

**WORK SESSION**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 5:30 P.M. on February 28, 2017, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

<b>PRESENT:</b> Town Board Members	Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian
Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello
Administrative Clerk	Mary Plonski
Water/Parks Department	Nick Platt
Zoning Board of Appeals	Tom Kelly

<b>GUESTS:</b> <b>Country Courier</b>	Elizabeth Einstein
<b>Country Courier</b>	Don Einstein
Conklin Vol. Fire Dept.	Bill Gorman
Deputy Broome Co. Executive	Kevin McManus
	Laurie Francisco
	John Colley
	Arlene C. Dubay
	Melissa Bronson
	LeRoy Jenkins
	Todd Jenkins

**QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER**

Don Einstein, publisher of the **Country Courier**, presented an estimate of the cost of producing a quarterly newsletter for the Town. Secretary to the Supervisor Lisa Houston stated that the last Town Newsletter, published in October 2015, cost \$484.33 for postage plus \$550.00 for printing, for a total of approximately \$1,034.00. Mr. Einstein stated that his company would produce a quarterly newspaper at a cost of \$900 for each printing, for four pages or up to eight pages. He stated that for that issue, there would be two printings of the **Country Courier**, with the Town's Newspaper, maybe the **Conklin Courier**, as the front pages of the second printing, which would go to all the residents in Conklin. Mr. Einstein stated that the mailing would include some of the Town of Binghamton, so that it would reach Conklin Forks residents.

Mr. Francisco suggested publishing the newspaper every six months. Mr. Dumian suggested including announcements from Town service organizations and asked Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs if she would gather this information and organize all of the newspaper content, which she agreed to do.

Mr. Boyle stated that this would be a less expensive method to use for mailers or in an emergency. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town would still be required to advertise in the **Country Courier** for legal notices, as well as being required to provide Neighbor Notices. Mr. Platt asked if news and announcements could be e-mailed through the Town website. Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs, who updates the website, stated that the Town website is not capable of that feature. Mr. Francisco stated that it would be too time-consuming to build that large a data base.

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Mr. Einstein stated that the Town news would be on the front page, with pictures. Mr. Dumian asked if the Board wanted to publish in January and July and Mr. Francisco suggested early April and early September. Ms. Jacobs will organize the content from various departments and community groups.

**EMPLOYEE POLICY AND BENEFITS MANUAL**

The Town Board revisited their discussion of the Town Employee Policy and Benefits Manual. Mr. Dumian stated that page 8, Article 10, #2, should read a “maximum of 20 days.” Mr. Francisco questioned page 6, Article 5, #1, which specifies that the Highway Superintendent shall maintain and submit attendance records for all Highway Department personnel. He asked why the other department heads, such as the Public Works Superintendent, are not included. Mr. Dumian stated that this is covered under Article 5, #2, which states that the Bookkeeping Department shall maintain attendance records for **all** employees, **including** those submitted by the Highway Superintendent. Mr. Francisco approved the changes suggested on page 10, Article 11, #2b, which allows a part-time employee to use ¼ day sick time instead of the current mandated ½ day, adding that the employee would not have to use a half-day sick time for a doctor’s appointment. This also applies to the proposed change in Article 11, #3, which allows full-time employees to use sick leave in two hour increments, rather than four.

Mr. Dumian stated that on page 12, Article 15, the following wording should be added: “Part-time Elected Official shall be eligible for enrollment in single coverage plan as stated above, **or** be eligible for the Medical Pool Plan, **but not both**. Mr. Francisco disagreed, stating that this would “greatly impact one retiree.” Mr. Dumian responded that this addition would mean **no part-time Elected Official** would have benefits. He added that this would save the Town a substantial amount of money. A part-time elected official with a salary of \$9,700 plus \$1,500 in Medical Pool money would make about \$11,200, as opposed to a part-time elected official with a salary of \$9,700 plus \$1,500 in Medical Pool money plus Health Insurance would cost the Town \$14,500. Mr. Dumian added that the increase in the cost of health insurance is “alarming,” adding that the Town must look at the total compensation package. He stated that the open enrollment period is usually in October. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that a “life changing event” allows a person to change their insurance coverage outside of the open enrollment period, adding that removal of coverage by the Town would constitute a “life changing event.” Ms. Sacco stated that the change could be made at open enrollment, or with confirmation from Town insurance representative Tom Augustini that loss of coverage is a “life changing event.” She added that this change could be implemented moving forward, with current retirees “grandfathered in.” Mr. Francisco would like this confirmation from Mr. Augustini.

