

**TOWN BOARD MEETING  
February 19, 2015**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Thursday February 19, 2015 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 7:30 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor John Coutant  
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet  
Councilperson Wayne Freer  
Councilperson Kyle Barnett  
Councilperson Diane McCord**

**Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk**

Supervisor John Coutant called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kathy Adin, town resident, invited the Town Board to a forum on the Pilgrim Pipeline at the Esopus Library on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. The Pilgrim Pipeline representatives were invited and, as of today, she reported they have not responded. The assumption was the Pilgrim Pipeline is not looking for local government support. The Town Board suggested they invite political representatives on the local, state and federal levels such as Amadore, Cahill, Lopez and Gibson. Councilperson Barnett suggested if the elected officials were unable to make the meeting on March 7th they may want to reschedule the forum to accommodate them. The use of the community center was offered in the event the library did not have the capacity to accommodate number of attendants.

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD MEMBER – MARK ANDERSON**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus in the County of Ulster, State of New York as follows,

**WHEREEAS**, the Town of Esopus Planning Board has a vacancy to be filled the Town of Esopus Town Board recommends the appointment of Mark Anderson

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Esopus Town Board appoints Mark Anderson to fill this vacancy which will expire on December 31, 2015.

**Resolution offered by:** Councilperson Wayne Freer  
**Seconded by:** Supervisor John Coutant

<b>Supervisor John Coutant</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Wayne Freer</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kyle Barnett</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Diane McCord</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE U.S. CONGRESS PROHIBIT THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE FROM CLOSING (OR “CONSOLIDATING”) ITS MAIL PROCESSING CENTER IN NEWBURGH – MID-HUDSON P & DC**

**WHEREAS**, The United States Postal Service plans to close (or consolidate) the Mid-Hudson P & DC mail Processing and Distribution Center, and

**WHEREAS**, This plan would severely delay all classes of mail delivery, and

**WHEREAS**, The delay of mail would negatively affect residents and local businesses, and would harm our community, and

**WHEREAS**, The Closure would result in a degradation of “service standards, “that would result in the virtual elimination of overnight mail delivery throughout the country, and

**WHEREAS**, The Closure is not in the public’s best interest, and

**WHEREAS**, Federal law stipulates that, “the Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through personal, educational, literary and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities,” [39 U.S. Code Section 101(a)]

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town of Esopus Town Board:

**Section 1.** That the Town of Esopus Town Board

Does hereby demand congressional intervention to stop this proposal to Close or Consolidate the Mid Hudson P & DC (Processing & Distribution Center).

**Section 2.** Does hereby demand congressional intervention to stop the delay of mail and the elimination of overnight delivery of first-class mail, set for January 5, 2015.

**Section 3.** That this resolution shall be forwarded to our U.S. Senators and Representatives and the Postmaster General

**Resolution offered by:** Councilperson Diane McCord  
**Seconded by:** Supervisor John Coutant

<b>Supervisor John Coutant</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Wayne Freer</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kyle Barnett</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Diane McCord</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY FROM CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED MARY FOR THE CREATION OF A PARKING LOT**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Esopus has been using a parking lot on land owned by the Church of the Presentation across from Ross Park on Bowen Street in Port Ewen for the past twenty-seven years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary has offered to sell the land to the Town of Esopus for its continued use of the premises as a parking lot for the sum of \$40,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Esopus expects that it will cost approximately \$10,000.00 to make the improvements necessary for the parking lot; and

**WHEREAS**, the land to be sold is a portion of the premises conveyed by the Town of Esopus Post No. 1298, American Legion Department of NY, Inc to the Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Mary in a deed dated March 29, 1948 and is also a portion of the premises identified on the Ulster County Tax map as Section 56.67, Block 3, Lot 10 (hereinafter “the premises”), and the approval of the Planning Board of the Town of Esopus is required to effectuate such sale;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus as follows:

Section 1. The Town Board of the Town of Esopus duly authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute a contract of sale for the purchase of the Premises for the sum of \$40,000.00 from the Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Mary.

