappala

Highway Supt-
John Reilly

Receiver of Taxes-
Vincent A. Maniscalco

Building Inspector-
John Hand

Assessor-
John Schuler, III

Chief of Police-
Daniel J. Doellinger

June 12, 2024

To: Supervisor Brandon Holdridge and Town Board Members

From: Highway Superintendent, John Reilly

Re: Auction of 4 vehicles results

Dear Brandon and Town Board Members:

On May 8, 2024, the Town Board approved to auction 3 vehicles from the Highway Department and one from Park and Recreation.

The auction ended last evening and at this time, I request that you accept all of the offers and authorize Brandon Holdridge to sign any and all required documents to complete each sale.

Park & Rec vehicle -	\$2,125.00
Highway - T#4-	\$1,725.00
Highway - T#16	\$1,275.00
Highway - Tractor	\$8,800.00

For the age and condition of each of these vehicles, I see no reason to deny or counter any of these offers.

I appreciate your consideration and assistance with this matter. If you need any further information or would like to discuss this, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



John Reilly
Highway Superintendent

JR/dt

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Becker and seconded by Councilmember Dysinger to accept all the auction values for all four previously authorized vehicles through the highway and buildings and grounds departments.

Vote Rollcall:

Supervisor Holdridge	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Ardisana	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Becker	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Courtenay	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Dysinger	Yes	X	No	Abstain	Absent

ADOPTED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lydia Cuadros, via Facebook, mentioned that County Route 13A is the Kings Highway Bypass. She also mentioned that the sign says Kings Highway through the hamlet. The hamlet is no longer a county road. The town took it over. Supervisor Holdridge will look into that and correct the resolution. Chief Doellinger clarified that County Route 13A is from Bellvale Road to the Sugar Loaf firehouse, then from the firehouse all the way into Chester.

Ed Mullins, via Facebook, asked how many employees were covered by the new collective bargaining agreement? Councilmember Courtenay answered that he believes it will cover approximately 13 employees.

Alex Jamieson, via Facebook, asked how many accidents have occurred on Kings Highway due to excessive speed? The DOT would want to know that. Supervisor Holdridge said the DOT is going to do a study on that and will probably get that information from the police department. It was sent over earlier in the year. It's not only about preventing accidents, it's also about promoting pedestrian friendly areas in the hamlet.

Councilmember Courtenay thanked Ed Mullins on the work that he had done in restoring the caboose in Sugar Loaf. He is looking forward to the ribbon cutting.

Supervisor Holdridge wanted to clarify that he doesn't hold anything against the employees in the union contract. He again stressed it was just the process of how it was negotiated by the previous Supervisor. They are ready and willing to work with the union.

Councilmember Dysinger mentioned the employee handbook and that it needs to get done. Supervisor Holdridge answered it can be done now that the union is settled.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION MADE BY Councilmember Dysinger and seconded by Councilmember Courtenay to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm, there being no further business brought before the Town Board.

VOTE AYES (5): Holdridge, Ardisana, Becker, Courtenay, Dysinger

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Schmid
Deputy Town Clerk
2024-06-12