

Official — Town of Montezuma  
Public Hearing & Board Meeting  
Minutes  
April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Supervisor David Corey opened the Public Hearing & Board Meeting at 5:30pm, led by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Supervisor: David Corey  
Deputy Supervisor/Councilman: Thomas Hitchcock Jr.  
Councilman: Thomas Fitzsimmons  
Councilman: Christopher Howard  
Councilman: Marvin King

Other Members Present: Town Clerk: Marie L. Cronin  
Deputy Town Clerk/Water Clerk: Tiffini Sharp  
Code Enforcement Officer: John Greer  
Historian: Cheryl Longyear  
Water Operator: Stanly Longyear  
Highway Superintendent: Kenneth Cook  
Deputy Highway Superintendent: David Ware  
Town of Montezuma Lawyer: Kevin Cox

Residents Present: Thomas Coleman & Ben Ware.

Public Hearing: Public Hearing on Dog Local Laws opened at 5:30pm. Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Marvin King at 6:00pm to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried 5/0. Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Christopher Howard to Adopt the Local Dog Law #1 2025 as revised. SECTION #7 - (Item E- No dangerous dogs shall be permitted) (Item H- no owner shall fail to provide dogs with sufficient care), SECTION #10 - (Item H —the Town of Montezuma will not require the licensing of dogs by a shelter), (Item K— ( change of the fees for holding dog). Motion carried 5/0. Call this the Local Dog Law of April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 as adopted date.

Code Enforcement Officer Report: John Greer: John went to Annual Code training for 3 days (9hrs) per day. 3 permits were issued for the month of March 2025. John received a call about a person living in a camper on Wilsey Rd., John took pictures. (The back of the house on this property is falling in, many unregistered vehicles and trash all around), When John went back to put a condemned notice on the property he brought a Sheriff Deputy with him. Road front property is where the pole barn is going to be built. Rt. 90 camper, nothing being done yet, our Town Judge isn't doing anything about it, not fined or ticketed nothing. John has been dealing with this for 2 years. State property

Laws state that your property be (clean and sanitary yard) but still no results from the Judge. Property may be up for taxes.

Kevin Cox Lawyer on the Junk Yard Local Law: 2 packets given to the Town Board, 1<sup>st</sup> is proposed junk yard law and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is revisions to the Towns existing zoning law. States where you can have a junk yard but doesn't specify on pre-existing junk yards. Review and let Kevin Cox know if any revisions or additions needed before turning into a local law for Junk Yards. Kevin tried to address everything. Will have to do a SEQRA and appoint ourselves as the lead agency, send to the County for their 239 review, and send to our Town Planning Board for review. Then after all of this we can schedule a Public Hearing. Farmers using tires are exempt from the tires law. Thomas Fitzsimmons asking before Kevin Cox leaves, he would like to discuss the warranty on the driveby water meters. David Ware asking what is the problem. They haven't had any issues with the warranty it's been seamless. Different costs for different years of the warranty (no) discount rate if not covered. About screens for the water meters. The measuring chambers are locked into place with a single unit strainer/chamber retainer, all Meters shall be provided with the strainer screens installed in the meters. The strainers are ridged and fit snug but easy to remove and have an effective straining area at least twice that of the inlet opening. Screens for the wheel can still get a stone or dirt in there. There are Serial numbers on the meters per David Ware. NO signed paper from Muller, just our Supervisors signature. Warranty is dated 2022 and we didn't start putting the meters in until April of 2023, it should be a revised warranty. No changes were made to the EZ-reader until Lawyer Kevin Cox sent them a letter and met with them on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 2024. Per David Ware, if a phone call was made they would have come right out to fix the issues, it was fixed within one week after I called. Thomas Fitzsimmons is also saying that nothing is going through the Town Board on what's being done. Per David Ware it is going through the Board, David gives a report on the water every month at the regular Board meeting, everything is notified to the Board. Thomas just wants to make sure of documentation if any problems. First readings with the new system was July of 2023. As for the signatures on the Mueller water meters, Marie Cronin Town Clerk called Andy Glick and he told Marie to call the Muller Company to have them email me the original sheet with both theirs & David Corey's signatures on it, so the file is complete, which they did right away. All Records for the water meters should be kept so you can see all the meters with serial numbers and repairs or anything else that needed to be done on the units. Per David Ware he does have a file for this. As far as the warranty, after you send one unit out for repair it doesn't change the 20 year warranty on it. Kevin told Thomas Fitzsimmons to let him know with any concerns, Thomas just making sure about the warranty is all. Many of all warranty is from shipment date. Kevin Cox will review again and if any concerns call him.

