

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

August 13, 2007

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 by Supervisor James W. Keegan, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

James W. Keegan	Supervisor
James Van Deusen	Councilman
William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to accept minutes of previous meeting of July 09, 2007. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Jim Nielsen – Bridge on County Route #16, just off State Route #23. Has gone to Taconic Hills School Board, State Department of Transportation in Hudson and Gillibrand’s office – looking for some sort of program to close bridge. Has also spoken with Highway Superintendent LaMont.

Mary Wambach – Representing Mellenville Grange – Something has to be done with the roof of the Grange building. Thought Town had been given \$10,000.00 by Assemblyman Manning. Grant was made available, but many “strings” attached as it is located along the old railroad bed and would be tied in with the Rails to Trails project. Town has not received those funds. Mrs. Wambach said Grange is changing and is not like it used to be – getting into organic farming. Supervisor Keegan will try and get some information from Senator Stephen Saland. Suggested that the Grange set up a committee and Town Board will meet with Committee.

Report of Highway Superintendent – Cleaned in all zones from debris due to thunderstorms – Ditching roads damaged by April flooding – Installed culvert pipe on Prach Road. Highway Employees attended NIMS Class, held at the Town Hall. Mowing roadsides in all zones – Cold patching roads in all zones.

Submitted damage claim with FEMA, totaling \$162,704.83, for April flooding.

Bids for new tractor for Town Park were opened on Monday, July 30, 2007. – One bid submitted:

Keil Equipment Company, Inc.
2356 Rte. 9
Hudson, New York 12534

\$27,969.00 – 3-year payment plan

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston to approve same. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park – Councilman Johnston – Requested letter to be sent to Charles Nichols – Put on 1 ½ hour display on history of Village of Philmont and a walking tour for Summer Youth Program.

Emergency evacuation drill held for Summer Youth Program.

Columbia County Health Department did Park and Summer Youth Program Inspection and all is okay.

Traffic Safety – Councilman Van Deusen – Columbia County Safety Board met two weeks ago. Still trying to find out why this region is only one in State that has to pay engineering costs for requests on Town roads. State will not provide this service.

Councilman Weigelt brought to Board's attention that the light at intersection of Route 9 H and Fish and Game Road is still not correct. Light is green on Fish and Game side about 8 seconds. It was suggested that letter be sent to New York State Department of Transportation in Poughkeepsie.

No further Committee Reports.

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

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

Comprehensive Plan Committee Report – Sparse attendance by Boards at last meeting – Republican Caucus was also that evening. Would like copy of detailed Town Budgets from 2000 – 2005. Would like Town wide meeting for points of view. Then back to work for final draft. When SEQR report completed, Plan goes to County Planning. Workshop would allow people to come, but no comment from public. Meeting with Comprehensive Committee set for Monday, August 27th, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Mr. Post will write note to other Board members. Public Hearing tentatively set for Thursday, September 27, 7:00 p.m. at A. B. Shaw Firehouse.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept Financial Report for June 2007, as prepared by Town Accountants. Carried.

After short discussion, motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for resolution transferring \$100,000.00 from General Fund A Money Market Account to Town of Claverack Water District #1 Money Market Account #SW201 to pay bills and debt service, to be repaid with additional funds received upon bond closing. Carried.

After discussion, consensus of Board was to address letter to Village of Philmont Board, requesting signs “Welcome to Philmont” be taken down in Mellenville.

Correspondence received:

Letter from Columbia County Fire Coordinator – Praising efforts of fire companies involved in fire on Rte. #66.

Thank you letter from Alex Kipp for sponsoring him for the Sheriff's Explorer Program.

Thank you letter to Highway Department from Mike and Linda Daly, residents on Stone Mill Road.

Letter from Village of Philmont, requesting assistance with directional signage.

Letter from Joseph Cohen and Rebecca Patt, complaining about property located on County Rte. #11; also a follow-up e-mail from them.

Letter from District Attorney Cozzolino, regarding “safe telephone program”.

Thank you received for those attending the focus group meeting with Columbia Land Conservancy in July.

Thank you from Claverack Garden Club to Town and Highway Department.

Letter from Matt Perry requesting support to place 2-sided sign near Roxbury Road and Rte. #217 for High Falls. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to approve same. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to go into Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss litigations. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston to go out of Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to approve settlement stipulations of the Costa case allowing 200 cars on Gahbauer Road lots and 16 cars on the Rte. #217 lot. Carried.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to accept Policy Handbook as written, and enforce the policy directing all highway personnel to have DOT physicals, by Town selected physician, within 30 days of receiving notice. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston to close Van Wyck Lane, except for emergency vehicles, on Saturday, August 25, 2007, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Midnight, for Annual Block Party. Carried.

General Fund A bills, #346 - #423, totaling \$66,229.04, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General Fund B bills, #106 - #123, totaling \$8,971.40, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills #184 - #204, totaling \$32,249.52, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District #1 bills #44 - #50, totaling \$1,511.79, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, meeting adjourned at 1 0:15 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Town Clerk: _____

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Resolution No. - #36

August 13, 2007

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

Resolution by: Michael Johnston :
Seconded by: James Van Deusen :

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

\$100,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund A Money Market Account to the Town of Claverack Water District #1 Money Market Account #SW201 to pay bills and debt service, to be repaid with additional funds received upon bond closing.

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

James W. Keegan
 James Van Deusen
 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 declare adopted by the Supervisor.

 Town Clerk