Mr. Dumian addressed page 13, Article 15, proposed addition 4a, which states that any Retired employee or Elected Official receiving continued health coverage will lose entitlement to that continued health insurance coverage once they cancel the Town’s insurance. They would be unable to rejoin the insurance plan. Mr. Francisco noted that retired, meaning a person is vested and is drawing a pension from the New York State Retirement Plan, is not the same as having resigned, which he stated should mean all claims to Town of Conklin benefits are lost. If an Elected Official were to lose an election, they could retire, if eligible, or resign or lose the position, but no benefits would be available in the latter case. Secretary to the Supervisor Lisa Houston stated that a person **must** retire from the New York State Retirement system to be eligible, referencing page 13, Article 16, #2. Mr. Francisco added that if a person resigns, they are not eligible for anything prior to retirement. Mr. Dumian summed it up by stating, “No **part-time** Elected Officials are entitled to any benefits when they are no longer on the Town Board.”

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Mr. Dumian clarified that page 13, Article 16, #2, **Retired Full Time Elected Officials** continue to be eligible for benefits specified, adding that **Part-Time Elected Officials** would be eligible for no benefits once they are no longer on the Town Board. Mr. Dumian stated that in 2011, benefits were taken away from Town employees, citing fiscal hardship, but in 2012, the money was given to benefits for part-time Elected Officials. He added that three Part-Time Elected Officials cost the Town \$13,200 per year, totaling approximately \$66,000 after five years. Mr. Francisco reiterated that benefits for Part-Time Elected Officials should not be continued after they are no longer on the Town Board. Mr. Boyle stated that Town Board members should have the goal of “serving the people.” Mr. Dumian stated that this situation is “not right for the taxpayers and residents of the Town.” The Board was in consensus regarding this change to the Policy. Mr. Dumian asked that the changes be effective by July 1, 2017, after which time benefits would no longer be available to Part-Time Elected Officials no longer in office. He stated that page 12, Article 15, proposed addition b1), Part-Time Elected Officials’ eligibility for health insurance coverage **or** Medical Pool Plan but not both, would become effective January 1, 2018.

Page 14, Section 3 adjusts the amounts available in the Medical Pool Plan. Section 4 b1) on that page adds the following: “Reimbursement of Self health insurance payments made by a Town employee or elected official will be eligible for reimbursement only if that employee or elected official does not have Town Health Insurance, and is limited to the amount of Pool limits.” Page 15, Article 17 addresses clothing allowances for all highway employees, water and sewer department employees, code enforcement employees, and the dog control officer. The Town of Conklin currently provides uniforms for the Highway Department and Water and Sewer Department personnel. The clothing allowance will be increased from \$125 to \$200.

Mr. Dumian stated that the proposed changes to the Employee Policy and Benefits Manual will be sent to the Board for potential adoption at the March 14 Town Board meeting.

**COLEMAN ROAD REZONING REQUEST**

Ms. Sacco stated that she researched the request to re-zone a property on Coleman Road and determined that it would not constitute spot zoning, as the property is contiguous to property already zoned Agricultural. She stated that the Planning Board wanted to set a Public Hearing and sent Neighbor Notices but that is the responsibility of the Town Board.

