

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**April 13, 2017**

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 opened at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, who led in a moment of silence in memory of James Van Deusen, a member of the Town Board for many years and served the Town on many other committees over the years, also for Jodi Keyser and family on her father's death (James Van Deusen) and the death of their son, James Shook, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
Maryanne Lee	Councilwoman
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 Lee to accept minutes of previous Monthly Meeting of March 09, 2017 and Workshop minutes of March 27, 2017. Carried.

**Report of Highway Superintendent – Louis LaMont** – Department worked 4 snowstorms with men doing good job in spite of soft road conditions.

Grading dirt roads in all zones. Sweeping in all zone, and cold patching of roads in all zones. Taking down snow fence.

Getting park cleaned up and ballfields ready for play.

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

**Committee Reports**

None received in Town Office.

**Correspondence**

Including, but not limited to:

Jeane LaPorta – Thank you letter from Town Historian to the Columbia County Historical Society – Re: Grant money received.

Ed Fertik – Re: Harlem Valley Rail Trail.

Robin Emanatian – Re: James Keegan, G. Lucius Cary Award nomination.

American Red Cross – Re: First Aid and CPR certification.

NYS DOT – Re: Pedestrian and signal improvements request.

Churchtown Fire Company – Re: Annual Banquet.

Half Moon Education, Inc. – Re: Complying with NYS Industrial Stormwater Requirements.

A.B. Shaw Fire Company – Re: Annual Banquet.

John Lee – Republican Club Chairman – Re: Park Fee Waiver.

Selective Insurance Company – Re: Continued Insurance coverage.

NYS Comptroller's Office – Re: 2017 Governmental Accounting Class Schedule.

Hilscher & Hilscher, Attorneys at Law – Re: Claverack Fire District.

Bank of Greene County – Re: Services available.

Robin Pletzer – Re: Nonprofit Recycling Resource.

Jeffrey French – Re: Invitation to Memorial

Day Parade in Philmont.

Jorge Blanco – Re: Road repair.

Michael Bowman, Scoutmaster – Re: Eagle Scout Daniel Trey Hotaling.

### **Supervisor's Report**

Read a Certificate of Commendation, awarded to Daniel Trey Hotaling, for dedication and hard work in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout from Boy Scout.

Reminded all that the 518 area code will have to be dialed before making telephone calls shortly as a new area code 838 will begin to be used in the local area also.

Will be a class on NARCAM at County level. Will have to be trained, which takes about 20 minutes.

County passes resolution giving more property tax deduction to veterans.

Faso is supporting bill that would shift Medicaid to the State level. This would reduce County Tax by 25%.

Regarding the line adjustment between Churchtown Fire Company and A.B. Shaw Fire Company – Cost would be \$7,000.+/- to settle. Cost would be born to fire companies. Next step will be to set up meeting.

Just today Attorney Fitzsimmons received information and request from John Bossolini regarding Planned Development Districts. This was in effective many years ago, but was removed from Zoning. Would need more time and also need to speak further to get explanation. Attorney Fitzsimmons will circulate information received.

Received answer from NYSDOT regarding intersection of Rtes. 9-H and #23. Will be taking information into consideration.

### Town Board Member Reports

**Councilwoman Cashen** – Going to receive free summer lunch program for those interested and attending Summer Park Program. This is through Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York. Town was approved to participate and will receive 100 lunches each day for the five-week program, a total of 2,500 meals.

Supervisor Weigelt asked about the payment to the Town by use of the water tower by cell company. Councilwoman Cashen reported she called the company and the people she needed to speak with were not available at that time.

Reviewed and edited pages of Town website, as agreed, for use of new website.

Worked with webmaster to update website on several items related to announcements on homepage and also other items.

Identified several questions for State officials to clarify on the grant Town received for Shaw Bridge.

Attended Planning Board training session, headed by Building Inspector, Jay Trapp and also attended monthly Planning Board Meeting.

**Councilman Keeler** – Has gone over Employees Manual and has list of suggested changes to consider.

AED's have been installed.

Attended Planning Board Meeting.

Getting ready for Summer Youth Program.

**Councilwoman Lee** – Spoke with Karen Landau regarding some health insurance questions. New rates for 2017-2018 will be available the end of April. Will be setting up meeting dates.

Along with **Councilman Hook**, met with Rich Nesbitt from Johnny Walker Insurance regarding a roof leak resulting in water damage at Town Hall, Town Court building. A claim will be submitted and once adjuster is assigned, he will advise further.

Recommended the hiring of a maintenance person.

