

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

December 10, 2015

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, was held at the Town Hall, #386 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York, immediately following the Public Hearing on Local Law #3of 2015, Zoning Law Changes and the Public Hearings on the West Ghent and Churchtown Fire Districts on their contracts. Meeting called to order by Supervisor, Clifford Weigelt, who led in the Pledge to Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
William Gerlach	Councilman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr. Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to accept minutes of previous Regular Monthly Meeting of November 12, 2015. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Department has been grading gravel roads and working on equipment, getting ready for the winter season.

Department has been working on Millbrook Road bridge with the dewatering and demolition and removal of the bridge.

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

Committee Reports

There were no reports received in the Town Office.

Ian Nitschke reported there was a meeting of representatives of Red Mills who are interested in doing a project there as Philmont is attempting to do at Summit Lake.

Consolidated Funding Application did not get funds as hoped.

Newly formed **Claverack Historical Society** met at Won Dharma Center.

Daffodil Project has reported that most all bulbs are planted, with 20,000 having been distributed in the hamlet.

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Brian Goodrich – Re: Planning Board Chairman
Michael Cozzolino – Re: Town Judge position
David Graziano – Re: Zoning Board Reappointment
Town of Greenport – Re: Water rate change
Insurance Services Office, Inc. – Re: West Ghent Fire Protection resurvey
Mellenville Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 – Re: Annual Banquet
Columbia County Clerk's Office – Re: Senior Shredding Program
Laberge Group – Re: Water District water system
NYS Dept. of Public Service – Re: Winter outreach and education program
Columbia Land Conservancy – Re: Winterfest
Grant Langdon – Re: Request to Columbia County Board of Supervisors
Aaron Parsons, Energy Site Solutions – Re: Solar Development
Columbia County Planning Board – Re: Proposed Local Law #3
Don Towsky – Re: West Ghent Volunteer Fire Company Communications
Richard Gerlach – Re: Planning Board resignation
Columbia County Office for the Aging – Re: Advisory Council Representatives
Columbia Land Conservancy – Re: Request for Letter of Support

Supervisor's Report

Reported on County level that Pine Haven Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center is doing very well in transition of purchase. Enrollment has increased to nearly 120 patients. Purchaser is also going for a Certificate of Need for 100 units for an assisted living facility near the existing home. Will be keeping 98% of present employees on. Many improvements have also been made.

On the Town level:

The Wang property is going up and investing a lot in property in the Town.
The Ginsberg Project has been started.

A restudy has been done on the Wellhead Protection District. Will continue to be working on this in the coming months.

Town Board Members' Reports

Councilman Hook – Attended Planning Board and ZBA Meetings. Spoke with Dog Control Officer, Reginald Conklin on several issues.

Wished Councilman Gerlach best wishes in future endeavors and complimented him for bringing much to the Boards "table".

Councilwoman Cashen – Worked with Town Building Department to develop B&B requirement document for distribution to homeowners that list their properties as a AirBnB. These were found by researching websites for listings of properties that were in the Town.

Participated in conference calls as representative from the Town with Hudson Valley Smart Energy Coalition on efforts to stop expansion of the power lines through the Town. Big deadline is December 17th. The Town of Claverack is the most impacted of all Towns if this expansion goes forward.

Attended Planning Board and ZBA meetings as Town liaison.

Worked with representative from New York Rural Water Association to finalize document on Mount Ida Wellhead Protection and finalize details for informational meeting with the Planning Board, ZBA and Town Board in January 2016.

Attended meeting to discuss steps to be taken to establish the Claverack Historical Society.

Councilman Gerlach - Thanked the Board for a great and educational experience while serving the community.

No further reports.

A Columbia Land Conservancy representative requested a letter of support for farmland protection. This is necessary to go forward on property being purchased by Christopher Cashen. Motion by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Keeler to approve letter of support. Carried, with Councilwoman Cashen abstaining.

After brief discussion, Columbia/Greene Humane Society contract for 2016 put on hold until Year-End Meeting.

Dog Control Officer, Reginald Conklin, is requesting a change of title to Animal Control Officer. He is unable to investigate problems with animals other than dogs. Attorney Fitzsimmons said that a Local Law would be needed and will prepare one for Town to consider.

Letter received from the Columbia County Office of the Aging requesting Town appoint a representative to their Committee.

Meeting opened to the Public:

Michael Brandon – Is there anything at the Pine Have property tied to Veterans’ Services? Nothing at this time.

In regards to Bed and Breakfast properties – Can’t believe what Town requires and doesn’t require. Councilman Cashen explained that requirements are mostly fire safety related and necessary exits. Will speak with Building Inspector, Stanley Koloski. Attorney Fitzsimmons read from the code to try and clarify. Only for owner occupied and not AirB&B. Councilwoman Cashen will follow up on this.

Jim Brady – Reported Fire Department District problem taken care of.

No further comments.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept Financial Statements

Motion by Councilman Gerlach, seconded by Councilman Hook to amend the December 28, 2015 Workshop as the Year-end Meeting and be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building, 91 Church Street, Mellenville, New York. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to set 2016 Organizational Meeting for Thursday, January 07, 2016, 7:00 p.m., followed by the Regular Monthly Meeting. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler, for resolution to pay all bills covering goods and services as received for the remainder of 2015 and also authorize Budget Officer to make necessary transfers in the 2015 Budget. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution to accept Local Law #3 of 2015. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to go into Executive Session at 7:45 P.M. on request of Attorney Fitzsimmons to discuss contracts. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to go out of Executive Session at 8:00. Carried.

General A bills, totaling \$9,701.66, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$2,777.92, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$45,110.77, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$6,767.51, 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 go before the Board, on motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Gerlach, meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Gerlach: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Town Clerk: _____