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on February 28, 2017, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Town Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian

Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello
Administrative Clerk	Mary Plonski
Water/Parks Department	Nick Platt
Zoning Board of Appeals	Tom Kelly

**GUESTS:** **Country Courier** Elizabeth Einstein  
**Country Courier** Don Einstein  
Conklin Vol. Fire Dept. Bill Gorman  
Deputy Broome Co. Executive Kevin McManus  
Laurie Francisco  
John Colley  
Arlene C. Dubay  
Melissa Bronson  
LeRoy Jenkins  
Todd Jenkins

**MINUTES: FEBRUARY 14, 2017 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Francisco moved to approve the February 14, 2017 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**DEPUTY BROOME COUNTY EXECUTIVE KEVIN MCMANUS**

Deputy Broome County Executive Kevin McManus presented a summary of the State of the County, focusing on the Broome County Airport, the opioid crisis, the County’s fund balance, and the creation of jobs. He stated that Broome County has a budget of \$375 million, and the New York State Comptroller’s Office recommends maintaining 10 per cent of the total (\$37 million) as a Fund Balance, a kind of “rainy day” account. Mr. McManus stated that this is “not happening,” adding that the fund balance at the end of 2017 will be approximately \$1.5 million. He stated that the Comptroller’s Office classified Broome County as being in “deep distress financially.” He stated that efforts to remedy this situation include a temporary hiring freeze, a travel freeze on non-mandated travel, a look at the County’s purchasing practices, formation of a shared services committee, and attempting to “think outside the box.”

Mr. McManus stated that the costs have increased for the Public Defender and the Coroner, due to the opioid crisis. Adding to the problem is a shortfall in anticipated Social Services revenue and in anticipated medical marijuana revenue, as well as in anticipated sales tax revenue. He

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stated that the Comptroller is auditing Broome County and will make suggestions for improvements.

Mr. McManus stated that there were 76 deaths from opioid abuse in Broome County in 2016, compared to 375 deaths in Erie County, whose population is five times that of Broome County, in the same time period. He stated that Broome County has the highest rate of property theft crimes in New York State. Mr. McManus called this a public health crisis and stated that the County government, under the new leadership of Broome County Executive Jason Garner, has increased funding to the Broome Opioid Abuse Council (BOAC). One problem, stated Mr. McManus, is that the County does not have good data. He stated that the County is trying to contain and confront this crisis.

In regard to the Broome County Airport, Mr. McManus stated that the industry is changing. He stated that one change is the mandating of 1,500 hours of training, which he stated took some pilots out of the system and increased the cost of salaries for remaining pilots. He stated that Broome County wants to keep passenger service in and out of Broome County. Mr. McManus stated that the Airport Advisory Committee is partnering with Binghamton University, SUNY Broome (with an expansion of its airplane mechanics program), the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce, and with area businesses. He stated that the County also wants to market its Industrial Park near the Airport.

Speaking about the job situation in Broome County, Mr. McManus stated that there are 1,500 jobs available that companies cannot fill because of the lack of qualified employees. He stated that the work force needs to be retrained, with 83% of workers in Broome County having only a high school diploma or less. He stated that the County plans to subsidize internships at Broome County for students from Binghamton University and SUNY Broome. He stated that the Veterans Administration will assist with retraining also, providing “one-stop shopping” in Binghamton.

Mr. John Colley asked if the airline that had stopped service due to renovations being done in May will be returning to service to the Broome County Airport and Mr. McManus stated that the airline will resume service. Mr. Dumian stated that penalties on opioid dealers need to be more severe and Mr. McManus replied that District Attorney Steve Cornwell is working on getting harsher penalties and on expediting sending convicted dealers to New York State prisons, to aid the overpopulation of the Broome County Correctional Facility. Mr. Dumian stated that he understands that funding for law enforcement is an issue and asked if there is any grant money available to help with this issue. Mr. McManus stated that Governor Cuomo has released funds to aid with this crisis.

Mr. Francisco asked if the Floyd Maines Veterans Memorial Arena will revert to being named the Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena after the ten year agreement with the Maines family is completed. Mr. McManus stated that he has no information regarding this question to date. Mr. Dumian stated that he has spoken with Broome County Executive Garner about shared services, adding that the Town is currently working on a long-term agreement with the Town of Binghamton for shared services, creating efficiency in municipal departments.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Dumian stated that he received a phone call from Verizon expressing an interest in constructing cell towers in the Town. He invited Verizon representatives to come to a Town Board meeting to share their ideas.

