

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

March 14, 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
Joseph Romano	Town Engineer
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
ouis LaMont	Highway Superintendent
Martha Pizza	Deputy Clerk
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Matt Abatto	Project Engineer
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Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilwoman Twaddle, to accept minutes of previous meeting, held on February 14, 2005. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

"No comments"

Supervisor Keegan introduced Robert Jones for a report on the Town's web-site. If all goes as planned, site should be launched within four weeks. Gave presentation on specifics of what site will have to offer. There will be downloadable forms in "Portable Document Form" and available for viewing with the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program, a free download from the Adobe website.

On question from Katy Cashen, Mr. Jones stated Calendar of Events would take in only Town events and/or community events.

Michael Brandon questioned e-mail use. E-mail would be for office use only.

Fran Pizza questioned whether a map of the Town would be included. Yes.

Katy Cashen asked if residents would be able to submit completed forms via web-site. No.

No further comments or questions.

Attorney Fitzsimmons showed Board map in regards to the Nord's request discussed at previous meetings. The Nord's want to go to top of hill by New Town Garage property. Councilman Blaauw suggested to the bottom of the bank. After discussion, motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for resolution granting license to the Nord's for the use of the property to the bottom of the bank. The license would be in effect as long as they own the property. Carried.

Report of Highway Superintendent -Louis LaMont -Worked 14 storms, some with heavy snow and high winds. Men worked many long hours and did an excellent job.

Still replacing missing and faded signs in all areas of Town. Finished cutting down dead trees and digging up stumps on Courts Lane. Did cold patching in all zones. Servicing equipment, getting ready for spring work.

Requested shoe allowance of \$100.00 per year for men. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for approval of same. Carried.

Two bids received for sweeper, opened this morning at 10:00 a.m. at Town Office Building:

I. Canaday Sweepers	\$55,000.00
2. Tracey Equipment	\$55,900.00

On recommendation of Highway Superintendent LaMont, motion by Councilwoman Twaddle, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen, to accept bid of Canaday Sweepers. Carried.

Supervisor Keegan read letter received commending Highway Department for work done this winter during storms.

Councilman Blaauw brought up repairs necessary at new Town Garage, including ventilation, snow slides and waste water contamination system. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to contact Clough Harbour engineer to assess problems. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park Commission - Councilwoman Twaddle - First event of season at Town Park is March 26th, annual Easter Egg Hunt by Claverack Republican Club.

Requested permission to apply for grant for restrooms and new concession stand for Little League and Girls' Softball League and a shade port for youngsters, especially for use during Summer Youth Program. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to authorize same. Carried.

Traffic Safety -Councilman Van Deusen - Chairman of County Safety Committee, Reginald Osterhoudt, has medical problems, not doing well and has been in Adventist Home. Meeting scheduled to be held in two weeks.

Cablevision - Councilman Van Deusen -Rates going up as of April 1st. Basic will be \$46.95

Planning Board and ZBA -Councilman Weigelt -Workshop held before last Planning Board Meeting. More to be set up for both boards.

No further reports.

Necessary adjustments to 2005 Budget explained by Councilwoman/Budget Officer Twaddle. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt Authorizing same. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

Letter received from Mr. and Mrs. Berlin, thanking Highway Superintendent and Highway Department for great job done during winter storms.

Letter from First Niagara informing of new services to be offered.

Letter from Orrick Bond Counsel regarding Water District.

Letter from City of Hudson regarding Flag Day Parade.

Letter from Clough Harbour regarding New York Main Street Program, which provides financial and technical resources to communities to revitalize main streets and downtown business districts.

Letter from John Schedler addressing concerns about burn barrels.

Letter from Department of Transportation with regards to Federal Aid Urban Boundary changes.

Discussion on facilitator for Comprehensive Plan. Holly Sullivan of Greenway will send papers for grant. \$5,000.00 is the most a grant will provide. Seven (7) to nine (9) people for committee. Will be asking other Towns how their committees were set up. Cyndy Hall stated working with Greenway would be a great benefit.

Town Engineer, Joe Romano, in absence of Water Project engineer, Matt Abatto, stated bid openings for water project is April 6th, 11 :00 a.m. at the Town Office.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, to accept Financial Report for January and Annual Report for 2004, both prepared by Town Accountants. Carried.

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

Zoning Enforcement Officer's Report received and on file in Town Office for review.

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

Supervisor Keegan announced there is an opening for a co-director for Summer Youth Program.

Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk offered to update Emergency Preparedness Plan. Will be presented at May meeting.

In regards to letter concerning burn barrels, Councilman Van Deusen stated local Forest Ranger or NYSDEC should be contacted if illegal burning is being conducted. He will get copy of burning law. Paper, certain cardboards and small brush allowed to be burned.

Agreement between Town Board and Highway Department presented for approval. Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept same. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to go into Executive Session sat 8:15 p.m. to discuss personnel. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to go out of Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. Carried.

Bills #108 - #163, totaling \$429,331.64, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water bills totaling \$37,439.50, were audited and ordered paid from their account.

Highway bills #75- #116, totaling \$155,683.20, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilwoman Twaddle, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen, meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Twaddle: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Town Clerk: _____