

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 07, 2010

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

Present:

Robin Andrews	Supervisor
James Van Deusen	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Preusser	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Robert Fitzsimons, Esq.	Attorney for Town
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Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept minutes of previous meeting of March 03, 2010. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Still picking up debris from the 2008 ice storm. Thiemann Road and half of Oak Hill Road still have to be done.

Whole Town has been swept for the first time this season and now sweeping in the Village of Philmont, When completed, Town will then be swept again.

Snow fence being taken down and starting to grade dirt roads.

Marty Schumann is back in the Town Park cleaning up leaves and getting ball fields ready for upcoming season.

End of report.

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

Councilman Weigelt – met with Highway Superintendent LaMont – Still waiting for someone to get back to him regarding the lighting project. Waiting for FEMA Report and audit.

Councilman Johnston - Met with Highway Superintendent LaMont and Little League to get things up and running for upcoming season. Building new dugouts from donations received. Backstop ordered – Estimate sent to insurance carrier.

Skateboard Committee met today.

Met with three contractors in regards to roof on Town Hall building. If estimates are over \$10,000.00, must go out to bid.

Report from GAR regarding reval read, which explained what will be coming up and will be happening as the work on this project continues.

Councilman Van Deusen – Columbia County Safety Committee met two weeks ago – nothing on the agenda for Claverack.

Councilman Preusser – Scheduled meeting with Rescue Squad. Requested five years of records – received three. Next meeting will be with accountants.

Met several times with Richard Nesbitt, Insurance Broker for the Town. Consensus of Board – Not enough time to review new Brokers. Requested two quotes from Mr. Nesbitt. He brought in quotes from NYMIR at \$25,868.90 with rebate of \$1,237.50 if Town stayed with them and \$31,868.00 from Selective Insurance Company. Town coverage will remain with NYMIR. The difference was not enough to justify change.

Vickie Simons was remembered by Chamber of Commerce for her many years of service.

Program Kids in Motion has part-time positions. Meeting to be held on April 14.

Little League purchased new scoreboard sign. Asked Town to store it during winter.

Met with Supervisors Andrews and Young regarding LOSAP.

Discussion on local streams and flooding. Streams have debris from storms and are causing problems. Town can do nothing in streams without consulting DEC and getting approval. Will try and get some assistance from them.

Supervisor Andrews - Met with Mark Decker regarding Workforce Investment Program.

Engineering proposals sent out and are to be returned before workshop.

Wrote letter of support for grant for Mid- Hudson Cable to expand broadband use in the Town.

Went to Pace Energy Program in New Paltz. The program was about saving energy in municipalities.

Census forms – If no Post Office box was on form, not delivered. Still working on this problem.

Zoning Revision Committee – Gretchen Stearns – Meeting held with all Boards. Working on streamlining Planning Board duties. Will be meeting on the second and fourth Thursdays to work on ZBA and Planning Board duties. Consultant has given group first redraft. Committee hopes to speed up process.

Philmont Report – No increase in new budget.

Funds allocated for fireworks for Community Day.

Philmont Library Cultural Center room is now open and in use. Grand opening set for April 24.

County Report – Supervisor on two sub-committees for Pine Haven – Use for current building and construction of new building.

Chamber of Commerce having ribbon cutting April 22 at 5:00 p.m. for visitor information site in Hillsdale.

Michael O’Leary MD at Office of Mental Health is retiring. In process of looking for replacement.

Two laws on County level:

1. Changing of law containing qualifications for County Comptroller.
2. Additional elected coroner.

Ongoing Business –

Website – Committee meeting to work on reformating information.

Volunteer Committees – Agricultural = Peter Reiss suggested as chairman. Also suggested to have someone who was in farming, but no longer farming, to be on the Committee. Also, Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Bureau might be valuable resources.

Grant application to NYSERDA - Town application was not accepted. Grant Writers offered to write next application at no charge.

Silver Star Families of America appreciation, as discussed last month – Gary Flaherty has not gotten back with information yet.

Skateboard Park – Councilman Johnston – Has spoken with American Ramp Company – Gave three different proposals – Committee looking for concrete ramps and jumps. Specs have been holding up process. They are offering a 25% reduction if they can use our Park as a model for others. Park can be up and running in 45 days. Estimate for jumps and ramps approximately \$40,000.00 (before discount was \$53,670.00). Budget has \$66,000.00 for this project. Pad is already in. Charles Schram and Nathan Chess also on Committee. There is no change in Town’s insurance policy with this Park.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to go out for bid for the jumps and ramps for the Skateboard Park. Carried.

Letter from Joe Romano in regards to Skateboard Park and specs read by Councilman Johnston. All questions have been answered.

New Business –

Occupations, Inc. – Purchasing home on Fish & Game Road – Have been in business a long time – 24 years of service.

Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen that letter be written stating Town does not object. Carried. Also request that there be payment in lieu of taxes for fire protection as the property will be tax exempt.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to reappoint Katie Cashen to the Columbia County Environmental Management Council and James Folz to Columbia County Planning. Carried.

Motion for resolution appointing Supervisor Andrews, Councilman Van Deusen and Councilman Weigelt signators for the purpose of signing Town checks. Carried.

Discussion on Churchtown Community Service Awards Program (LOSAP). Committee will be dissolved and Town Boards of Claverack and Taghkanic would approve the Service Awards. Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Weigelt for same. Carried, with Councilman Preusser abstaining.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to go out for bid for transportation for Summer Youth Program and Winter Ski Program. Carried, with Councilman Johnston abstaining.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to approve Clover Hills Subdivision bonding road maintenance agreement., with approval of recreation fee of \$1,000.00, pending Attorney Fitzsimmons' approval. This has already been approved by Planning Board. Carried..

Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for approval of use of voting machines in A.B. Shaw Firehouse by Hudson City School District for budget vote in May. Carried.

Discussion on placement of cell tower at Forest Lake. Attorney Fitzsimmons must recuse himself as the Attorney for the Town as he also represents the Village of Philmont. Attorney Guterman will handle this. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen, approving same. Carried.

Discussion on information received regarding lead safety during renovations. Contractors must now take classes for certification. This is mandatory when working on pre-1978 construction in homes, child care facilities and schools.

Correspondence received and on file in Town Office for review.

Letter from NYSDEC regarding stream problems. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to write letter to NYSDEC regarding cleaning up of creeks, as discussed earlier in meeting. Carried.

Opened to public:

Bea Burch – Agawamick Project – Program for youth at risk – 18 to 24 years old. Project is alternative to jail time. Seniors might be used as drivers. Center is 159 Main Street, Philmont. Will need help in transportation. No action taken by Town.

Guy Pultz – Water problem in cellar – lives on Mellenville Square. Highway Department should look into this. Reflectors have been knocked down.

Mr. Van Deusen and Mr. Hallenbeck – Perry Road – Road falling apart. Drains and culverts broken – Ditches sinking.

Councilman Van Deusen would like some sort of leaf pickup in the fall by Highway department – at least for the hamlet. No action taken.

No further remarks.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$21,298.54, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$7,553.20, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Escrow Account bills, totaling \$1,175.00 were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DA Fund bills, totaling \$4,888.07, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB Fund bills, totaling \$60,210.41, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

SW Water A Fund bills, totaling \$4,195.97, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Preusser, meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Councilman Preusser: _____

Town Clerk: _____