

TOWN OF CLAVERACK
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

August 08, 2005

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 called to order 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
Anne Twaddle	Councilwoman
James Van Deusen	Councilman
William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Highway Superintendent
Joseph Romano	Town Engineer
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Martha Pizza	Deputy Clerk
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Blaauw, to accept minutes of previous meeting of July 11, 2005. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Guy Pultz - Mellenville Square resident - Concerned with speed limit - Now minimum of 10 children living in homes along this road. At one time, considered making it one-way from the north end, with plans formulated to do so. Will look into this.

Bob Hyland - 29 Van Deusen Road resident - Water construction project now on this road. Read prepared statement of concerns. Feels pipe-laying contractor needs to do a better job and is in violation of the following:

1. Traffic control
2. Contractor parking
3. Dust mitigation
4. Equipment speed
5. Requesting permission to use private property to store equipment and supplies and stockpile soil or gravel.
6. Tree Protection

7. Trees in right-of-way of project compromised. Trust Town will bear cost of removal when/if trees die.

Feels we need better construction management on project. Requesting also that property owners be better informed and involved.

Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle - Residents of Van Deusen Road - Should have advance notice as to what is going to be happening. Have seen no flagging at times, making dangerous situations.

Peter Bevacqua - Has concerns with water project. Planted a number of trees a few years ago. Wonders about size of equipment being used and if such large equipment is necessary. When a road is closed, residents should have prior knowledge. Supervisor Keegan will make sure residents are contacted.

Virginia Martin - Found website hard to use. Asked for contract price - \$2,700.00. Offered her assistance - told to contact Mr. Jones.

Comprehensive Committee - Chuck Brassard - Gave overview of cost. Survey, mailings and analysis will cost approximately \$10,000.00. This will include copies.

Comprehensive Committee - Chris Post - Many towns attempt to do plan on their own, then have to hire facilitator, making it much longer to complete plan. Committee has agreed on Community Planning & Environmental Associates. Board agrees consultant is necessary. Would like some references checked before final decision. Mr. Post stated nothing will start until Town Board signs on.

Bill First - Comprehensive Committee member - Has done work with Saratoga Associates. Will be meeting this week to talk over proposal.

Comprehensive Committee will be meeting on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Reminder will be on website.

No further comments.

Report of Highway Superintendent -Louis LaMont - Trued up one-half of Millbrook Road - in process of changing two culvert pipes before trueing other half. Replaced box culvert on Donnelly Road and preparing for replacement of one on Preusser Road. Started mowing roadsides for third time. Marty keeping park in Claverack and Town Park in good shape.

Katie Cashen - Corner of Tishauser and Fish and Game Roads overgrown with weeds and view is obstructed as you go onto Fish and Game Road from Tishauser Road. Fish and Game is a County Road and Tishauser is a Town Road. Highway Superintendent LaMont will check into this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park Commission - Councilwoman Twaddle - Ghent Band held concert in Town Park on Friday, July 29th - Attendance was good - Refreshments made available through members of Commission.

200 youths attending Summer Youth Program at Park. Program ends on Friday, August 12th.

Park facilities fully reserved through month of September.

Commission will be meeting on August 25th to discuss budget for coming year. Received many positive comments on condition of Park.

Supervisor Keegan welcomed Councilwoman Twaddle back after a couple months of illness.

Traffic Safety - Councilman Van Deusen - Problem during recent storm - Firemen took responsibility of closing road. Public Service Commission will be notified to see if there is a way to speed up process when these emergencies occur to take pressure off firemen.

Also, it was noted that at major intersections in other areas are battery operated backups during power outages. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to send letters to correct agencies with request. Carried.

ZBA - Planning Boards - Councilman Weigelt - Last Planning Board meeting lasted until after midnight. Will talk to ZBA Chairman Michael Brandon and Planning Board Chairman Jay Brousseau, to see if there is a solution to this.

No further Committee Reports.

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

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

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilwoman Twaddle to accept Financial Report for June 2005 as prepared by Town accountants.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Invitation from Garden Club to Town Board to their 60th Anniversary on September 22, 2005 from 3 :00 p.m. - 5 :00 p.m., at the Reformed Dutch Church Fellowship Hall in Claverack.

2. Request from the Families on Van Wyck Lane, to close road to thru traffic only for a block party on August 20th, from 11 :00 a.m. until midnight. Access would be provided for emergency vehicles. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilwoman Twaddle to authorize same.
3. Letter of Resignation received from Katherine Cotton, secretary of Planning Board. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept resignation with regrets. It was also noted that there is an opening for a part-time court clerk, approximately 10 hours per week.
4. Proposal received from Comprehensive Committee.
5. Letter from Frank and Courtney Tamburro, 50 MacIntosh Drive, informing Town of all the hardships endured with Cardinale Home Builders in construction of their new home.
6. Thank you letter from Senator Stephen Saland, for Town supporting Collateral Source Bill.
7. Copy of letter sent to A.B. Shaw Fire Company from Columbia Land Conservancy, donating \$100.00 in relation to Bardwell Conservation Area.

Bills #424 - #486, totaling \$85,920.10, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills #234 - #255, totaling \$63,629.55, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District #1 bills, totaling \$43,769.09, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Millbrook Road Stewardship bill, totaling \$30.00, was audited and ordered paid from their account.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilwoman Twaddle, meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Date: September 12, 2005

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Twaddle: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Town Clerk: _____