

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

August 10, 2017

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York was held at the Town Hall, #836 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Maryanne Lee	Councilwoman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Brian Keeler	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town

Superintendent Weigelt introduced Michael Brandon, a Town of Claverack Judge, who handed out information on the Year 2016 on Columbia County Justice Court Fund and Town and Village Revenue. OCA does not give a 6-month report.

The Court is not supposed to be a money generating part of the Town. Supervisor Weigelt stated that there will be more monitoring from law enforcement when schools open in September.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept minutes of previous Monthly Meeting of July 13, 20`7 and Special Meeting of July 10, 2017, after additions/corrections by Councilwoman Cashen. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways, Louis LaMont – The July 13, 2017 report would have included:

Paving of Prach Road Extension and Willmon Road. Driveway aprons and blacktopping a ditch on Willmon Road. Ditching done on Roxbury Road.

Mowing roadsides in all zones.

Spent a week in the Park to get ready for summer program. Park Workers, Kevin and Jason are keeping Park looking good.

For the August report:

Completed work on the Town of Claverack part of Gahbauer Road and are working on Prach Road to prepare for chip-sealing.

Completed ditching on Roxbury Road and now working on Snyderstown Road.

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

Committee Reports

"None Received"

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Barbara Skaarup – ORPS – 2017 Equilization Rate
Philmont Neighbors – Meeting of Philmont Community Action Neighbors – 07/21/2017
Hudson River Greenway – Grant Program
Col. Co. Bd. of Supervisors – Resolution to re-appoint 4 members to Environmental Council
Rural Futures – Bulletin from NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources
Dog Control Officer's Report for June 2017
Claverack Library – Trustee News
R. and C. Harrison – Re: Proposed Amedore project
Home Chef – Louise Roback – Re: Proposed Amedore Project
Adah Egloff – Re: Proposed Amedore project
Kathy Pakay – Re: Proposed Amedore project
Tom Buckner – Re: Proposed Amedore Project
Village of Philmont – Re: Interest in Shared Services
Danielle Dwyer – Information regarding Shaw Bridge
Penflex – Tony Fiorillo – Re: Churchtown Volunteer Fire Company LOSAP
Matthew Tombers – Re: Proposed Amedore project
Mellenville Fire District – Interest in pursuing Shared Services
James Morel – Re: Amedore project
Andrea Kleine – Re: Amedore project
Joyce Harroun – Re: Amedore project
Jim McCabe – Re: Amedore project
Association of Towns – Re: Dues for 2018
Viridian Energy – Re: Rate change

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Request a change in passing lane and possibly speed limit near Dutch Village Mobile Home Park

NYS DOT – Response to request for pedestrian and signal improvements on Rte. 9-H and 23/23B. NYS DOT cannot agree to request to install crosswalks at traffic signal.

Supervisor's Report

The County passed Almstead Property for fire training and schooling. – 10,000 sq. ft. building on west side of runway near County Airport. Will need FAA approval.

Working on Shaw Bridge information. Have to find out about easements involved. Attorney Fitzsimmons will be looking into this.

Ron Capenera, Comptroller for Columbia County is putting together a Tax Savings Plan for the County.

Letters sent to Didi Barrett and Kathy Marchionne regarding funds for improvements at the Town Park, including water and sidewalks from the Village line on Church Street to the Park. This probably won't happen this year.

Looking to see if there would be savings made with changing to our own wells or else lock in cost for the water from Greenport.

Will look into larger transformer at Town Garage as Highway Superintendent LaMont has heard nothing.

Received letter from Columbia – Greene Cooperative Extension on Rte. #66, requesting State to lower speed limit by Dutch Acres Mobile Home Park. Town will be sending letter of support to the New York State Department of Transportation.

Town Board Members Reports

Councilwoman Lee – Attended Everlasting Hope Animal Rescue chicken barbecue at Churchtown Firehouse.

With Supervisor Weigelt, attended meeting with some officers of the Claverack Free Library to discuss possibility of using the current library for the Town Court. Space and security requirements and parking were discussed. Library officials will report back to the Town after discussion with their architect and engineer.

Along with Councilman Hook, met with Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer to discuss his performance and a rate increase from \$19.26 to \$22.00. Town replaced two positions with one and after rate increase still a significant cost savings.

Contacted Mary Wambach, a grange member for 60+ years, regarding Mellenville Grange Building, and the possibility of becoming the new Post Office. It was mentioned that Grange Building may be on the National Register of Historic Places. She gave contact information for her grandson-in-law, who would be helpful and would be interested in the possibility. Kurt Meier was also contact and he contacted the State Master along with Kurtis Bullard, property Management Specialist from the U.S. Postal Service. Mr. Meier stated they had met the requirement of sending a letter within the 30-day comment period by e-mail, hoping there will be additional conversations. Post Office representative did discuss possibility of leasing the present property and putting a modular on the site also. Grange members would like to meet with Town Board at some point.

