

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

March 10, 2008

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 was called to order by Supervisor James W. Keegan.

Present:

James W. Keegan	Supervisor
James Van Deusen	Councilman
William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Janice Anderson	Deputy Clerk

Absent:

Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk
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Motion made by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Judy Zink - Resident living on Co. Rte. 9, questioned if highway signs, denoting Philmont and Hudson, could be erected at Co. Rte. 9 and Rte. 217. Also stated that there was a lot of debris in the creek behind her house, and that there is an ongoing problem of neighbors burning plastic. Also commented on the brick house across from the Mellenville Post Office, that the roof is caving in, and the front of the structure is also. The Building Inspector is aware of the problem and has contacted the attorneys in charge of the property.

Howard Brandston - Requested the agenda of the Planning and Zoning Boards be posted on the website. Also, he feels the public is being harassed by citizens canceling out when they are on the agenda, and feels there should be some repercussion for this, such as not being allowed to come to the next meeting.

Gretchen Stearns - Also stated the agendas were not on the website. Councilman Johnston stated this was due to a personnel change in the office and the issue will be addressed.

Report of Highway Superintendent - Mr. LaMont reported they had worked a lot of man hours due to the snow and ice. They have refilled the sand and salt and have used 1/4 of it already, and they are repairing their equipment for spring.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park Commission - Councilman Johnston reported that the Little League season opens on May 4th. Skateboarding will be put in place when Mr. LaMont catches up.

Traffic Safety - Councilman Blaauw made a motion for a letter to be sent to the State/County to request something be done about the water problem at Fish & Game and Rte. 217 and 9H/Fish & Game. Councilman VanDeusen seconded it. Motion carried.

ZBA & Zoning Boards - Councilman Weigelt reported the Chairmen of both Boards have not gotten back to him.

Building Inspector - Councilman Johnston said the public needs to know that the Building Inspector cannot do anything unless someone files a complaint. He suggested this information posted on the website with a form, which can be downloaded, relevant to this.

Financial Report - Councilman Johnston stated it is behind a couple of weeks due to the personnel change in the office. He stated that Lisa Gill, from Koskey's office has done a tremendous job and that everything is right on schedule. He suggested sending her bosses a letter thanking her for such a fine job.

Comprehensive Committee: Attorney Fitzsimmons read Part 2 of the SEQR review. Councilman Blaauw made a motion to accept it and Councilman VanDeusen seconded it - motion carried. The adoption of the plan will be on next month's agenda. Councilman Johnston made a motion and Councilman Blaauw seconded it, to send letters to the Chairmen of the Zoning and Planning Boards that the Board requests a letter back from them in regard to the Comprehensive Plan, and that it will be passed next meeting.

Gretchen Steams will offer a list of people on the committees from the Comprehensive Board, and define their role, for input to the Town Board.

Summer Program: Councilman Johnston stated the positions of Director and Assistant Director still need to be filled.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Berkshire Comm. Foundation - meeting on March 13th to learn more about foundation work in Columbia County.

Land Use Law Center - Pace University - leadership training program for 4 days.

Transportation Enhancements Program - submit application by June 27th -Federal Funding program.

Letter from Philmont American Legion inviting the Town Board to participate in their Memorial Day parade on May 26th.

Letter from Good Growth Columbia (Mr. Brandston) requests a Moratorium because of projects being considered. He was told by Supervisor Keegan that the Board right now is not going to pass a Moratorium.

Columbia Land Conservancy - In lieu of taxes on property of High Falls, they have given money to the Philmont Rescue Squaq, Philmont and Mellenville Fire Companies.

Councilman Blaauw reported there were two bids for security systems, fire alarms to secure all three buildings - Town Hall on Church St., Town Court Bldg., Rte. 217, and the Highway Garage. Bids were Scott - \$18,416 and Empire - \$15,287. Councilman Van Deusen made a motion and Councilman Johnston seconded it to award the contract to Empire. Carried.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held in the Town Park on March 22nd.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to go into Executive Session at 8:30 PM to discuss Personnel issues. Carried.

Motion made by Councilman James Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Michael Johnston to go out of Executive Session at 9:30 PM. Carried.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$68,137.54, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$2,005.41, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills, totaling \$68,173.87, 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 9:00 PM.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Councilman Johnston: _____

Deputy Clerk: _____