

Town of Claverack

Regular Monthly Meeting

July 10, 2014

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, was held at the Town Hall, #836 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
William Gerlach	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons	Attorney for the Town
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
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Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept minutes of previous meeting of June 12, 2014. Carried

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to accept Workshop Minutes of June 30, 2014. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Howard Brandston – Re: Ginsberg Project –Per Brian Goodrich, Chairman of Town Planning Board - Negative Declaration necessary. Joint Towns of Claverack and Ghent putting set of conditions. Need to be clear and enforceable conditions.

Another **resident** gave appreciation to Superintendent of Highways, Louis LaMont for quick responses for signs on Thielman Road.

Howard Brandston – Re: Corner of Rtes. 9-H and #23. Saw drawing for traffic circle - Does not meet objectives set out in vision of 2008. Needs to be pedestrian and bicycle friendly and needs to be looked at now. Supervisor Weigelt replied that plans for this project are not complete and in the infant stage of planning – will be forwarded to New York State Department of Transportation. They will be making the decision.

Superintendent of Highways, Louis LaMont absent – No report.

Dog Control Officer's Report for June received and on file in Town Office for review.

Committee Reports

It was noted by Supervisor Weigelt that Committee Reports must be in the Town Office by Monday of the week of the Board Meeting in order to be on the agenda.

Historic Advisory Committee – Ian Nitschke – Part 11 of the Shaw Bridge Grant due tomorrow, July 11th.

No further Committee Reports

Supervisor's Report

Albany Medical Center working with hospitals on joint ventures. This includes Columbia Memorial Hospital.

Pine Haven Home – Board of Supervisors and Committee still working through things. Meeting is July 25th to solicit to respond and/or make proposals.

Former Ockawamick School to be put on market for sale. Town has 2 acres of this property through agreement with County.

Columbia County Court will be out of former Claverack School on October 25, 2014 and back in the Courthouse in Hudson.

Town Board Member Reports

Councilwoman Cashen – Worked on minor zoning changes, including solar panel issue. Made arrangements for interviews with interested applicants for Planning Board vacancy.

Worked with Deputy Clerk and webmaster to update homepage regarding public notices and Ginsberg Project

Attended Town Planning Board Meeting. A distillery and a brewery are before the Board, seeking approval.

Over the next few weeks there will be a push to get information out to people regarding the power line upgrade. The State has not made any changes and is still working on particulars. This is information from Ian Solomon, spokesperson from the Farmers and Families for Claverack group.

Reviewed additional grant information to be submitted to the Capital Region Economic Development Council for Shaw Bridge.

Discussed phone issues at S & F, along with other Town Officials.

Attended Philmont Community Day.

Councilman Hook – Speed limit sign placed in State Route #23 in Claverack had to be moved. New York State DOT said it was set up on State property and Town would need to have a permit from them. It will be moved to another location.

Spoke with Summer Youth Program Director. Program started on Monday, July 7th and had 105 children attending and on Tuesday 110. This year has started out with more participants than usual.

Councilman Keeler – Has signs regarding power line expansion at his home for anyone interested in participating in the “big push”.

West Ghent and Churchtown Fire Company representatives still have to meet with members of the Board.

Councilman Gerlach – Economic Development has been working on changes to be brought up for discussion. Claverack Food Market is still open.

Meeting on July 23rd – Re: Ginsberg Project.

Attorney Fitzsimmons - Minor zoning changes. SEQR – Has to go to County Planning. After Public Hearing in August, Town can vote or hold over. County meets the second Tuesday of the month and have 30 days to consider. Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Gerlach to go forward with necessary meeting. Carried.

The other law adds parcels to Hamlet Business 1 Zone. Would make Hamlet Business 1 Zone more flexible. Councilman Keeler questioned spot zoning, which was explained not to be the case by Attorney Fitzsimmons.

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Solar City – Re: Installation of roof mounted solar panels
Richard and Cecile Harrison – Re: Proposed Ginsberg facility
Claverack Library – Re: Silent auction
E-mail release – Re: Hydrofracking
Lewis and Greer Certiorari Newsletter
NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance – Office of Real Property Tax Service – Equalization Rate.
Hudson Valley Patterns for Progress – Invitation for 09/29/14 Center for Housing Solutions Annual Event
Columbia Economic Development Corp. – Statement from Columbia County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Patrick Grattan – Re: Pine Haven Nursing Home
Chris Anderson – Association Of Towns 2014 Summer Planning & Zoning School reminder

Question was asked by Peter Reiss whether former Claverack School building is protected or can be torn down. It is not protected.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Hook to set up Public Hearing for Thursday, August 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m., prior to the Regular Monthly Meeting. Carried.

After request by Town Clerk to waive kitchen fees and return check to family who lost their son to illness and used the Park pavilion for a gathering after the funeral, motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to authorize returning the check, also sending condolences to the family.

Meeting opened to public:

Resident of the Town asked if signs regarding the proposed power line expansion could be placed at the intersection of Routes 9-H and #23. It was explained that there is an unwritten agreement that no signs of any kind could be put in the Park located there.

Howard Brandston, speaking on the placement of a rotary at Routes 9-H and #23, stated he has the power point presentation that he had given several years ago and would be happy to make copies for anyone interested.

No further comments.

General A bills, totaling \$18,487.56, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$1,286.36, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

DB Highway bills, totaling \$35,931.02, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$4,566.97, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no DA Highway bills.

There were no escrow account bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Gerlach, meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Gerlach: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

