

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on November 10, 2015, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Finch, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Town Board Members	Bullock, Boyle, Dumian, Francisco, Finch
	Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
	Assistant to Supervisor	Lisa Houston
	Public Works Superintendent	Tom DeLamarter
<b>GUESTS:</b>	<b>Country Courier</b>	Elizabeth Einstein Laurie Francisco Melissa Martinez Mira Hailu

**MINUTES: OCTOBER 27, 2015 WORK SESSION & REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Bullock moved to approve the October 27, 2015 Work Session and Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Finch acknowledged receipt of correspondence from the New York State Dental Foundation commending the Town of Conklin Water Department for its fluoride program. He also acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Upstate Towers regarding potential cell phone towers in the Town.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**REPORT: TOWN CLERK**

Refer to written report.

**REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

In addition to his written report, Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that the blacktopping is completed for the year and leaf pickup will be completed on November 30. He stated that all of the Highway Department equipment is prepared for snow.

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**REPORT: WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT**

In addition to his written report, Public Works Superintendent Tom DeLamarter reported that the Town Parks are officially closed for the season. He stated that Shawsville Cemetery was mowed and raked by the Broome County Sheriff's Department weekend inmates and that all is well with the Landfill and with the Town sewer system.

Mr. DeLamarter reported that the hydrant flushing is completed and the water tank on Ahern Road has been cleaned. He stated that there was a water main break near Sullivan Park, as well as two issues with hydrants in the Town. Mr. DeLamarter reported that the water meters are being read for the quarterly billing.

**REPORT: CODE OFFICE**

Refer to written report.

**REPORT: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE**

Refer to written report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**UPDATE/PROPOSED LOCAL LAWS**

Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco provided an update on the proposed local laws discussed by the Town Board, adding that two Public Hearings have been scheduled – one regarding rezoning certain properties and the second regarding abandoned and junk vehicles. She stated that she has been in consultation with Code Officer Ron Lake and is working on the Fill Local Law, which the Board at a previous meeting determined to be a priority.

**UPDATE/WATER & SEWER SHUTOFF NOTICES**

Ms. Sacco provided an update regarding the issue of water and sewer shutoff notices, stating that "reasonable notice," 30 days, must be given, and the notices must be either personally served or mailed. Notices should be sent to the property owner, manager if there is one, and to each tenant. She stated that a tenant must have the ability to open an account in his or her name, and added that a hearing is required. Mr. Finch stated that the Town of Conklin telephones delinquent customers, as well as sending notices.

Mr. DeLamarter stated that the water service line is owned by the property owner, not by the tenant. Ms. Sacco stated that the Town can recoup the money owed by either levying the charge against the property taxes or by personal debt (a lawsuit). She stated that the Town cannot shut off the water before giving a tenant the opportunity to put the account in his or her name. Mr. Francisco asked if the property owner can be charged for the cost of the mailings of notices.

Mr. Dumian stated that the amount of money due should be considered in the decision to pursue payment through a lawsuit rather than levying against the taxes to make sure it is worth the cost in the long run. He added that the Town "can't be selective" in which delinquent customers it pursues. Assistant to the Supervisor Lisa Houston stated that there are approximately 20 properties whose water bills are annually rolled over into the re-levy for non-payment.

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**TICKETS**

Mr. Finch asked for an update on an issue with tickets for the Code Office and Ms. Sacco stated that she has been working with Mr. Lake and with Town Justice J. Marshall Ayres to revise the form and content of the tickets issued by the Code Office.

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs asked about the possibility of mailing tickets for unpaid overdue dog licenses and Ms. Sacco stated that mailing these tickets, either by regular or by certified mail, is not sufficient. She stated that the tickets must be personally served or the Judge cannot issue a bench warrant for failure to appear.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**UPSTATE CELL TOWERS**

Mr. Finch stated that Upstate Cell Towers is interested in four possible locations, adding that three are on FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Buyout property, which would probably not be an allowable use on that property. The fourth site being considered is near the Community Center. There is also some consideration being given to the old pumphouse in Schnurbusch Park.

