

TOWN OF CLAVERACK
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

November 12, 2007

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Tow Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, was held at the Town Hall, Rte. 3217, 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
James Van Deusen	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, to accept minutes of previous meeting held on October 08, 2007. Carried.

Supervisor Keegan read letter from Dutch Village Homeowners' Association – Six members were present – Randy Staats was spokesman for Association. Several issues brought to Board's attention. Problem with owner taking care of problems, such as dirty water and septic in some areas, making it impossible for nearby owners to sit outside. Also a problem with owners having to pay for pad under home when new home brought in. Other problems are rent increases and water use charges during the summer months. Have not had any support from Columbia County Health Department. Supervisor Keegan advised him to set up meeting with them and he will make it a point to be there.

Meeting opened to public;

Councilman Van Deusen complimented Deena Pewtherer on running a "clean" campaign in the recent election.

No further comments.

Report of Highway Superintendent: Superintendent of Highways, Louis LaMont, was absent, but Councilman Johnston reported that materials, culvert pipe and equipment are ready to do job on Thielman Road Extension, but D.E.C. won't allow them in the creek to do the necessary work. Ready for winter season.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park – Councilman Johnston – Water pipes in all buildings drained and winterized. Excavation work for skateboard park has been started. Little League would like to put up lighted scoreboard and would like to work on lighting for fields for night games. Hope to have ice skating at Park this winter.

No further Committee Reports.

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

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

Comprehensive Plan Committee Report – Gretchen Stearns – Presented final draft of Comprehensive Plan to Supervisor and Board. This is the 4th version, not very different from the 3^d version - also steps needed to be taken after it is presented to Board:

1. Schedule hearing within 90 days. As a result of the public hearing or the Board's own review, changes can be made to the plan. If so, this should be done before the public hearing so that the public can be shown what will likely be adopted.
2. Submit to County for required 239-m review. This should be submitted with the EAF and with the referral form used by the County.
3. The County must have 30 days to respond. If you don't hear from them in 30 days, you can go forward and adopt the plan without their comments.
4. Pass resolution to establish the Board as lead agency for SEQR.
5. Board should thoroughly review EAF that was prepared and submitted.

6. Board should determine if they agree that the adoption of the Plan would be a negative declaration, and, if so, sign and date the EAF in two places and pass the resolution indicating a negative declaration.
7. If it is a negative declaration, send the prepared form to DEC.
8. Assuming **ALL** the steps are done, the Board can go forward and adopt the plan via resolution.

Supervisor Keegan thanked everyone on the Committee who worked so diligently for a long period of time on the Plan.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to accept Financial Report for September as prepared by Town Accountants. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen for resolution for necessary interfund transfers, which are paybacks from one account to another. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston for resolution to increase water rates in water district as explained in report. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, to accept Intermunicipal Agreement with the City of Hudson regarding leaks or service disconnections in new Water District #1, authorizing Supervisor Keegan to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Town of Claverack Water District #1. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt for resolution regarding Columbia County Hazard Mitigation Planning Program. Carried.

Four people sent letters voicing interest in position on Planning Board, opened by resignation of Robert Kavanaugh. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Michael Johnston, to appoint Nathan Chess to fill this unexpired term, which runs through December 31, 2009. Carried.

Letter received from Wesley Powell of West Lebanon, stating interest in position of Dog Control Officer for the Town. Consensus of Board was that they are satisfied with our present Officer.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to authorize newly elected Assessors to begin attending necessary schooling, even though they do not take office officially until January 01, 2008.

Records Management Grant Report received and will be sent back.

After short discussion, motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt, giving authorization for Superintendent of Highways to purchase a new sander. Carried.

Supervisor Keegan explained Tentative Budget for 2008. Rate per thousand in the Village of Philmont went from \$.086456 to \$.087719 and the Town outside the Village from \$1.22246 to \$1.23699. The Water District rates rose due to an increase from Greenport for the water and also due to people who live in the new district not signing up for the services. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept the Tentative Budget for 2008 as the Preliminary Budget for 2008. Supervisor Keegan had set up and had advertised the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2008. This will be on Thursday, November 15, 2007, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. A Special Meeting will be held immediately following the Public Hearing to act on the Preliminary Budget.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation at 9:20 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to go out of Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. Carried.

General A bills, #497 - #547, totaling \$65,897.27, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, #134 - #142, totaling \$2,158.44, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills, #316 - #354, totaling \$156,343.68, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water bills, #64 - #73, totaling \$8,289.29, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Catskill View bills, totaling \$1,458.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Stewardship at Millbrook Road bills , totaling \$3,281.86, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Birch Hill bills, totaling \$101.00, 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 to Councilman Van Deusen, meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Weigelt:

Councilman Johnston: _____

Town Clerk: _____