

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

November 12, 2015

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, immediately following the Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget. The second Public Hearing on Local Law #3 of 2015 was begun at 7:15 p.m. during a break in this meeting. Meeting called to order by Deputy Supervisor, Stephen Hook.

Present:

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

Absent:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
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Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Gerlach to accept minutes of previous Regular Monthly Meeting of October 08, 2015. Carried.

Report of Highway Superintendent – Louis LaMont – Finished hauling sand for the winter. Put up snow fence in all zones. Putting on sanders, plows and wings on trucks for the winter season.

Changed a culvert pipe on Snyderstown Road. Spent one week helping the Town of Greenport grader patching with blacktop.

Started the replacement of the Millbrook Road Bridge.

Cut trees and brush at Shaw Bridge.

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

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Apogee Center Peer Services – Support Group for young adults (17-22 yrs).
E-Mail – Jim Cesternino – Resignation as Chief of West Ghent Fire Co.
NYDEC – Permit modifications – Article 14 & Water Quality Certification – Millbrook Bridge over Loomis Creek.

E-Mail – Ian Nitschke – CHPAC Meeting 10/10/2015.
E-Mail – Special Meeting/Workshops Public Notice.
Hudson Valley Patterns for Progress – Three reports.
NYS Department of Public Service – Information and Public Statement Hearings.
CEDC – 2015 Membership Meeting.
Peter L. Clausen – Re: County Rte. #9.
ISO – Re: Recent Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule Survey to Stanley Koloski.
SAMR, Inc. – Re: Electronic Recycling.
Dog Control Report for October 2015.
Philmont Public Library – Thank You to Highway Department for assistance in completing parking lot.
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia/Greene Counties – Annual Meeting – Tuesday 11/17/2015 – 6:00 p.m.
Columbia/Greene Humane Society – Contains information on 2016 contract changes.
National Grid – Natural gas pipelines safety information.

Committee Reports

Historic Advisory Committee – Ian Nitschke – Spoke on contents of report written by Town Historian.

Town Historian, Jeane LaPorta, gave report, which included a November 05, 2015 organizational meeting of the **Claverack Historic Society**, which met at the Dutch Reformed Church at 7:00 p.m. Fourteen persons were in attendance. Interim officers were approved: **Jeane LaPorta, chairman – Ian Nitschke, Secretary**. Committees were formed to develop the purpose and mission statement, constitution and by-laws and the name for the organization. Committees are working in conjunction with New York State Education Department. A priority is application for incorporation of the organization in the form of a charter. The organization will remain within the standards of the Department of Education of the State of New York governing organizations relevant to history, education and preservation goals and outcomes.

There was an estimate from Ghent Wood Products for all wood replacement parts for Shaw Bridge, which is part of the **Claverack Historic Advisory Committee Shaw Bridge Project**. The estimate was \$22,101.12, which includes \$1,637.12 tax. It was noted that the amount of this estimate is currently and readily obtainable through donations and grants.

The Historian asked the Board to consider full support for the Shaw Bridge Project, including engineering certifications, appropriate inspections and the expertise of the Highway Department in repairing the substructure and assembling the new wood decking and stringers, for the purpose of a pedestrian only bridge.. This way, Town Officials and the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee would fulfill the mission of preventive conservation of the bridge as a protected historic site.

Historian, Jean LaPorta, was contacted by the representative from William G. Pomeroy Foundation Historic Marker Program, suggesting a change in the wording for the Shaw Bridge historic marker. Since the wording would have no effect on the meaning of the marker, it was agreed to proceed with their suggestion. Final approval from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for the marker has not been officially received, but the wording is now approved if the marker is approved.

There were no other Committee Reports.

Town Board Member's Reports

Councilman Gerlach – Worked a lot on the 2016 Budget attending meetings to work together with other Board members in, getting it ready to present for approval.

Spoke with Linda Sher, of the Health Care Consortium, regarding their work with the public and assisting an employee of the Town who has a family member with many health issues.

Councilman Keeler – Working a lot on the 2016 Budget, also attending Budget meetings to get Budget ready to present for approval, keeping it under the cap set by the State.

Columbia Memorial Hospital also has representatives who may be able to assist in health issues.

Councilwoman Cashen – Worked with Town attorney to finish minor zoning changes to present to the Board.

Continues research of properties in the Town that are posted on AirBnB and other websites to develop mailing list for correspondence to be sent to owners regarding zoning requirements.

Sent communications on 2016 Town Snow Sports Program and worked with Deputy Clerk pm final arrangements for chaperones.

Also attended Budget meetings to get 2016 Budget ready for approval and keeping it under the 2) cap.

Responded to several inquiries on zoning related issues in the hamlet related to the Subway property and the signage.

Councilman and Deputy Supervisor Hook has attended Planning Board and ZBA Meetings

He has also attended meetings on the 2016 Budget, working with the other Board members in getting it ready for approval.

No further reports.

At this point the Public Hearing on Local Law #3 of 2015 was opened and explained as in the Public Hearing Report..

Attorney Fitzsimmons now read the SEQR statement for Local Law #3. Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Gerlach to issue a negative declaration. Carried It was suggested that the Town wait until the next Town Board Meeting or workshop for the Columbia County Planning Board letter and keep the Public Hearing open.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Gerlach to accept draft January – October 2015, draft January – September 2015 and draft October 2015 financial statements. Carried.

Motion by Deputy Supervisor Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept as Final the 2016 Budget. Carried.

Meeting opened to the public:

Jim Brady – Questioned the revisions given to the Assessors Office of changes in the Mellenville Fire District. This will be checked into as actual names for these changes were given.

No further questions or comments.

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, total mg \$6,767.57, 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 Gerlach, seconded by Councilman Keeler, meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Date: _____

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Hook: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Gerlach: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Town Clerk: _____