Along with **Councilman Hook**, went through record room in basement at Town Hall/Court building. Councilman Hook has contacted Columbia County Clerk, Holly Tanner, regarding storage provided by

County. The service allows records to be retained in a climate controlled environment and can be made available as needed. Recommended court files remain in Town Court building.

Reported to Supervisor Weigelt a concern regarding water along Route #23 in Martindale. On behalf of Supervisor Weigelt, went to NYSDOT to alert them of potential hazard. Then on April 4<sup>th</sup>, received a call from NYSDOT in response, stating water is on private property and NYS Parkland. State would have to get consent to access property. Appears that problem is a combination of beavers and muskrats and he will investigate further. Councilwoman Lee feels there should be guard rails along the road.

Attended Planning Board workshop on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, headed by Jay Trapp, Building Inspector.

Met with Building Inspector Jay Trapp to discuss putting together an information sheet that would help prospective applicant. An applicant will better understand what will be required under the various planning, zoning building, fire, engineering and health codes so that more informed decisions can be made about their project and understand and comply with the regulations. Once approved, this information should be added to new website and also handed out at Planning Board and ZBA meetings.

Contacted Joseph Pallone, National Grid representative, to see if he could provide a proposal for additional lights in areas of Lighting District #1 that are not served at the present time. Assessor, Charles Brewer, is also working on this.

Along with **Councilman Hook**, met with EW Birch and their engineer to discuss information provided by National Grid regarding street lights. Utilities are underground for the expanded area, and if this is being considered, it would be more cost effective to be put in place now.

Technology4All, as part of their contract, should have a preview of the new website ready by the end of this month. A meeting will be scheduled to go over corrections, changes and/or additions.

**Councilman Hook** – Attended Village of Philmont workshop.

Attended monthly Planning Board and ZBA Meetings and also Court nights.

Met with EW Birch Builders on development near Farm Credit.

Took new Building Inspector, Jay Trapp, to see problems reported, since he is not familiar with many of the areas.

Met with Brett Holmes, director of Summer Youth Program.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Hook to accept draft January – April 2017 and draft April 2017 Financial Statements. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler to notice bids for Summer Youth Program and Winter Ski Program transportation. Carried.

After explanation by Attorney Fitzsimmons, motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to set public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2017, amending the Zoning law & Zoning map to add parcel 121.3-2-24 from the Hamlet Business 1 to the Hamlet Residential Zone, prior to Monthly Board Meeting in May. Lot is on Route #23 and presently in Hamlet Business 1 and adjoins Hamlet Residential. Lot is contiguous to lines, so is not spot zoning. Carried. Attorney Fitzsimmons will put notice in paper.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to waive Park fee for Summer Concert Series, which is a free public concert for the months of July and August. Carried.

**Meeting opened to public:**

**Mrs. Baylen** – Regarding the Collins/Faso Resolution – Stated it was her opinion if amendment passed, many will lose Medicaid/Medicare coverages. Hospitals will have large layoffs. Wanted to know how Supervisor Weigelt voted at the County Supervisors’ Meeting and how other Supervisors had voted. Supervisor Weigelt said he felt no one would lose, would be redistributed to everyone. County portion is 13% at this time.

**Nick Zasorin** – stated that, as a taxpayer, he would like to see it on income taxes.

**Scott Cole**, chairman of Planning Board, said that there will be an informal open forum at 6:00 p.m. before Planning Board Meeting, which will begin at usual time of 7:00 p.m. It will be like a workshop and would save time at the regular meeting.

**“Skip” Hover** – Asked what Town is going to do about overnight parking on Park Street. It was stated that the parking is not on a Town road. He wondered if signs “No Parking” could be put up. Was informed that Town is working on this.

**Ian Nitschke** – Re: Shaw Bridge project. Not happy with the Town Board for taking so much time with grant received.

**Michael Brandon - Town Justice** - Thanked Highway Superintendent for getting someone to construct the handicap accessible bathroom in the Town Hall/Town Court building.

**Brian Bertsch** – Residence is near Swiss Farms Road – complained about dust from trucks using road. Supervisor Weigelt stated that road is wet down and NYSDEC keeps record of this. Mr Bertsch wanted to know when the road is going to be paved.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to go into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss necessary repairs at the Town Hall/Town Court building. Carried

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to go out of Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.  
Carried.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to proceed with bond for highway equipment. Carried.

General A bills, totaling \$80,910.70, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$3,297.32, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$18,343.46, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$1,269.25, were audited and audited 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 9:20 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilwoman Cashen: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Hook: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Keeler: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilwoman Lee: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_