

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: July 13, 2013
Supervisor's Report



Financial Report: Revenues for the six months ending June totaled \$990,000, including \$811,000 in property tax receipts and \$120,000 in sales tax receipts, received in January and April. Full year revenues for sales and mortgage taxes look like they will exceed budget by \$25,000 to \$50,000. Costs for the six months ending June totaled \$557,000, or about 42% of our full year budget. Spending for the first six months is running slightly better than budget. Cash on hand at the end of June totaled \$1,092,000. Barring any extraordinary events, I expect revenues and spending for the rest of the year to be slightly better than budget, resulting in a year end cash position of about \$675,000, which is about \$25,000 better than we budgeted.

Town Issues

- 1. ZRC Package 5 - Ridgeline Protection** - We will continue the 5/16 public hearing on the revised draft 9 ridgeline protection regulations at 6:30pm on 7/18. We will close the public hearing on draft 9, and will receive from the ZRC draft 10 for discussion, which incorporates proposed changes based on the feedback we have gotten from the public on draft 9. We will schedule a public hearing on draft 10 for August, and will consider draft 10 for adoption in September. In September we will also consider a resolution amending our January 17, 2013 Negative Declaration to reflect the changes in the proposed ridgeline protection regulations.
- 2. Carson Rd Wind Turbine Permit Notices of Violation** – The Gershon and Crocco turbines both seem to have benefitted from the repair and adjustment work done over the past few months. The Crocco turbine had another inverter problem which caused a significant noise issue for a few days but was corrected when the inverter was rebooted and subsequently replaced. We are waiting for information from both turbine owners regarding how they propose to mitigate the hovering helicopter noise at high wind speeds by “furling” the tail at a wind speed lower than wind speeds that cause the hovering helicopter noise. The County Health Department was contacted by one of the neighbors about the public health issues related to the turbine noise problem. The County Health plans to investigate the matter, so the public hearing on the Crocco turbine scheduled for Monday 7/15 will be rescheduled.
- 3. Flooding and Road Damage** – The heavy rains of the past few weeks have caused extensive damage to roads and culverts. The highway department was able to get all washed out roads back into service within days, but much work remains.

County Issues

- 1. 2013 Financial Situation** –Nothing new to report. The County still does not have adequate monthly cash flow reporting to the BOS, and no cash flow forecasting. The BOS also needs monthly departmental income statements and balance sheets, and a financial review process in place to get control of the county's cash situation. Part of the problem is the County's financial managers are not as concerned about the County's cash flow problems as they need to be, and are not being pushed hard enough by the leadership of the BOS to get a better handle on the numbers and communicate more about the numbers with the BOS.
- 2. Pine Haven Nursing Home** – Nothing new to report.
- 3. Long Term Capital Planning** – Preliminary longer term capital forecasts made recently indicate the County will need about \$50 million for road and bridge repair, \$45 million for the new Pine Haven nursing home facility and about \$15 million for routine heavy equipment purchases and facilities upgrades.
- 4. County Home Health Nurse Service**- BOS voted last week to sell the CHAA, which is has been losing about \$800,000 a year, and serves fewer than 10 patients, who can receive home nursing services from private providers.