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON CONKLIN ROAD**

Arlene Dubay of Corbettsville stated that she walks Route 7 (Conklin Road) from Corbettsville to the Town Hall three times per week and has noticed “a lot of truck traffic.” She added that in a fifteen minute period of time she observed three large trucks carrying a “sandbox” coming from Pennsylvania and asked what they might be carrying. Mr. Dumian stated that it could be stone from the Lopke Quarry but Conklin Fire Chief Bill Gorman stated that it is sand for the new Dick’s Warehouse Distribution Center construction project. Mr. Gorman added that it is a construction vehicle. Mrs. Dubay stated that the truck traffic is “constant,” adding that the trucks from Lopke Quarry are not covered and stone goes flying when they pass, making it difficult to bike or walk on Route 7. She asked whose responsibility is it to clean the sides of Route 7 and asked, “Can they do what they want?” Mr. Dumian replied that the trucks can haul whatever they want, “as long as they have the correct permits.” Mrs. Dubay also stated that the speed limit reduction requested from New York State should be extended to the Conklin Forks Road intersection with Conklin Road, and Mr. Dumian stated that the request for a reduced speed limit was for the portion of Conklin Road from the intersection with Conklin Forks Road to the entrance to the Dick’s Warehouse project. She also stated that a crosswalk with a pedestrian button should be installed to allow walkers and bikers to safely cross the Broome Corporate Parkway at its intersection with Conklin Road. Finally, Mrs. Dubay asked how long election signs are allowed to remain up after the election and was informed that the limit is 60 days prior and ten days afterward. Mrs. Dubay stated that someone should contact Claudia Tenney’s office to remove her election sign that is still in place on Conklin Road.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**RECREATIONAL PROPERTY AND USES**

The Board addressed the question of campers being allowed on property in the Town of Conklin. Town Code currently does not allow campers unless they are stored in the side yard or behind a home. Suggestions to allow campers with restrictions included: set dates permitted, a requirement that the camper unit remain mobile for removal, and limiting only one camper per site. This recreational use for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Buyout property was also considered. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town would need “good guidelines and enforcement by the Code Office.” He added that the Town could change its local laws to allow campers on the FEMA Buyout property by the Susquehanna River. Mr. Boyle suggested that a property owner could have his or her camper in place for the season, with visitors allowed to bring an additional camper for a period of two weeks. Ms. Sacco asked if this would be allowed only at a residence or on vacant property as well. Mr. Dumian stated that it should be whatever benefits the majority of residents. Ms. Sacco stated that the Board would need to consider Chapter 140 of the Town Code and the Comprehensive Plan, adding that the proposed zoning change should be sent to the Planning Board for recommendations, with a Public Hearing set to approve a new local law. She added that it could potentially be “controversial.” Mr. Dumian asked if the Board needs more time to think about this issue and consensus of the Board was that they would like more time. Ms. Sacco suggested that the Board review Chapter 140 of the Town Code regarding Zoning. She stated that another option would be to create an overlay district for campers. The Board will discuss this further at the Work Session on March 28.

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**FEMA BUYOUT PROPERTY LEASES**

Administrative Clerk Mary Plonski stated that she needs direction from the Board regarding the policy of contacting prior owners of FEMA Buyout properties first with the opportunity to lease the property. She added that the Town does not know where some of the prior owners are currently and so cannot contact them. Second notification of availability goes to residents whose properties are neighboring the sites in question. Ms. Plonski stated that of twelve properties for which an application to lease was submitted, letters were sent to four prior owners, with only one response received. Mr. Farley stated that a “reasonable search” should be sufficient. Mr. Platt suggested putting an ad in the paper for 30 days. Fire Chief Gorman stated that the first neighbor to apply should be awarded the lease – “first come, first served.” Mr. Francisco stated that the current Code only allows mowing and maintenance on these Buyout properties. Mr. Boyle agreed that the neighbor taking the initiative to apply should be awarded the lease opportunity. Ms. Sacco stated that after a reasonable attempt, anyone could be awarded the lease opportunity on a first come, first served basis. Mr. Dumian stated that the lease is for five years, so if there is an issue, changes to the agreements can be made. Any lessees must mow and maintain the properties.

