

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

YEAR-END MEETING

December 29, 2005

The Year-End Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York was held at the Town Garage, 128 Schoolhouse Road, Hudson, New York. Meeting called to order at 7:40 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
Louis LaMont	Highway Superintendent
Joseph Romano	Town Engineer
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Town Attorney
Martha Pizza	Deputy Clerk
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to accept minutes of previous meeting, held on December 12, 2005. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Patricia Longley – Could weeds be cleaned out by pole at intersection of State Route and Gahbauer Road for better sight distance? Highway Superintendent will have this taken care of. Mrs. Longley also stated where Town Highway Department did ditching along Gahbauer Road need more fill. This will also be taken care of by Highway Department.

James Sherman – Requested letter be sent to Thomas Schindler showing appreciation for 15 years as Town Justice. He did job extremely well and Mr. Sherman stated he cannot say enough about the job he did and the respect he commanded when on the bench. This will be done.

No further comments.

Report of Highway Superintendent – Louis LaMont - Department covered two storms – one ice and one snow. Made tire chains for all plow trucks and serviced trucks.

Replaced a 12” culvert pipe and repaired a wash-out on Walden Road.

Installed the liner in ice rink at Park and flooded it.

Supervisor Keegan said Park at Routes 9-H and #23 looks great for Holiday Season and thanked Highway Department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park Commission – Councilwoman Twaddle – Skating Rink is in and ready for use as soon as cold weather freezes it. Watch for red and green flags.

Flowering pear trees were planted by Peter Schram in Town Park, with labor donated. Letter to be written thanking Mr. Schram.

No further Committee Reports.

Motion by Councilman Weigelt, seconded by Councilwoman Twaddle to accept Financial Report for November, as prepared by Town Accountants. Carried.

Letter of Resignation received from Thomas D. Schindler, Town Justice, effective December 31, 2005. Motion by Councilwoman Twaddle to accept with regrets and thanking him for his dedicated work over the years. Seconded by Councilman Blaauw and carried.

Supervisor Keegan stated on January 4, 2006, a public informational and discussion will be held at the American Legion Post #252, Philmont, 7:00 p.m., to discuss proposal by Columbia County Board of Supervisors to utilize the former Boston & Albany (B&A) rail bed as a public recreational trail. The County owned rail bed extends approximately 8 ½ miles from just west of the center of Claverack through Mellenville and into the hamlet of Ghent, where it joins the former Harlem Valley Rail line. Staff from the Columbia Land Conservancy will be on hand to discuss how this potential project and the proposed Harlem Valley Rail Trail project could bring recreational and economic benefits to the towns of Ghent and Claverack. A second meeting on the same topic will be held at the Ghent VFW at 7:00 p.m. on January 18th.

Motion by Councilwoman Twaddle, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to approve proposal figures for senior & disability exemptions as set forth in Public Hearing for this year and consider figures again next year. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to approve making Mellenville Square a one-way road as discussed at Public Hearing. Carried.

Supervisor Keegan spoke of the retirement of Councilwoman Twaddle, who has served the Town as Councilwoman and Budget Officer for many years. She will be very much missed by all.

Councilwoman Twaddle said she is going to miss everyone, but after 50 years of service, it's time to retire.

Those present gave a standing ovation to a very special person.

Bills #723 - #750, totaling \$19,844.07, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway bills #402 - #421, totaling \$22,775.33, 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 8:15 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Twaddle: _____

Councilman Van Deusen: _____

Councilman Blaauw: _____

Councilman Weigelt: _____

Town Clerk: _____