**RESO 2015-195: CANCEL DECEMBER 22, 2015 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Bullock moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin cancels the Regular Town Board Meeting scheduled for December 22, 2015.

Seconded by Mr. Dumian.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2015-196: APPROVE INCREASE/\$.60 PER HOUR/COLIN CASEY/SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION/GRADE B WATER OPERATOR COURSE/EFFECTIVE 10-30-2015**

Mr. Bullock moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves an increase in pay rate of \$.60 per hour, effective October 30, 2015, for Colin Casey upon successful completion of the Grade B Water Operator course.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

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**RESO 2015-197: APPROVE INCREASE/\$.60 PER HOUR/NICHOLAS  
PLATT/SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION/GRADE B WATER OPERATOR COURSE/  
EFFECTIVE 10-30-2015**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves an increase in pay rate of \$.60 per hour, effective October 30, 2015, for Nicholas Platt upon successful completion of the Grade B Water Operator course.

Seconded by Mr. Dumian.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2015-198: RATIFY PAYMENT/GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING, LLC/  
STILLWATER ROAD STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT SERVICES/9-16 – 9-30-2015**

Mr. Bullock moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #101, account code HS8597.2, in the amount of \$1,899.00 to Griffiths Engineering, LLC, for Stillwater Road Stormwater Improvement services provided in the period September 16 through September 30, 2015.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Finch stated that this is part of the Rising Community Grant Project.

**RESO 2015-199: RATIFY PAYMENT/GREATER BINGHAMTON CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE/ANNUAL CHAMBER MEETING**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #10018, account code A1220.4, in the amount of \$198.00 to the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce for the annual Chamber meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2015-200: RATIFY ACH PAYMENT/PITNEY BOWES/POSTAGE REFILL**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies an ACH payment, account code A1670.4, in the amount of \$500.00 to Pitney Bowes as payment for refilling the postage meter.

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Seconded by Mr. Dumian.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2015-201: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$51,515.01**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes payment of the following Bill List in the total amount of \$51,515.01:

General	\$ 9,608.60
Highway	10,907.19
Flood Emergency Fund	3,095.00
Sewer District	21,735.43
Water District	<u>6,168.79</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 51,515.01</b>

Seconded by Mr. Bullock.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Boyle – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**TIME WARNER CABLE AGREEMENT**

Ms. Sacco stated that she still has not had any response from Time Warner Cable regarding the new agreement with the Town. She stated that she will send another e-mail to the company. She added that Time Warner Cable is looking at another possible merger currently.

**MEETING WITH PARANORMAL ACTIVITY SOCIETY**

Mr. Boyle stated that he would be meeting with the Paranormal Activity Society at 5:00 P.M. on November 11, 2015, and invited anyone present to attend. Mr. Dumian asked how the Town got involved with this group and Mr. Boyle replied that it was in response to an article in the newspaper stating that there is possible paranormal activity in the Castle, citing the “Valentino’s Ghost” urban legend.

**CONKLIN VETERANS MEMORIAL**

Mr. Dumian stated that the Conklin Veterans Memorial Committee has done a “great job” and asked if the Town could contribute toward the lighting that is still needed for the memorial. Mr. Francisco will research ways in which the Town might be able to help. Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs stated that the Conklin Fair Committee had donated \$500 from this year’s fair to the memorial fund.

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**UPCOMING DATES**

Ms. Jacobs updated the Town Board on a number of upcoming dates:

November 19 – 5:30 PM	Next Town Board Meeting (No meeting November 24)
November 16	“Fill the Sleigh” for children in community begins
November 29 - 5 PM	Tree Lighting at Town Hall
December 12 - 1-3:30 PM	Community Christmas Party at Community Center
December 16 – 1-3 PM	Employee Christmas Party at Town Hall

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Francisco moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Dumian. The meeting adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs  
Town Clerk