**UPDATE/ROUTE 7A WATER LINE EXTENSION**

Mr. Dumian presented an update on the potential water line extension on Route 7A, adding that a booster station would be required for this project. He stated that the parcel breakdown includes eight properties owned by the Town of Conklin through the Flood Buyout Program, adding that the Town would be responsible for paying the bond for these properties on any water line extension in that area. Of the potential 120 new users, 51% must agree to the creation of the water district and the bonding for the project in order for it to be approved. The average annual cost per unit, assuming a 30-year bond at 3% apr with no federal or state aid, would be \$643 per year for each of the 120 units. However, 32 of the potential properties could be combined, which would increase the cost per unit. The Town cannot charge more than \$902 before it is required to seek permission from the New York State Comptroller’s Office. It was also pointed out that if the Town experiences another major flood and more property is acquired by the Town through FEMA Buyout Programs, the Town would then be responsible for the bond for those properties. The cost of the proposed water extension is approximately \$1,524,000. Ms. Sacco stated that a larger water district will provide less cost savings for the residents because density of population is lacking. Mr. Dumian added that use of Rising Community Grant monies is not a viable option. It was suggested that the Board invite the 17 residents who signed the petition requesting the extension to come to the March 28 Work Session to get their feedback. Mr. Francisco suggested inviting all residents in the area in question and Mr. Dumian replied that the Town could put an ad in the **Country Courier** advising residents of the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**POWERS ROAD/PROGRESS PARKWAY BUSINESS EXPANSION**

Mr. Dumian presented an update on the Powers Road/Progress Parkway Business Expansion project. He stated that the Town has sent a letter to the owners of the property located at 1029 Powers Road and they are interested in selling the property to the Town. A business owner (Mr. Tuzze) wants to expand his salt distribution business, and acquisition of this property and expansion of Progress Parkway would aid his efforts and would open that area for more business development and for the potential to move some of the Town operations, utilizing Rising Community Grant monies, to that area, out of the flood zone. Suzanne Barkley, of the Rising

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Community Grant Program, stated that moving the Town operations “will take months.” Mr. Dumian is looking for feedback from the Board. Mr. Dumian added that municipal water and sewer are already present at this site. He stated that the Town might add turn lanes and widen Progress Parkway. Re-routing truck traffic from JVA De-Icing would alleviate issues on Hardie Road. Mr. Dumian stated that Mr. Tuzze’s efforts to add railroad service to JVA De-Icing are progressing. Mr. Francisco stated that perhaps Broome County would conduct a traffic study and maybe add a traffic signal to that intersection, noting that it is part of the Walkable Community Project. Mr. Dumian also noted that there will be increased truck traffic due to the Dick’s Warehouse Distribution Center project.

**WATER & SEWER RADIO SYSTEM**

Water and Sewer Department Worker Nick Platt discussed the upgrade to the Water and Sewer Radio System. He explained that after the 2006 Flood, water meters were upgraded using FEMA reimbursement monies to utilize radio reads, which he stated have a 20% human error rating. Mr. Platt stated that Census is updating its hardware and software, for longer range and a dedicated signal, making the Town of Conklin’s equipment obsolete. Replacement of radio readers would provide the Town with 25 new meters and 25 new radio readers at a cost of \$18,500. Mr. Platt stated that these are hand-held readers and that the price includes full training. He stated that if the Town waits until it has no choice but to replace the equipment, it will cost approximately \$50,000, at 900+ meters at \$400 per meter. Ms. Sacco asked if this is the sole source for this equipment upgrade and Mr. Platt replied that it is the sole source. Mr. Platt will research the cost per radio reader for replacement after the initial 25, compared to replacement cost currently. Mr. Platt stated that the two systems (old and new) can be tied together so that the reader will read both.