Spoke with Richard Frick from NYSDOT. Was informed the request for guardrails was sent to traffic safety people along with newspaper article of June accident. He stated that there are other areas where waterways are protected by guardrails and he could not see them refusing this request. He was aware that there was another accident in that area and said that request "did not fall on deaf ears". Project has been sent to design.

Along with Councilman Hook, met with some of Highway personnel to go over healthcare/vision questions. Open enrollment is September 1st.

Attended Honor-A-Vet at the Town Park. Smoke from the barbecue was a problem. Had been mentioned previously by Supervisor Weigelt the possibility of installing panels or some type of shield on the north-side of the pavilion.

Contacted Robyn Reynolds, Clean Energy Coordinator, from Clean Energy Community Program. She will be attending August workshop to discuss programs available, participation and cost benefits.

Met with bookkeeper, Sue Meddoff, to go over reporting of healthcare.

With Councilwoman Cashen, met with library officers to go over architect and engineering report and a walkthrough of both buildings and help visualizing the possibilities. Information was forwarded to all Town Board members.

Spoke with Carl Quinn from Technology4All on August 4 regarding the new website. He forwarded a link to the new website to all Town Board members to review. He will be forwarding a final draft to Board members to review and wait for their approval. Then the site should be able to be up and running.

On the new homepage are links to the proposed Planned Development District material that was presented to the Town by a developer. It is there because the public would like to see it, but it is not an official document or even one that the Board is presenting for consideration, which it has the appearance to be. Feels that the wording should be changed or it should be taken down since the Town Board is in the process of developing their own law.

Attended monthly Planning Board Meeting.

Spoke with David Fingar regarding broadband in Claverack. Mid-Hudson has applied in round 2 of the grant funding for Snyderstown Road area. They have had the area mapped and currently putting together the application.

Met with Building Inspector to discuss current library building and the possibilities for the Town Court.

Need to think about safety and lighting near Shaw Bridge project – 40' drop alongside of road in that area.

Continue to work on the following:

- To review Planned Development Zoning information

- Review the current Comprehensive Plan

- Work on the Street Light Policy

- Work on a job description for part-time or full-time maintenance person

- Work on a Policy and Procedure for the updated Town website

- Records to go to County Building for storage.

Councilwoman Cashen – Along with Councilwoman Lee, attended meeting with Library representatives to discuss possible use of current library for Town Court once new library construction is complete.

Had contact with representative from Mellenville Grange for possible use of Grange building for relocation of Post Office and sent the representative the National Historic Registration information.

Collected photographs for review for possible use on new website. Provided edits to “Frequently Asked Questions” for new website.

Worked with present webmaster to update present website on several items relating to announcements on the homepage and other items.

Met with Jay Trapp, Building Inspector, to discuss classifications for certain parcels in the Town.

Attended Planning Board Meeting.

Answered questions and letters from residents regarding proposed Planned Development District (PDD) and Amedore project.

Received, reviewed and made suggestions for edits to Employee Manual.

Attended meeting of the Claverack Historical Society.

Councilman Hook – Attended Planning Board and ZBA Meetings.

Attended Thank-A-Vet event at the Town Park.

Along with Councilwoman Lee met with Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer to discuss work performance and a rate increase.

Vent in Town Office Building needs to be replaced – does not work.

Along with Councilwoman Lee met with some of the Highway personnel regarding new healthcare/vision policy.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution to increase Building Fees as recommended by the Building Inspector. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Hook for resolution to increase salary of Building Inspector after designated six (6) month probationary period. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Lee to waive Park fees for use of the Town Park by Girl Scouts on September 10th. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept draft January – December 2016, draft July 2017 and draft January – December 2017 financial statement. Carried.

It was noted that the next Planning Board Meeting will be on September 11th, due to Labor Day on the first Monday of the month.

Meeting opened to Public:

Representatives from Claverack Free Library – Linda McNutt is working on both the new and existing buildings. Board is aware that there is need for funds to help her. Already has requirements from the State and information from Town Judge, Michael Brandon from last year.

Question from **Lisa Bowe** regarding smoking at the Town Park. She was told that the Park is already a smoke-free Park. The Town will have to get a sign made for the entrance. Presently there are small signs at designated areas, mostly where children would be playing.

Ian Nitschke – Pleased that there is progress on the Shaw Bridge project. Wants resolution signed and is disappointed that this will not be done until there is a meeting with a representative from the State regarding explanation of information needed for the grant received.

No further comments.

Supervisor Weigelt acknowledged and thanked two deputies present at the meeting for their service to the community. They were just sitting in to see how the meeting was conducted.

General A bills, totaling \$14,356.33, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$5,681.62, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$48,585.86, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water A District bills, totaling \$38.97, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no Highway DA bills.

There were no Escrow Accounts bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Supervisor Weigelt, seconded by Councilman Hook, meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilwoman Lee: _____

