

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**December 08, 2011**

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 by Supervisor Robin Andrews immediately following the Public Hearing in regards to the Philmont Fire Protection District. Supervisor Andrews led in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

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

Absent:

Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Attorney for the Town

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept minutes of previous meeting of November 10, 2011. Carried.

Fran Martino was introduced and presented information on Stockport Creek Watershed. The boundaries of the Town of Claverack are totally within the watershed. The website for information is [www.stockportwatershed.org](http://www.stockportwatershed.org). Information was also given to Board members and more will be available at the Town Office for anyone interested.

The Greater Stockport Creek Watershed Alliance meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the community room at Crosswinds at Hudson Apartments, 15 Rogers Lane, Hudson New York. New members are welcome to join at any time.

**Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont** – Completed putting up snow fence.

Replaced one culvert pipe and installed one new culvert pipe on Bate Road. Grading roads in all zones. Ditching on Old Barrington Road.

Cleaning streams of debris from Rte. 9-H to Webb Road, along Spook Rock and Roxbury Road. Now working in Mellenville behind the Mellenville Union Cemetery in the North Creek.

Cold patching in all zones and paved Madonia Road.

Worked one snowstorm with men doing a great job, considering the soft conditions.

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Zoning Revision – Chris Post** – Met last night and discussed information from the November 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting. Working with Columbia County Rural Water and the Economic Development Committee regarding the commercial area around Rtes. 66 and #9-H. Thank you to Councilman Van Deusen for his time and work on the Zoning Revision Committee.

**Economic Development** – Report read by Supervisor. Next meeting to be held on December 21, 2011 at Town Hall.

**Agricultural Advisory Committee – Peter Reiss** – Columbia County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board continue to work on draft County Farmland Protection Plan.

Town Ag. Chairman attended Planning for Agriculture workshop on November 12, hosted by Columbia Land Conservancy, American Farmland Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Columbia County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board and other sponsors. The course is focused on Planning for Agriculture in New York State: A Toolkit for Towns and Counties.

The "AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY" sign project is in progress.

The Committee is awaiting the availability of the Columbia County Farmland Protection Plan to see what action would be most advisable to recommend as our Town follow-up actions.

Next meeting is planned for early January.

**Historical Preservation – Sal Cozzolino** – Members presently working on this committee are Ian Stewart, Ian Nitschke and Sal. Now meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month at A.B. Shaw Firehouse at 7:00 p.m. Russ Pomeranz and Bob LaPorto are new members joining committee. Mr. Pomeranz made new chairman. Ian Stewart moving from area and is resigning from Committee. Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to approve this appointment. Carried.

Getting together list of historical properties in the Town. Approximately 200 in the Town on the Historical Registry, not including the Village of Philmont.

Will be meeting in Philmont with Sally Baker tomorrow evening.

Grant for Shaw Bridge repair turned down. Will reapply next year. A relative of Mr. LaPorto's did thesis on Shaw Bridge and will be asked to come to a future meeting.

Councilman Van Deusen stated he will continue to attend Zoning Revision meetings.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Columbia/Greene Humane Society contract for 2012.

Letter re: Letter regarding Mr. Van Deusen from Van Deusen, Howe, Eigenbrodt, Keeler and Beck families.

NYMIR – Rate decrease as of January 01, 2012.

Update from Comptroller's Office.

Hudson River Watershed Alliance Conference – December 15, 2011.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – Re: Stuyvesant Falls Hydroelectric Project.

BAS – Internet tax bills.

NYSEG – Re: Branches on Donnelly Road – answering letter.

Howard Anderson – Re: Clique – Health and Awareness.

Robin Andrews – Fran Martino – Re: Greater Stockport Creek Watershed.

Claverack Free Library.

NYSDEC – Protection of Water Permit – Bate Road over Hollowville Creek.

**Website – Supervisor Andrews** – Budget is available on website.

**Philmont – Supervisor Andrews** – Summit Heights did not get extension on contract. Now, once contract ends, owners will have to start from the beginning of the process.

**County – Supervisor Andrews** – Some items now at Ockawamick building could be declared surplus, but at present time nothing can be done with them.

**Highway – Councilman Weigelt** – Pickup being repaired now back in service. In regards to the stream cleanup, many acres of land were saved by the Cashen and Hess properties.

It was suggested that the State Department of Transportation be notified again regarding a “No Passing” zone near new A.B. Shaw Firehouse.

**Stream Cleanup – Councilman Preusser** – All necessary papers filed with the State.

**Youth – Councilman Preusser** – Ski Program has low attendance. At this time, 8 transportation and 6 lessons have been signed up. Catamount will leave open to reintroduce next year, if Town decides not to continue with program this year. Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to suspend program for this season. Carried.

Just a note that Santa and the Grinch will be at the Churchtown Firehouse on December 18.

Ribbon cutting for new A.B. Shaw Firehouse will be Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Preusser to hold workshop on Tuesday, January 03, 2012, 7:00 p.m., at Town Office, 91 Church Street, Mellenville, New York. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept January – November 2011 draft Financial Reports, November 2011 draft Financial Report and January – October Final Report for 2011. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for resolution to make necessary fund transfers in 2011 Budget. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept Philmont Fire Company contract, January 01, 2012 – 12/31/2012. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen, to advertise for letters of interest for positions on Zoning Board, Planning Board and Board of Ethics. Carried

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to reappoint Neil Howard, Sr. to Board of Assessment Review, October 01, 2011 – September 30, 2016. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Economic Development Grant – Need to check paper to see progress for long range plan for rail to truck/truck to rail conveyer on site off Rte. #23B near old cement plant.

**Nathan Chess** – Thanked Councilman Van Deusen for time and energy to the Town and for welfare of the people of the Town. **Councilman Van Deusen** said it has been fun for 16 years and time for a break.

No further comments.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$36,408.06, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$1,236.55 were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$81,911.21, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

There were no Highway DB fund bills.

Escrow Account bill, totaling \$90.00 was audited and ordered paid from the account.

Water District A bills, totaling \$26,229.09, 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 Van Deusen, meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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

Councilman Van Deusen: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Weigelt: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Preusser: \_\_\_\_\_

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