**SHARED SERVICES/LONG-TERM AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF BINGHAMTON/DOG CONTROL OFFICER**

Mr. Dumian stated that he has been discussing the potential shared services agreement for Dog Control Services with Town of Binghamton Councilwoman Elizabeth Rounds. He stated that in 2016, only 22 dogs combined from both towns were taken to the Front Street Dog Shelter. Town of Conklin Dog Control Officer Nick Vascello stated that in February 2017 he only had one call for a dog pick-up. Mr. Dumian stated that the long-term agreement would include a 30-day opt out clause for both parties. The Town of Binghamton would pay the Town of Conklin \$500 per month plus mileage for use of the Town of Conklin Dog Control vehicle when used in the Town of Binghamton. Mr. Vascello will keep track of the mileage for each Town. Mr. Dumian stated that it is more practical for Mr. Vascello to drive the Dog Control Vehicle to and from work to his home because he is on call 24 hours per day every day.

**RESO 2017-54: ALLOW DOG CONTROL/CODE OFFICER TO TAKE TOWN OF CONKLIN VAN HOME/TO BE USED FOR TOWN OF CONKLIN CODE CALLS & TOWN OF CONKLIN AND TOWN OF BINGHAMTON DOG CONTROL CALLS ONLY**

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin allows the Dog Control Officer/Code Officer, Nick Vascello, to take the Town of Conklin van home, to be used for Town of Conklin Code calls and Town of Conklin and Town of Binghamton Dog Control calls only.



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Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dumian was asked about the agreement with the Front Street Dog Shelter and he asked if the Board wanted to extend the agreement to the end of 2017. Ms. Sacco stated that the Town could terminate the agreement after the first six months of 2017. Mr. Dumian stated that he will talk to both the Front Street Dog Shelter and Humane Society representatives to see who offers the more economical agreement. Mr. Vascello stated that the Town of Binghamton has already given the Front Street Dog Shelter 60 days' notice that it plans to terminate its agreement with the Shelter.

**RESO 2017-55: RATIFY PAYMENT/U.S. POSTAL SERVICE/1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER WATER & SEWER BILLING POSTAGE**

Mr. Platt moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #11989, account code SW8310.4, in the amount of \$306.00 to the U.S. Postal Service for postage for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Water and Sewer Billing.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2017-56: RATIFY ACH PAYMENT/PITNEY BOWES/POSTAGE METER REFILL FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies an ACH payment in the amount of \$500.00 to Pitney Bowes for a postage meter refill for various departments.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2017-57: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$147,528.87**

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 \$147,528.87:

General	\$ 22,647.80
Highway	55,740.77
Light Districts	2,424.80
Sewer District #1	58,370.74
Water District	6,115.26
Non-Budget	<u>2,229.50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$147,528.87</b>

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Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESO 2017-58: ACCEPT RESIGNATION/RENEE HAUSS/CROSSING**  
**GUARD/EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2017**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts the resignation of Renee Hauss from the position of Crossing Guard, effective March 31, 2017.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dumian stated that both of the Substitute Crossing Guards have applied for Ms. Hauss's position. He and Mr. Francisco will interview both persons and make a recommendation to the Board.

**PROPOSED RE-ZONING/1941 COLEMAN ROAD**

Ms. Sacco stated that proposed Local Law 1, rezoning 1941 Coleman Road, had been sent to the Planning Board for recommendations. She stated that the Town Board could address the re-zoning issue now or wait for a petition to extend the re-zoning to Agricultural to more properties. She stated that the Local Law would require a Form 239 submission to Broome County and a Public Hearing.

