

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

December 01, 2010

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 called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Supervisor, Robin Andrews, who led in a moment of silence and 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
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq,	Attorney for Town
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

After discussion, motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept minutes of previous Public Hearing and Regular Monthly Meeting, both held on November 03, 2010 Carried.

As per Public Hearing on “Establishing Dog License Fees and Animal Control Program”, motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to approve Local Law #3 of 2010. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Completed installing snow fence, except for a short part on Roxbury Road due to farmer still harvesting field.

Finished putting plows, wings and sanders on trucks. Hauled in sand for winter.

Cold patching in all zones and trying to grade dirt roads when weather permits.

Cleaned brush and vine from Shaw Bridge.

Ran some drainage near Mellenville Firehouse.

End of report.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE – Chris Post – Working on identifying incomplete parts of zoning. Meetings scheduled for December 9th and 23rd. Version 3 should be completed by January 2011 to be shared with Board and community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Read by Supervisor – Meeting held November 17th. Discussions included Broadband needs, Ockawamick School property use, possibility of Hydro-Power plant near intersection of Rtes. #9H and #66, water and sewage near same intersection, expansion of County Industrial Park to include that property near the intersection and what might be needed should the Town secure that property for development in the future while protecting the potential water source.

Discussed needs of the County, such as lack of space for large receptions, lack of hotel space, and lack of affordable housing.

Meeting ended with discussion about intersection of Rtes. #23B and #9-H and how to develop a plan to present to NYSDOT for a safe intersection with sidewalks and pedestrian crossing. Separate meeting held by unrelated citizens about the intersection with DOT representatives.. Mr. Lee, Supervisor Andrews and Superintendent of Highways LaMont invited. Decided that rather than two groups working on same project, all would be under Economic Development Committee. Report will be given by chairman at next Regular Monthly Meeting.

Next meeting will be December 15, 2010 with Ken Flood as guest.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – PETER REISS – Because of regular meetings being held on 4th Thursday and the Holiday, meeting delayed to Thursday, December 02, 2010. Peter attended the American Farmland Trust (AFT) Agricultural Roundtable. Subject was Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plans with primary focus on the Town level. Provided an opportunity to share strategies and approaches that have been effective in planning for agriculture at the Town level and also share questions and concerns. Most representatives were from Towns throughout Eastern New York State.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – Read by Supervisor – Met November 4th – Met later in month with Supervisor, Highway Superintendent, Columbia County Engineers and members of Grant Committee at Shaw Bridge to discuss restoring it.

Next meeting will be December 2nd.

YOUTH – Councilman Preusser – Meeting was scheduled for November 17th. Noted that this was 3rd meeting “Ellie” Esselstyn was only one attending. Was decided at last meeting that they would meet 3rd Wednesday of each month.

There will be a public hearing, Wednesday, December 15, 2010, on proposed revision recommended by Columbia County Planning Board and the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. to Columbia County Agricultural Districts #5 and #6, at 4:00 p.m. at the Columbia County Office Building, 401 State Street, Hudson, New York.

Peter Reiss stated consideration is being given to expansion of District #6 and will be attending meeting soon.

STREAM CLEAN-UP – Councilman Preusser – Highway Department has cleaned up two areas in Hollowville, off County Rte. #16.

INSURANCE – Councilman Preusser – Will be putting a package together, by February meeting, for those interested in quoting Town insurance, which renews April 01, 2011. Councilman Preusser also reported that Churchtown Fire District contracts given to Attorney Fitzsimmons.

GRANT COMMITTEE – Councilman Van Deusen – Meeting 4th Tuesday of every month. He and Superintendent of Highways LaMont were at meeting. Working on prices for water, sidewalks and drainage to Town Park.

GRAVEL MINE ZONING COMMITTEE – Councilman Van Deusen – Meetings scheduled for 1st Tuesday of month. Have overlay of where gravel is located. Town is down from eight to four operating mines.

TRAFFIC SAFETY – Councilman Van Deusen – Meeting held in November – Nothing to report on involving Town.

Councilman Van Deusen reported Emergency Preparedness Plan has been updated and ready for Board members to look over.

Also, on A.B. new firehouse property, buildings on property have been taken down. New building should be ready to occupy by August 2011.

WEBSITE – Supervisor Andrews – Building Permit application form updated on website as per Building Inspector, Stan Koloski. Water District map now available on site.

Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Johnston to appoint Charles Schram and Katy Cashen to Communication Committee.

COUNTY – Supervisor Andrews – Will be voting on 2011 County Budget at December 8th meeting.

Public Hearing on December 8th on proposal to use WalMart building as County Office Campus. The County Capital Resource Corp./Industrial Development Agency would borrow funds to purchase and renovate the building, then lease it to the County.

Presentation given to Supervisors on new Pine Haven building. Home-like atmosphere in design. Looking at site layout and options.

State DOT approved County to do an Airport Business Plan, to be completed by next June.

PHILMONT – Supervisor Andrews – Working on plans for a new highway garage.

OTHER - Thanked Highway Superintendent LaMont for cleaning up Shaw Bridge area. Asked County Engineer to explore County owned B & A trail in the hamlet and possibility to access from 9-H.

Met with Ken Flood about tools available from County for businesses in Town.

Will hold “Coffee Klatch” Sunday, December 5th from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at A.B. Shaw firehouse.

Councilman Van Deusen – Regarding Shaw Bridge - Ian Stewart, Chairman of Historic Preservation, is contacting Union College for information , hoping to get assistance from a project they may be able to do.

Regarding WalMart building as a County Office Campus, CRC/IDA would purchase building, make renovations and upgrades , then lease to County.

Water tower – RFP – Still in progress.

Two Boy Scouts present at this meeting, working on citizenship badges.

Councilman Johnston – Roof repairs to Town Office/Court Building completed by Town Highway Department employees.

Reassessment is moving along according to schedule.

Getting information together so it is available for new engineers who have been selected by Town Board.

Charles Brewer, Chairman of Board of Assessors, gave update on GAR, the firm doing the reassessment for the Town. Plans going according to schedule.

Councilman Weigelt – New lighting system completed. Highway Superintendent LaMont ready for winter season. New truck should be delivered in January or February. He is working on pickup truck, trying to get another year of service from it. There will be no salt or sand at the old Town Garage this year.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to accept Final Financial Report for January – October 2010. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser, authorizing Supervisor to send letter to Columbia County Real Property giving permission for New York Rural Water Association to have access to GIS data for the Town. Mr. Winkley is working on a source water plan for the Town and this information will help in his data collecting. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to change payroll to a Sunday to Saturday program with a one week lag. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Preusser authorizing necessary transfers in the 2010 Budget. This would be Resolution #50 of 2010. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston to set Public Hearing for Churchtown Fire Company on December 29, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., with Year-End Meeting to follow, at the Town Hall, 836 Rte. 217, Mellenville, New York. The 2011 Organizational Meeting to be held on January 05, 2011, 6:45 p.m. with Regular Monthly Meeting to follow. Carried. Per Attorney Fitzsimmons, this information should be on the website.

Short discussion followed after explanation by Attorney Fitzsimmons regarding “Jake Brakes”.

Meeting opened to public:

Sal Cozzolino – A.B. Shaw Fire Company has website – www.claverackfire.com. Pictures and drawing of new building available.

“Bill Blaauw” – Received call for survey on Key Bank. Only bank in Philmont. Perhaps the Economic Development Committee could look into getting another bank interested in coming to this area.

As in past meetings, Mr. Blaauw brought up the bridge on County Rte. #11. Recently there was a problem with a truck going to the former Charter Supply Corp. As stated before, truck drivers are not sure they have enough height to go through with their trucks. The Town tried years ago to have the bridge removed, but Rails to Trails became involved and County did not proceed. This should be brought up again at the County level. This business employs many people from area.

Councilman Preusser – The spaghetti dinner by the fire companies, originally planned to assist the Chase family has been moved to the springtime. They will be working on a community project to assist organizations associated with helping families with children affected by childhood illnesses, such as leukemia.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 8:40 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to go out of Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt for resolution giving authority for all 2010 bills to be paid as received. Carried.

General A bills, totaling \$8,776.00, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$2,226.73, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

There were no DA Highway bills.

DB Highway bills, totaling \$15,280.33, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Escrow bills, totaling \$2,226.73, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Homeland Tower bills, totaling \$130.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Mariner Tower bills, totaling \$130.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Water District A bills, totaling \$3,673.60, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Councilman Preusser: _____

Town Clerk: _____

