

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

July 12, 2012

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, immediately following the Public Hearing on the proposed zoning laws. Meeting opened by Supervisor, Robin Andrews, who led in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Robin Andrews	Supervisor
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Robert Preusser	Councilman
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Attorney for Town
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Michael Johnston	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways

Michael Brandon, Town Justice, made a request before the meeting began. There is a parking problem on court nights. Brought in a sketch of a possible solution to alleviate some of the crowding. Copies will be made and distributed to Board members.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, to accept minutes of previous meeting of June 13, 2012 and workshop of June 26, 2012. Carried.

Committee Reports

Economic Development – Letter read by Supervisor – Recommendations to the Town’s new zoning law included the following:

1. Adding an area zoned for “Hamlet Business” in the hamlets of Churchtown and Hollowville where there is none proposed at this time.
2. Expand the “Hamlet Business” zone within the hamlet of Claverack to include both sides of Rte. #23B from the light to the Old Lane/Stone Mill Rd. intersection. Expand the zone from the light on Rte. #23 to the vacant Barnard’s Flower Shop. Add both sides of Maple Avenue from Rte. #9-H to Old Lane. An expanded area for “Hamlet Business” should also be considered in both directions from the traffic light.

3. Remove current wellhead protection overlay near the intersection of Rtes. 9-H and #66 with the idea of allowing commercial development in that area. Area is zoned "Highway Commercial", but with overlay in place it will never be able to be developed.
4. Expand "Highway Commercial" zone on Rte. #9-H from the intersection of Rtes. #9-H and #66 to Fish & Game Road and on Rte. #9-H from the Claverack Creek by Hildebrandt's Trucking to the intersection of Rtes. #27 and #9-H. Already many commercial businesses in that corridor, which now appears it was spot zoned.
5. Change zoning of Claverack School from Residential to Hamlet Business.

Agricultural Advisory – No meeting – Waiting for further information that may affect farming, so that information may be given to the farming community for comments.

Historic Preservation Committee – Read by Supervisor. Met on Friday, July 6th. Entire committee present. Committee appreciated action taken by Town Board in supporting efforts to fund engineering study to determine cost of restoring Shaw Bridge. Eryn Tobin of Preservation New York was shown bridge by Supervisor and felt meeting went well.

Committee focused on several matters, most important was how to raise community awareness of the importance of this project.

Sal Cozzolino, committee member, stated support is needed now. Have political letters of support.

Correspondence

ORPTS – Final Equalization Rate – 100%

Resolution – Columbia County Bd. of Supervisors – Contract award for fuel

Letter – Edward & Josephine Konow – Re: Municipal water system

Columbia County Safety Board – Procedures for speed limit change

Town Board Reports

Councilman Weigelt – Looking into highway equipment that we presently have and what we will need "down the road". Patching and grading roads in all zones. Mowing roadsides. Working on trucks and equipment.

Councilwoman Cashen – Attended Capital Region Economic Development Council Consolidated Funding Application workshop at Columbia-Greene Community College, where information was provided on how to access State economic development funding as part of the State's Consolidated Funding Application process.

Contacted Association of Towns to obtain legal information on municipalities purchasing property for Town use and partial rental to private entities. Also contacted a Town in the Adirondacks where a former school was converted to Town offices, with rental to private and non-profit organizations.

Participated in a meeting with Town representatives and Town of Greenport and County officials to discuss wellhead protection overlay district and zoning issues. Copies of information discussed at this meeting available at Town Office for review.

Attended two meetings with feedback and concerns on Harlem Valley Rail Trail proposal to plan an extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail through Claverack and Philmont.

Gathered information from Department of State in regards to requirements for Code Enforcement Officers powers and duties.

Attended ZBA meeting as liaison to Town Board.

Supervisor Andrews – Successful Community Day in Philmont. Thanks to everyone who worked throughout the year to plan the day.

County – Passed resolution for the bids for renovation of courthouse, which has been in the works for many years. This renovation is partially due to making courthouse handicap accessible.

Town – Met with Eryn Tobin, reviewer of grant request for Shaw Bridge on July 25th. Went to inspect bridge. Will not know about grant until September.

There is a block party for all people in Hudson City School District, July 28th -11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at 2nd & Front Street, Hudson, sponsored by Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood to share vision for making community and school great places to live and learn.

Councilman Preusser – Met with Highway Superintendent LaMont several times at Town Park. Newer vehicle added for Park use. Met with Youth Director, Brett Holmes. Started with 120 children. On July 26th, Columbia County Task Force will do some type of fire prevention at Park Summer Youth Program. A hunter safety course may be set up.

Churchtown Fire Company gave monetary awards to ten students at graduation.

Fire companies will be honoring Jim Van Deusen this Saturday for his many years of service.

With Councilman Weigelt, met with Economic Development Committee. It is a challenge getting so many together for a meeting.

No further Board reports.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept draft January – June 2012 Financial Reports, draft June Financial Report and final January – May 2012 Financial Reports. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for letter of support to Conservancy as they are applying for a grant for GIS and SEQR training. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for support for HRVT grant proposal. Resolution read by Supervisor. Carried.

Letter to Board from Building Inspector, Stanley Koloski, regarding Claverack Free Library plans for new library. The library has requested the waiving of building fees as they proceed with their plans. Motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to approve same. Carried.

Opened to public:

David Whelen – Thanked Board for supporting proposed grant application for HRVT.

No further comments.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$11,994.59, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$2,635.97, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB Fund bills, totaling \$74,452.09, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$11,380.95, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no Escrow Account bills.

There were no DA Highway Fund bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Preusser, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Preusser: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Town Clerk: _____