

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: 3/13/2016
Subject: Supervisor's Report



1. Financial Report – February was a normal month. We received the \$70,000 sales tax payment for the 4Q15 from the County. With this sales tax cash, our cash reserves currently are about \$880,000. We also have about \$50,000 in budgeted contingency and revenue opportunities. We have identified some unbudgeted capital projects that we should probably do this year, including up to \$25,000 for the garage oil/water separator system, about \$50,000 to \$60,000 for highway equipment (new dump body for plow truck, new sander for pickup, roller), that Jim Miller will discuss on Thursday, and up to \$50,000 in pool area improvements (paint, new fixtures & new lights for bathroom/changing room, new fence, blacktop around pool) that David Boice will be presenting for our consideration. Assuming we invest \$125,000 in these capital projects this year, we are likely to end up with reserves of about \$800,000.

2. Culvert Project – Collen Lutz and Doug Clark of engineering firm Ryan Biggs/Clark Davis will review progress on the culvert project and outline our plan going forward. We have decided to replace three major culverts – on Pats Rd, on Hall Hill by CR 7 and on Snyder by Wiltsie Bridge. It is unlikely we will have funds for all three within our \$220,000 grant, so we are starting to look for additional grant money, and may only be able to do one or two this year, based on how the bids come in. We plan to send all three locations out for bid by the end of the month.

3. Lighting District – The process required to disband the Lighting District and allow the Town to take over paying for lighting district costs related to the 24 street lights in Ancram appears to involve a petition from a majority of members of the LD to disband, and a referendum by the Town to accept lighting district costs. Once the Town has taken over LD costs, Town could reduce number of lights in the LD, which LD members may object to.

4. Climate Smart Community – Climate Smart Community task force will be appointed at April TB meeting. People interested in serving on this committee should contact me or Jane Meigs, who has agreed to serve as chair of the CSC TF.

5. Right to Farm law – Revised version of RTF law eliminates Town role in the dispute resolution process, and recommends use of NYS Ag & Markets mediation service. Public hearing will be scheduled prior to April TB meeting, and a joint Ag Committee-CAC-CLC meeting is set for April 4 to review RTF law, among other things.

6. Highway Garage Drain – Tank has been pumped out. Contamination testing is being scheduled. DEC discharge permit for oil/water separator has been applied for.

7. Emergency Management Plan – I have asked Jim Miller and Dave Boice to assist me to formalize a Town Emergency Management Plan.

8. Upcoming events:

Community Cleanup Day - May 5, 9 to 1...details to follow
Kids Summer Camp – July 5 to August 12...details to follow

9. County Issues:

-BOS passed a resolution supporting the “Raise the Age” bill being considered in Albany to raise the age of adult criminal responsibility from 16 to 18.

-Pine Haven sale could close in April of May.