Section 2. The contract of sale shall provide that it is contingent upon the Seller securing the approval of a Supreme Court Justice in accordance with the requirements of the New York Religious Corporation Law.

Section 3. The Contract of sale shall also provide that upon obtaining the approval of a Supreme Court Justice, the purchaser’s obligations are further contingent upon:

A. The enactment by the Town of Esopus of a bond resolution and the securing of bond financing from a committed lender for \$50,000.00 for the acquisition of the parcel and improvements to be made to the parking lot, and

B. The Planning Board of the Town of Esopus issuing such municipal approvals as may be required for the conveyance of the Premises.

Section 4. Authority to hereby delegate to the Town Supervisor to execute a written contract of sale on such final terms and conditions as the Town Supervisor and the town's legal counsel shall approve.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption subject to permissive referendum.

**Resolution offered by: Councilperson Kyle Barnett**  
**Seconded by: Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet**

<b>Supervisor John Coutant</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Wayne Freer</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kyle Barnett</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Diane McCord</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**RESOLUTION TO INCREASE ALCOHOL PERMIT FEE FOR TOWN OF ESOPUS PARKS**

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Esopus Town Board, County of Ulster, State of New York, has recognized the need to increase the alcohol permit fees for the Town of Esopus parks as listed below:

Alcohol Permit fee – Residents	\$50 (no change)
Alcohol Permit fee – Non-Residents	\$100

**The Town will no longer require additional insurance for the issuance of the alcohol permit.**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Esopus Town Board approves the fee listed above effective March 1, 2015.

**Resolution offered by: Supervisor John Coutant**  
**Seconded by: Councilperson Diane McCord**

<b>Supervisor John Coutant</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Wayne Freer</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kyle Barnett</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Diane McCord</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**Resolution passed with a vote 4 to 1**

**ROCHESTER DOG CONTRACT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF ROCHESTER AND THE TOWN OF ESOPUS FOR THE BOARDING OF DOGS AT THE ROCHESTER POUND UNTIL THEY CAN BE TRANSPORTED TO THE UCSPCA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**ESOPUS HISTORY DAY**

Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>, the Hudson Valley Maritime Museum, in conjunction with the Town of Esopus, Klyne Esopus Museum and Town Historian will hold an Esopus History Day at the Esopus Town Hall from 1 pm – 5 pm. They are looking for residents or one time residents of Esopus to bring any memories, photos or objects related to the history of the Hudson River, Rondout Creek and any river – related industries to history day. There will be staff on hand to accept donations of any items and a scanner will be available to make copies of the images so originals do not have to be surrendered. Light refreshments will be provided. Supervisor Coutant encourages people to come out and share their stories and memorabilia.

**CHANNEL 23 - \$5,000 GRANT**

The State of New York has awarded \$5,000 for the purpose of purchasing equipment for Channel 23. Brian Barnes will be consulted on equipment needs to benefit our listening audience.

**SUPERVISOR’S AUDIT**

Supervisor Coutant received a letter from Brian Pickard, CPA who conducted an audit of the 2014 cash accounts for the Town of Esopus Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Justice Court. All cash receipts and disbursements were properly recorded by the individuals in these departments.

**NO BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - FEBRUARY**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

General Fund	151016 -151087 151065 – Voided	\$ 46,859.22
Highway Fund	152004 – 152033	\$ 42,256.28
Street Lights	156002	\$ 7,095.36
Port Ewen Sewer Fund	153001 - 153018	\$ 73,267.90
Port Ewen Water Fund	154001 - 154040	\$ 53,667.47
Total.....		\$223,146.23

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS.**

**OFFERED BY: Councilperson Kyle Barnett**  
**SECONDED BY: Councilperson Wayne Freer**

**ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

Supervisor John Coutant	AYE
Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Kyle Barnett	AYE
Councilperson Diane McCord	AYE

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET AND SECONDED COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**COMMUNICATION & REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE**

**Miscellaneous**

Supervisor Coutant reminded everyone the scheduling for Freer Beach and Ross Park begins on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for Town residents and April 1<sup>st</sup> for non- residents in the Town Clerks office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:30 PM WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Respectively Submitted,**

**Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk**