

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**April 10, 2006**

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, New York. Meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor James W. Keegan, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

James W. Keegan	Supervisor
William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Highway Superintendent
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Mary I. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Joseph Romano	Town Engineer
James Van Deusen	Councilman
Martha Pizza	Deputy Clerk

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston to accept minutes of previous meeting of Monday, March 13, 2006. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

**Charles Brassard** - Comprehensive Committee Member - Read that Columbia County is listed as Third Best County of the United States.

Spoke on Comprehensive Plan Committee - Data Base set up for Town - Most important issue is environment.

Committee's objectives or goals - Workshops and mailing surveys - Replies from surveys a little over 20% returned. Community workshops have been held and others coming up. Will be setting up focus groups as at other meeting to discuss matters, independent of Comprehensive Plan Committee members. These groups will report back to Committee and Town Board.

**Mr. Brassard** introduced **Don Meltz**, who discussed and explained GIS maps. Included in maps:

Base layer - Shows roads, water features, boundaries of parcels.

Topography layer - Shows variations of elevations, various contours of Town, different slopes in parcels. Higher elevations are on easterly side of Town.

Geology and Bedrock layers - Can look for limestone deposits for mining and water sources.

Water features - Shows extensive wet areas in certain parts of Town and 100 year flood zones along creeks. Soil area has a lot of information. Shows septic tank absorption rate. Septic tank absorption rate shows not many areas in Town where in-ground systems can be used - would have to use engineered above-ground system. Soils layer, Property Class area and Farm Class area can identify where good farmland is.

Aerial photos available are from Year 2001 and are colored infrared photos. 2004 photos are black and white. Can see houses, farmlands, water sources, forests, etc. Property of Columbia County Land Conservancy can be located and National Registry properties located.

School Districts on another overlay. Empire Zone by Commerce Park located and different hamlets located.

**Chris Post** stated all information will fit on a CD and paper versions of maps available, but would not be able to overlay them.

Next step is to digitize zoning map from information.

New Water District #1 can be an overlay and Wellhead Protection area can be added in.

**Mr. Brassard** stated eight (8) members now on Committee - not a good idea. Gary Steenburn resigned.

Per **Gretchen Stearns** a member of the Committee, Judith Zink is listed as officially on Committee, when actually she has been filling in for Jay Brousseau.

**Ian Nitschke** questioned Supervisor Keegan BOCES using Claverack School. Was told rent at former Ockawamick School building is atrocious. Rent at Claverack School building more in line. Will not have enrollment that is presently at Ockawamick. Students will be from Columbia and Greene Counties only. Will be high concentration of teachers to students.

No further comments.

**Report of Highway Superintendent - Louis LaMont** - Worked two (2) ice and snow storms in all zones. Clearing brush and trees on Van Deusen, Thielman and Millbrook

Roads. Sweeping roads in all zones. Repairing lawns damaged during snowplowing in all zones. Taking snow fence down in all zones. Ditching on Preusser Road.

Working in Town Park including:

- Repair of dugout roofs.
- Layout of new concession building, septic tank and leach field
- Installing new water line and new drinking fountain.
- Cleaning up Park from winter and getting ready for season.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Park Commission - Councilman Johnston** - Highway Department working on dugouts and ball fields tilled. Septic tank, lines and water lines installed for new concession building- concrete slab to be poured tomorrow.

\$2,600.00 grant received for new posts and chains for Park in hamlet. Highway Superintendent will complete necessary documents.

Met with two (2) contractors for estimates for planting trees along fence line of Park near cemetery - waiting for one (1) more.

Getting together information for skateboard park.

Ghent Band and Upstage scheduled for programs at Town Park this summer. Any ideas for special events for coming season should be brought to Town Board's attention or contact Councilman Johnston.

**Water Committee - Councilman Blaauw** - Project moving along well. All services to property lines completed. Tank will be sandblasted and painted soon. All services will probably be hooked up and ready to use sometime in June.

