

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

December 14, 2009

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 by Supervisor James W. Keegan, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

James W. Keegan	Supervisor
James Van Deusen	Councilman
William L. Blaauw	Councilman
Clifford Weigelt	Councilman
Michael Johnston	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.	Attorney for Town
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Louis La Mont	Superintendent of Highways
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Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Blaauw to accept minutes of previous Public Hearing held on November 09, 2009. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston to accept minutes of previous meeting of November 09, 2009. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Katy Cashen – Town of Claverack Representative of CCEMC – Gave report from Columbia County Environmental Management Council – Handed out report on outdoor wood boilers (OWB). Short discussion on this – Idea is not to outlaw them, but set standards.

Question regarding open fires in the Town and County – Information is available at the Town Office.

Nathan Chess – Will cuts by Governor of New York affect Town and County? CHIPS will be affected, so it will affect Highway budget. Will be cuts in recreation programs and School districts will be affected.

Cindy Hall – Read prepared statement regarding the Constitution and a person's right to vote. Wanted Town to adopt a resolution stating Town upholds the Constitution of the United States and people's right to vote. After discussion, consensus of Board was that this is part of the Oath of Office taken by every elected official.

No further comments.

There was no report from the **Superintendent of Highways**.

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cablevision – **Councilman Van Deusen** – No report.

Traffic Safety – **Councilman Van Deusen** – No Report. Supervisor Keegan noted that 30 mph speed limit approved for Duntz's Acres and Shasta Drive.

ZBA – **Councilman Weigelt and Chris Post** – Meeting held last Thursday. Will be meeting again on January 31, 2010. Gave information to new Board member Robert Preusser.

Park – **Councilman Johnston** – No report. Will try and have track open in winter for walking.

Grant Resource Committee – **Councilman Van Deusen** – Will be working on the three areas mentioned at last meeting this coming year.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston to accept Preliminary Financial Report ending November 30, 2009. Carried.

Councilman Johnston stated that in regards to 2009 Budget, no jobs were lost, 2% raises and equipment purchased – Budget for year 2009 in good shape.

Supervisor Keegan received Columbia/Greene Humane Society Agreement for 2010. This must be sent back to them prior to January 1st. Same as last year's. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to approve same, giving Supervisor Keegan authority to sign necessary papers. Carried.

Noted by Councilman Van Deusen that Reg Conklin is doing good job as Dog Control Officer.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to set Year-End Meeting for Monday, December 28, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Weigelt to set Organizational Meeting for Monday, January 11, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York, with Regular Monthly Meeting to follow. Carried.

Discussion on lighting for Highway Garage by Councilman Blaauw – This will be done after 1st of the Year. Proposals have to come in. Tabled until next meeting – Also working on incentive.

Discussion on contract for reassessment from GAR Associates. Has done several other Towns in area – Will be set up under 5-year payment plan. Interest charges from banks range from 3.98% - 4.71% - GAR charges 4%.- Can be paid off at any time during contract. Also can get \$50.00 per parcel from State – Project will begin in January 2010. They will be working closely with Assessors' Office. Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to follow-up with contract. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Claverack Free Library – Thanking Town for funding.
2. Elaine Lupo – Regarding hazardous condition with stream located on her father's property on Decker Road. Councilman Van Deusen suggested letter be sent from Board to NYSDEC requesting assistance in cleaning out creeks filled with debris from this past years storms. Katy Cashen will ask at EMC if they can help out. Wants letter supporting Council. Motion by Councilman Van Deusen, seconded by Councilman Johnston to write letter to NYSDEC with copy to Environmental Management Council (EMC). Carried.
3. Sal Cozzolino – Memo regarding war monument in Hamlet moved by Tim Keeler of Hudson Monument Works. Certificate of Appreciation will be given.

4. Stanley Koloski – Building Inspector – Regarding auction held for many days on Rte. 9-H. Discussion followed.
5. Douglas Thorn – First Niagara Risk Management – Memo received stating interest in quoting Town's Insurance for April 01, 2010 renewal.
6. Clove Valve Company – Fixes for fire hydrants in New York State Will give to Superintendent of Highways.

Attorney Fitzsimmons is working on proposals for website design.

Question by David Graziano in regards to contract by GAR. Attorney Fitzsimmons stated it does not have to go to bid because it falls under Professional Services.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$12,462.52, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$2,372.58, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB Fund bills, totaling \$136,153.65, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

There were no Highway DA Fund bills.

SW Water A Fund bills, totaling \$7,394.37, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

E.W. Birch Escrow Account bills, totaling \$696.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Verizon Escrow Account bills, totaling \$1,083.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Blaauw, seconded by Councilman Johnston, meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilman Van Deusen:

Councilman Blaauw:

Councilman Weigelt:

Councilman Johnston:

Town Clerk: