

Town of Claverack

Regular Monthly Meeting

June 12, 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. #17, 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 (Kippy) Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

William Gerlach	Councilman
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Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept minutes of previous meeting of May 08, 2014 and workshop minutes of June 02, 2014. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Stan Koloski – Building Inspector for Town and working on possible replacement of communication system. Presently S & F Communications provides the telephone system, billed by Cornerstone, but a customer of Verizon. When there is a problem, it has been difficult to get it remedied. The water system building on Webb Road is already on Verizon directly and should remain as it is presently. Caller ID should be added to Town Office phones. Alarm system has not been activated.

Mr. Koloski introduced Joe Fey, representative from S & F. He explained that they can be agents for the Town. When there is a problem, we call S & F and they will take it from there. Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Keeler to appoint S & F as agents for the Town. Carried.

Mr. Fey explained that the control processor had to be replaced, but since the system is over thirteen years old, the replacement was a reconditioned one that they searched for and found. The system is so old that replacement parts are no longer produced. He then explained two different systems that he thought might be interested in.

Supervisor Weigelt stated he would like a report by next workshop on June 30, 2014.

Howard Brandston – Regarding Ginsberg project – Commented on lighting and color of building. It was noted that the large water tower is no longer part of the plan.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Grading dirt roads in all zones. Ditched Summit View to prepare for paving. Started work on Orchard Grove to prepare for paving. Mowing roadsides in all zones. Installed curve signs on Thielman Road. Replaced a culvert pipe on Tishauser Road.

There are two new part-time employees that work in the parks. They are doing a good job keeping them mowed and trimmed.

Working on a matching grant for box culvert on Preusser Road.

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

Committee Reports

It was noted that reports must be received in the Town Office by Monday of the week of the meeting in order to be recognized at the meeting.

Historic Advisory – Ian Nitschke – Need resolution saying Town will accept money . This was not accepted. The Board will adopt two resolutions - one to proceed with Consolidated Fund Grant Application and one Reaffirming the Comprehensive Plan dated April 14, 2008. Also, the Board will write a letter of support. Councilwoman Cashen made motion to write letter of support, seconded by Councilman Keeler. Councilman Hook opposed. Carried.

Supervisor Weigelt said he did not oppose applying for the \$225,000.00 grant, but did not want to be liable for the matching grant. He said the Board has to justify to the taxpayers the matching \$75,000.00. Highway Superintendent LaMont questioned whether prevailing wages were figured in, which he said would figure another 40 percent on top of the estimate. He said Town could not use volunteer work if the money was to be filtered through the Town and also questioned the liability.

It was noted that the Town owns all of the bridge.

Mr. Nitschke stated that the figures for the project were prepared by Francis Griggs. Mr. Nitschke also filled out a short EAF reporting the project presented no negative impacts on the environment.

Chris Post remarked the bridge needed to be cleaned up.

Economic Development – no report but remarks by Councilman Cashen – Members came to the workshop. Discussed:

- Signs of Welcome
- Adding street names
- Need for purchase of former Claverack School
- Need for grant writers

Need for plan for intersection of State Rtes. #9H and #23

No further Committee Reports.

Supervisor's Report

Philmont Community Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 28th – includes a parade and Town officials invited to participate.

An issue to be decided is the request for an increase in water rates, to be effective the third billing cycle. Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for same. Carried.

There is also a request for expanding water district. Four properties on Wilmon Road interested. Can it be mandatory from now on to hook-up. Formerly received letters and also went door-to-door to seek interest.

On Pine Haven Home, many meetings. Gathering information from building a new facility to repairing and updating “old” facility – would stay at present location, even if privatized.

Board Members' Reports

Councilman Hook – Welcome to Claverack sign has been put up. Met with Director of Summer Youth Program, Brett Holmes. Thank you to Almstead Nursery for donating mulch needed for the playground.

Speed sign will be set up on Rte. #23. Need to decide where it will be placed after this site.

Thanks to Highway Superintendent LaMont and his crew for working in Town Parks – good job.

Councilwoman Cashen – Attended joint Ghent-Claverack Meeting on Ginsberg Project.

Working with Deputy Clerk, Lauren Bell, and webmaster to update website homepage to announce Summer Youth Program.

Made final edits to two sections of personnel policy for Town Board approval.

Drafted letter of support from Town Board for Shaw Bridge Consolidated Fund Application.

Councilman Keeler – Meeting with Philmont Volunteer Fire Company – Impressed and Village wants to meet with Town Board at some time in the future.

Met with Director of Summer Youth Program, Brett Holmes, to go over counselor applications and set up sign-up date.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to authorize Highway Superintendent Louis LaMont to go forward with matching fund grant for box culvert on Preusser Road. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept Final April 2014, Final January 2014 – April 2014 and draft May 2014 Financial Reports. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Hook to notice Planning Board vacancy. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to waive building permit fees for Nick Zazorin to have fire pond dug for a dry hydrant on his property. The property is across from the new A. B. Shaw Firehouse on State Route #23. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for Resolution to change Town Board Committee members. Councilman Hook will go to Planning Board and Councilman Keeler to Zoning Board of Appeals. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Keeler for Resolution to update reporting of Standard Workday for New York State Retirement. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to approve new Summer Youth Program Counselors as recommended by Director Brett Holmes. Carried. The new Counselors are Cody James Falkner, China Duvall, Ava Kilmer, Sarah Williamson and Nicole Spillane. Emergency replacements are Samantha Vanderwalker and Olivia Van Alphen.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Keeler for Resolution to approve Town Employee Handbook policy amendment. Carried. These amendments include the addition of cellphone usage and driver evaluation policy.

General A bills, totaling \$13,761.21, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Bills, totaling \$1,338.19, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$18,426.83, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$4,830.22, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no Highway DA 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 Supervisor Weigelt, meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Town Clerk: _____