**Traffic Safety** - Received correspondence that a reduced speed limit on County Rte. #29 (Spook Rock Road) requires request from Towns of Greenport and Claverack. Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston for resolution authorizing request. Carried.

Received:

Gahbauer Road - Approval of 40 mph speed limit from State Route #66 to .04 miles from State Rte. #217.

Fish & Game Road - No reduction of speed limit - realistic as is.

Stickles Road - Reduced speed limit to 30 mph between Schoolhouse and Millbrook Roads.

**ZBA - Councilman Weigelt** - Trying to set up meeting before regular monthly ZBA Meeting.

No further Committee Reports.

Building Inspector's Report for March 2006 received and on file in Town Office for review.

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

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept February 2006 Financial Report as prepared by Town accountants.

Request received from Hudson City School District to use voting machines at A.B. Shaw Firehouse for Hudson City School Budget Vote in May. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt authorizing same. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston authorizing Supervisor Keegan to sign necessary documents for Churchtown Fire Company as they are seeking financing from The Bank of Greene County for renovations and improvements to the existing firehouse. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to authorize advertising for bus bids for Summer Youth Program and Winter Ski Program. Carried.

After discussion on machine to gauge speed and traffic along roads, which was brought to Boards attention by Councilman Blaauw, consensus of Board was to investigate cost.

Letter of Resignation from Comprehensive Plan Committee received from Gary Steenburn. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to accept with regrets Carried.

Bills #130- #210, totaling \$55,126.78, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills #102- #118, totaling \$13,393.06, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District #1 bills #15- #19, totaling \$172,321.93, were audited and ordered paid from their account.

Stewardship at Millbrook Road bills in the amount of \$210.00 were audited and ordered paid from their account. There were also bills totaling \$285.38 during the month of March that were audited and ordered paid. This was omitted from the March minutes.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston for resolution to accept grant secured by Senator Stephen Saland, for posts and chain fence around Park at junction of Rte. 9-H and #23, with authorization given to Highway Superintendent to sign necessary documents. Carried.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt for Resolution granting \$.60 per hour raises for the following in the Highway Department, effective April 10, 2006: Anthony Barry, Douglas Disco, Martin Schumann, David Siter, Howard Burch, Timothy Folmsbee, Thomas Delaney, Leonard Winters, James Brady and John Hoose. Carried.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston, meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Date: .....

Supervisor: .....

Councilman Blaauw: .....

Councilman Weigelt: .....

Councilman Johnston: .....

Town Clerk: .....

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**Resolution No. - #35**

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, duly called and held on the 10th Day of April 2006, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

**Resolution by: Clifford Weigelt :**

**Seconded by: Michael Johnston :**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Claverack that:

A grant be accepted for posts and chain for fencing around the Park in the hamlet at the junction of Routes #23 and #9-H, with authorization given to Highway Superintendent to sign necessary documents.

The following Board members voted " Aye" in favor of said resolution:

James W. Keegan  
William L. Blaauw  
Clifford Weigelt  
Michael Johnston

The following Board members voted "No" in opposition to said Resolution:

"None"

The Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was duly declared adopted by the Supervisor.

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Town Clerk

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**Resolution No. -#36**

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, duly called and held on the 10th Day of April 2006, the following resolution was proposed and seconded:

**Resolution by: Michael Johnston :**

**Seconded by: Clifford Weigelt :**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Claverack that:

A \$.60 per hour raise is granted to the following  
in the Highway Department, effective April 10, 2006:  
Anthony Barry, Douglas Disko, Martin Schumann, David  
Siter, Howard Burch, Timothy Folmsbee, Thomas  
Delaney, Leonard Winters, James Brady and John Hoose.

The following Board members voted " Aye" in favor of said Resolution:

James W. Keegan  
William L. Blaauw  
Clifford Weigelt  
Michael Johnston

The following Board members voted "No" in opposition to said Resolution:

"None"

The Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was duly declared adopted by the Supervisor.

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Town Clerk