**RESO 2017-59: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING/APRIL 11, 2017 AT 6:35 P.M./LOCAL**  
**LAW 1, 2017/AMENDING TOWN OF CONKLIN ZONING MAP**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin schedules a Public Hearing at 6:35 P.M. on April 11, 2017, to receive input regarding proposed Local Law 1, 2017, "Amending the Town of Conklin Zoning Map."

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW MINE/200 MONTROSE DRIVE**

Ms. Sacco stated that the Town received a letter from the DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) regarding a new mine to be located at 200 Montrose Drive. The letter addressed the SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) notice and who would be Lead Agency on the project. Ms. Sacco recommends letting the DEC be Lead Agency. She explained that the DEC issues the mining permit but the Town Board issues a Special Use Permit, per Chapter 140 of the Town Code. She will send letters to the DEC and to the applicant, explaining the need to apply for a Special Use Permit.

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**UPSTATE TOWERS/COMMUNICATION TOWER APPLICATION**

Ms. Sacco stated that the Town received an application from Upstate Towers to install a communications tower in a flood plain. She stated that the flood plain permit is missing and some other conditional items. Mr. Francisco asked if this is a new site plan, with a collapse zone.

**RESO 2017-60: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING/APRIL 11, 2017 AT 6:40 P.M./UPSTATE TOWERS/COMMUNICATION TOWER APPLICATION**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin schedules a Public Hearing at 6:40 P.M. on April 11, 2017, to receive input regarding an application from Upstate Towers to install a communications tower.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY LAW**

Mr. Boyle distributed copies of a law regarding renewable energy for the Board to read. He had received the sample law from the Upstate Association of Towns. One point of discussion is the opt-in/opt-out clause for PILOT (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) agreements. If a municipality opts out, no PILOT agreements are offered and the project becomes 100% taxable. If a municipality opts in for PILOT agreements, there is a tax exemption for improvement, but this could be an incentive for a company to develop a renewable energy project. Projects covered under this type of legislation include wind, solar, and agricultural waste.

**STREET LIGHTS**

Mr. Francisco stated that NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas Corporation) has not been responsive to requests to repair non-functioning street lights. He therefore sent a letter to NYSEG requesting a refund on usage, as the Town has paid money for service not received. Mr. Boyle asked if NYSEG could replace the current bulbs with LED lights when they repair the street lights.

**BUILDING ISSUES**

Mr. Francisco asked Air Temp for a quote on the heating system sensor for the Community Center. He stated that he spoke with Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington about the remaining stucco for the Castle and Mr. Coddington stated that it will be done in April.

**SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION/CONKLIN ROAD**

Mr. Francisco stated that he voted against the request to reduce the speed limit on Conklin Road because at the time of the vote the Board did not have the information regarding the increase in traffic at the entrance to the Dick's Warehouse Distribution Center. He is now in favor of a reduction of speed at that area of Conklin Road.

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

**WEBSITE**

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs thanked **Country Courier** photographer and editor Elizabeth Einstein for the new group photo of the current Town Board and other officials for the Town website. The picture it replaces was several years old and was out-of-date.

**CONKLIN BEAUTIFICATION CORPS PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET**

Ms. Jacobs stated that the Conklin Beautification Corps will meet March 1 and will discuss its budget proposal for 2017, which she will present at the March 14 Town Board meeting.

**RESO 2017-61: EXECUTIVE SESSION/SPECIFIC ISSUE WITH PERSONNEL**

Mr. Boyle moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting and move into Executive Session at 8:10 P.M. to discuss a specific issue regarding personnel.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

An Executive Session of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin was held at the Conklin Town Hall at 8:10 P.M. with Supervisor William Dumian, Jr., presiding. Present were: Supervisor Dumian, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Farley, Mr. Platt, Mr. Francisco, and Attorney Cheryl Sacco. MS. Sacco assumed duties of secretary of the meeting.

A discussion was held pursuant to Public Officers Law section 100 of the State of New York regarding the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

**REO 2017-62: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Francisco moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 8:30 P.M. No actions were taken.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dumian moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Francisco. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs  
Town Clerk

