

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 13, 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 Deputy Supervisor William Blaauw, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

William L. Blaauw	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Highway Superintendent
Joseph Romano	Town Engineer
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Martha Pizza	Deputy Clerk
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

James W. Keegan	Supervisor
James Van Deusen	Councilman

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston to accept minutes of previous meetings held on Monday, March 09, 2006. (Organizational and Regular Monthly Meetings).

Meeting opened to public:

John Keeler – Resident of Webb Road – Read statement regarding Shag Hickory tree on his property and his concern of the tree being killed by fill from work on the new water lines being dumped on nearby property owned by Stanford Card. Gave copies of information to Deputy Supervisor Blaauw. Board members will go and see about situation and also see other nearby landowners.

Albert Wassenhove – Read prepared statement regarding rail trail on former Boston/Albany Railroad bed. Submitted information to Board.

Nicolette Booram – Also spoke on proposed rail trail on former Boston/Albany rail bed. Presently six (6) properties owned by Conservancy under PILOTS. (Payment in

lieu of taxes). Seven properties totally exempt with value of \$859,000.00, with three of the properties in the Town of Claverack. Many property owners near other rail trails being inundated with trespassers.

Pat Longley – Regarding one-way street on Mellenville Square, from Gahbauer Road to County Rte. #9, and what plans are at this time to complete project. Deputy Supervisor Blaauw stated work will be done on both sides at the entrances and when ready, notice will be put in paper.

Mrs. Longley also questioned use of building on Kraft Lane. Building Permit is for a garage – showed pictured of building and stated it looked more like a residence - garage Door removed and regular door installed. Deputy Supervisor Blaauw will check into this with Building Inspector.

Ian Nitschke – Responded to rail trail speaker – stated many studies show that adjoining property owners love the trails. Real estate values go up. Neighbors in Copake Falls love the rail trail in their area. Has been to many areas and rail trails very popular.

Max Dannis – What is political process? How will Town handle this? Was told this is just the beginning of process – probably many more meetings of discussion. Letters received will be analyzed – rail trail property is owned by the County and will get input from residents.

No further comments.

Report of Highway Superintendent - Louis LaMont – 17 call-outs for ice and snow storms. Grading of dirt roads – Courts Lane, Old Barrington Road, Miller Road II, Catskill View Road, Humane Society Road and Mountain View Road. Ditched along Palmer, Catskill View, Tishouser, Decker, Overshot, Bate and Wentzel Roads. Tree and brush cutting on Stone Mill, Prach and Old Barrington Roads.

Requested permission from Board to purchase pickup truck under State contract – would not have to go out for bid. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to authorize same.

It was noted that one of the sanders is thirty (30) years old and men in department refurbished it.

Comprehensive Plan Committee Report – Mr. Stiffler and Mr. Galvin speakers at last meeting. Discussed ways to interact with County and Towns, which need to be included in process.

Surveys sent out – due back by February 18th.

Mission of Committee is to find a plan that will make most people happy.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, February 23rd, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Mr. Northrop and Mr. Ooms will give overview of farming as it is today.

Committee meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rte. #217, Mellenville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park Commission – Councilman Johnston – Met with Highway Superintendent LaMont. 2006 projects discussed – New concession stand, larger than present one and to include two new restrooms, storage unit and a second floor for announcing are planned. Total cost estimated at \$11,000.00 – Planting of trees along fence-line by cemetery . Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to approve construction of new stand for estimated cost of \$11,000.00.

ZBA – Councilman Weigelt – Difficult to get coordinated with Zoning and Planning Boards. Spoke with Planning Board Chairman, Jay Brousseau, and will try and set up workshop to go over rules and make recommendation for necessary small changes.

No further reports.

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

Building Inspector's Report for December 2005 and January 2006 received and on file in Town Office for review.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept Financial report for January 2006.

Water District – Deputy Supervisor Blaauw reported all pipelines in ground. Work continues on putting services from line to curb boxes. Water tower completed and on hold. Pump station on Webb Road ninety percent (90%) complete.

LOSOP – Retirement program for volunteer firemen and rescue squad personnel. Looking into this on a Townwide basis.

Discussion on monthly workshops explained by Attorney Fitzsimmons. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to hold workshops on the 1st Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building, 91 Church Street, Mellenville. Notice will be put in newspaper and on bulletin board at Town Office.

Received two (2) contracts from ECO Waste. Price being lowered, but did not state to what amount. Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston to accept contract.

After explanation by Deputy Supervisor Blaauw, it was consensus of Board to renew State of Emergency in Town for another five (5) day period in regards to mudslide in Greenport. This is to cover use of equipment from Town of Claverack side of creek, if necessary. He also stated the need for photo I.D.'s for new Board members.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to go into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss litigation.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Johnston to go out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to offer building permit renewal for Gambacorta/Schumann property, formerly Pinto property, for ½ of regular set fee for renewals.

Bills # 28 - # 81, totaling \$42,348.43, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills # 28- # 74, totaling \$60,287.40, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Stewardship at Millbrook Road bills #1 - #5, totaling \$6,684.69, were audited and ordered paid from their account.

Water District #1 bills #1 - #8, totaling \$694,841.52, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

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

Date: _____

Deputy Supervisor: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Town Clerk: _____