

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

June 09, 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 called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Robin Andrews, who 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
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Preusser	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Attorney for the Town
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Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept minutes of previous meeting of May 12, 2011. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Helped the Village of Philmont blacktop a few rough spots on Main Street and assisted in sweeping.

Replaced three culvert pipes on Thielman Road and have done some ditching and replaced two culvert pipes on Old Barrington Road and two on Oak Hill Road. Cleaned ditches on Roxbury Hollow Road.

Made four blacktop saw cuts on Roxbury Road to prepare for culvert replacement.

Have been grading dirt roads in all zones and mowing roadsides in all zones.

Marty has been keeping parks mowed, trimmed and looking good, getting park ready for summer programs.

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

Building Inspectors' Report for February thru MaY 2011 received and on file in Town Office for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning Revision Committee – Chris Post – Met twice since last Town Board Meeting. Have new zoning map and changes. Should have all changes by next week. Should be discussed at next Town Board workshop. Will be meeting next on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Economic Development – John Lee – Reported by Supervisor – Sub-committee chairmen named: Home Based Business is Cyndy Hall and Zoning and Planning Advocacy is William First.

Support given to Drake Petroleum (Xtra-Mart) in their proposed zoning change to increase their hours of operation.

Decided to send letter to Ken Flood, Commissioner, Columbia County Planning and Economic Development, in support of encouragement of developing a county-wide “Columbia County Comprehensive Plan” using some members who have worked on town Comprehensive Plan committees throughout the County.

Mr. Jacoby reported on Main Street Funding and suggested development of a “local action plan”.

Reported that the Columbia County Chamber of Economic Development committee would be having an upcoming meeting at the Vanderbilt House and a walk through the business section of Philmont to look at available commercial and retail properties. Mr. Lee will attend and report back.

Additional discussion concerning Broadband/Cable service to the Town led to decision to invite a representative from Mid-Hudson Cablevision to a meeting.

Members given the task to contact business owners in the Town for the purpose of having a separate meeting to organize a business alliance. Given a further task to contact Tom Williams with information he will use to develop a brochure to be used in promotion of business in the Town.

Agricultural Committee– Peter Reiss – Organizing thoughts to present to Zoning Revision Committee. Hoping to meet with Chris Post and Gretchen Stearns next week. Next meeting of the Committee is June 23rd. Peter and Chris have been talking on an ongoing basis.

Historic Preservation Committee – Ian Stewart – Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 15th at the Philmont Library.

On May 14th, Committee led a walk through South side of hamlet, which lasted about 3 hours and attended by 16 people, who seemed to enjoy themselves. At this month’s meeting, discussion will be preplanning next walk.

CORRESPONDENCE

Folder of correspondence on table for review.

Included are:

Letter from NYSDOT answering letter sent by Supervisor regarding State Rte. #66 and Rte. #23. Requests denied. Will revisit State Rte. #23 near new firehouse when it is completed and in operation.

Letter from NYMIR. Will continue distribution of its capital return program next year.

Claverack Library will make formal announcement regarding building plans. Executive Director of Mid-Hudson Library System will be on hand to present grant in amount of \$75,000.00 from New York State Library Division of Library Development.

Columbia County Soil & Water has again offered the Town a second year of grant funding to further the stream debris removal efforts, through the Environmental Protection Fund, in the amount of \$12,207.38.

Town Board Reports

Youth – Councilman Preusser – Met with Director, Brett Holmes – Received roster for approval by Board. Signups will be Thursday, June 16th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 18th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Insurance – Councilman Preusser – Met this past month for Loss Control Survey. Few miscellaneous items to address, but basically survey okay.

Stream Improvements – Councilman Preusser – Will be processing application.

Cablevision – Councilman Preusser – Received check from Mid-Hudson Cablevision for \$22,452.00.

Grant – Councilman Van Deusen – Did not meet last month.

Mining – Councilman Van Deusen – Met Tuesday night. Due to circumstances, will meet next Tuesday.

Traffic – Councilman Van Deusen – Did not go to banquet. Met with Morris Associates to go over road specs.

Meeting of consolidation of fire companies was very informative. Included Village of Philmont, Claverack Fire District, Churchtown and Mellenville Fire districts.

Website - Supervisor Andrews – Registration forms for the summer program will be available on site .

County – Supervisor Andrews – County still working on WalMart project to see if feasible for County offices.

Consolidation of 911 and Sheriff's Department dispatchers still in very early stages.

County had presentation on County Manager position – whether good idea or not.

County extending free metal collection until September.

Improvements to Fish and Game Road back on the books.

Village of Philmont – Supervisor Andrews – Meeting will be next week. Flowers planted at the Philmont Library by Claverack Garden Club.

Finance – Supervisor Andrews – Cablevision payment received.

Thanks to all for Memorial Day parade.

Clough, Harbour & Associates doing study on water tower at Commerce Park – not quite complete. Location will not be in the Town of Claverack – will be in the Town of Ghent.

Reval – Councilman Johnston – Read report from Assessors' Office. Assessor Chairman, Charles Brewer said the Board of Assessment Review (BAR) were very professional and deserve a lot of credit.

Skateboard Park – Councilman Johnston – Nathan Chess – Still working on rfp.

Alvarez and Sons has offered to donate use of office trailer for Summer Youth Program. Will be ready by opening day.

No further reports.

The bridge on Millbrook Road repair – Looking at all options with engineer - will get proposals and costs.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Preusser to accept Final Financial Report for January through April 2011, Draft Financial Report for May 2011 and Draft Financial Report for May 2011 through May 2011. Carried

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Johnston to approve 2011 Budget transfers Carried.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution . Carried.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Preusser to approve roster as requested by Director of the Summer Youth Program, Brett Holmes. Meagan Keeler has moved up to Assistant Director. Carried.

Lease on copiers in Town Office ends in June and in the Judges Office in September. Motion by Supervisor Andrews, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to approve new contract for new copies at a savings of approximately \$40.00 per month per machine.

Village of Philmont – Letter received requesting total exemption from taxes, which includes six parcels. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser for full exemptions for all parcels. Assessor Chairman is opposed to this as he feels it will set precedence for properties owned by the City of Hudson and Town of Greenport, which are within the Town of Claverack boundaries.

Supervisor Andrews and Councilman Johnston must abstain from voting because of owning property in the Village. Councilmen Van Deusen and Preusser voted in favor of full exemptions of all Village properties. Councilman Weigelt voted in opposition to motion. He stated he did not feel comfortable with the motion and wanted more information before making a decision. Motion was declared carried by the Supervisor, but after speaking with the attorney, it was learned that it did not carry as this was not a quorum, with two voting in favor and one against the motion.

After short discussion, motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Preusser to change Workshop Meeting to Monday, July 11th, instead of Monday, June 27th. Carried.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$5,996.55, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$1,443.75, were audited and order paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$72,472.72, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$2,583.12, 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 8:30 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Councilman Preusser: _____

Town Clerk: _____