Historian Report: Cheryl Longyear: See attached report. The Town of Montezuma is registered with Parks & Trails NY to hold the annual Canal Clean Sweep event on Earth Day April 19, 2025 from 9am to noon. Sale on 52 pine street building in Port Byron has been completed and we have moved into 97 Main Street the old Shopping Guide Building. Arrangements for speakers have been made for May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Bicentennial program. Mellony Carner passed away whom was a long-time volunteer in the park. A engraved set of chimes for her will be placed in the gazebo & flower in the Butterfly Garden for her. Bill Breens bird house and plaque will be hung April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. 2025 Guide book has been published that was edited by Mike Riley. Copies available at the Historical Society for \$20. Many new people that visited the Park were from, Pennsylvania, Scotland, Vermont, Maryland, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Oregon, Las Vegas, Illinois, Indiana, Romania, and many local. Many good reviews. Art

exhibit pictures given to us to hang in the Town Hall. Harriet Tubman Resolution: Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination & Corridor Management Plan. Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to Adopt the above Resolution as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0.

Highway Superintendent Report: Kenneth Cook: See attached Report. 2016 Ford F-250 truck box is rotted so looking for different box. 2015 Ford F-350, we have 3 quotes on purchase of a new truck if the Board approves 1<sup>st</sup> quote is from Van Bortel Ford @ \$111,439.00 2025 F-550 (MDI) about 4 months to get truck, 2<sup>nd</sup> quote is from Davidson Ford 2025 F-550 @ \$118,053.68, and 3<sup>rd</sup> quote is from DePaula 2024 Ford F-550 @\$136,340.00. MDI (1<sup>st</sup> quote - would be the best as they are right in Auburn New York if any concerns with the truck)- 10 yr. trade in ag before. The Old sander isn't suitable for the new truck it's 20yrs old, so get the new one with the new truck. David Corey would like to wait until sales tax comes in to make a decision on purchase of a new truck, will discuss at Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 meeting. Plows and sander off 2012 international 6 wheel Dump truck now ready for summer. 2021 still suited incase of snow in forecast. Cat excavator nothing to report. Broom on the John Deere 5060 to clean stone on roads. Highway garage nothing to report. Mowers have been used this week. Loader nothing to report. Clean up Days we are ready for (April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 2025). Kenneth started painting the Town Hall again.

Resolution for Court Audit: Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. to Adopt the Court Audit that was done by Supervisor David Corey and Town Clerk Marie Cronin on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0.

Resolution for Williamson Law Credit Card Quote: Tiffini Sharp (Deputy Clerk/Water Clerk) stated that Williamson Law will not come to the meetings, they do not do business after hours. Tanya from the Town of Sterling has the program and said it is very easy to use and learn the system. Program fee is only a one time fee for installation, then yearly for the annual support. Email billing would be the best so people can pay online as they don't get their bills at times. Some of the postcard bills are coming back to us as the post office machine destroys the card. The residents pay the fees for the cards. Thomas Hitchcock Jr. make sure you use the correct wording for the fee, or could get fined by the State or sued by a resident. Bounce check fees cannot be more than \$20 per the State. Only think with this new system we will have to back up the sites daily, instead of monthly. And we will also check into bulk stamps. No issues in transferring from ez-reader to Williamson law. See about paperless bills also. Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to Adopt the Credit Card installation as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0.

Resolution for the Budget Modifications: ARPA money for new playground equipment. Per Treasury Dept. that we need to spend the rest of the money this year or they would send us a bill and we would have to send the money back. Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. to Adopt the Budget Modifications as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0.

Approval of Bills: Motion made by David Corey second by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. to approve the Bills as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0. David Corey to call NYSEG again about our bill.

Approval of Supervisor's Report: Workers comp over by \$10.00, Clerks Contractual increase was for the DEC overpayments. Invoice for \$500.00 given to Cheryl Longyear for the yearly building support for Historical Society, Change bill from (culture & recreation — Events) A7989.4 to (Historical Society Contractual) A7510.44. NYCLASS \$2,988.88 we made for this month. Town Population under 1,279, so we don't have to change the website (we are under the 1,500) so will not change at this time. Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by Christopher Howard to approve the Supervisor's report as presented to the Town Board. Motion carried 5/0.

Approval Of the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Minutes: Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to approve the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 minutes as amended. Motion carried 5/0.

Public Comments & Concerns: James House would like to rent the Town Hall and The Pavilion for a party and is asking if he can have a water slide also. Would pay more for water used. Per the Town Board it is not a good idea as we have no outside hook up for water and also insurance purposes, so just the rentals not the water slide.

Changed the May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting to Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 instead, all agree to change.

Water Committee Report from April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 given to the Town Board by David Ware.

David Corey introduced Thomas Coleman whom is on the ballot for Councilman this year.

Adjournment of Meeting: Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by David Corey to Adjourn meeting.

Minutes submitted by Town of Montezuma Clerk:

Marie L. Cronin