

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

January 11, 2018

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 called to order by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, with a moment of silence for Jock Winch, Sr., a former Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

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

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept minutes of previous Regular Monthly Meeting of December 07, 2017. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont - Worked on six snow and ice storms, with men doing a good job.

Working on equipment at shop when time allows.

Prices for cleaning water tank between \$10,000. and \$13,000. Have received this range of quotes and is something that should be done in the near future.

Have replaced one main pump at the water plant and have another one on order.

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

Committee Reports

None received in Town Office

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Laura Miller – Interested in Zoning Board of Appeals
NYS Department of Taxation & Finance – Re: Executive Order Authorizing Prepayment of Property Taxes
Stephen King – e-mail – Withdrawing name from consideration for appointment to Columbia County Planning Board
Ian Solomon – Re: Interest in position on Planning Board
Grant Langdon – Re: Barn fires -1980, 1985 and 1987
Dog Control Report for December 2017
Linda King – Re: Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) Local Call for Projects – Use of the RRRFB
Attorney Fitzsimmons – Re: Municipal Law for Town’s appointment to County Planning Board
Association of Towns – Information on 2018 Training School and Annual Meeting of the Association
Jeff Herter – e-mail – Re: Geographic Information Gateway News
Megan Phillips – e-mail – Re: Clarification for Claverack RPF LWRP grant budget

Supervisor’s Report

Meeting last evening of Columbia County Board of Supervisors had no resolutions.

Was reported that Greenport passed sewer line installation (8” line), which can add tanks to side.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has been talking to officials regarding recent mudslide. It is not known yet what is going to be done.

Greene County prison may work together as shared services. It is unknown what the State will say.

Bottle milk plant may be coming to Greenport.

In the Town of Claverack, dentist on Rte. #217, just outside the Village of Philmont, putting on addition to his office.

Town Board Member Reports

Councilwoman Lee – Met with Building Inspector, Jay Trapp, regarding lot line adjustments and what would need to be done to amend Zoning Law.

Along with Councilman Hook and Jay Trapp met with Robyn Reynolds from Clean Energy Communities. They will assist in implementing actions and also help with viable project ideas for a community our size. Robyn will be attending the January Monthly Workshop to discuss a possible four of the ten High-Impact actions and how to meet the requirements.

Spoke with David Fingar from Mid-Hudson Cablevision for report – nothing new, just waiting on pole licenses so they can proceed with building of broadband.

Met with Councilman Keeler, Councilman Hook and Councilwoman Cashen to do final overview of Employee Handbook.

Met with Councilwoman Cashen to discuss putting together an analysis of pros and cons regarding all Town properties and would include Claverack Library property. This has been completed and will be shared with other Board members at Monthly Workshop.

Guardrail project between Martindale and Craryville has target date of April 2018. It is Councilwoman Lee's opinion that DEC approved the project last Friday.

Business Directory on new website has not yet been activated. A form has been created for businesses to submit before the site is activated.

An Agribusiness Course is being offered for Spring 2018 Semester at Columbia/Greene Community College. It is a credit course designed to offer an introduction to the business of farming and will be relative to the Hudson Valley where agriculture is a major industry of our Town and Columbia County.

We will now be requiring payroll sheets to have an authorizing signature.

Councilman Keeler – Been working on Employee Manual for 12 to 18 months. Has been read thru and discussed at workshops. Changes have been made as a result of these discussions. Attorney Fitzsimmons gave some legal advice on certain areas. Now it is suggested that the document be checked over by Hudson Valley Resource Group.

Councilwoman Cashen – Met with Councilwoman Lee to discuss strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of various Town properties and other properties for possible location of Town facilities.

Met with other Town Board members to discuss Employee Manual and related personnel policy updates.

Reviewed proposed updates to the website and gave input on business directory section.

Followed up on questions received from Department of State on the grant received by the Town for the Claverack Creek Historic Sites and Public Waterfront Access Study.

Fielded several calls regarding lost dogs and contacting proper authorities.

Reviewed Draft PDD Law, preparing for future Town Board discussion.

When asked by Councilwoman Lee if there was any new report on the Mellenville Post Office, Councilwoman Cashen said that the Postal Service would probably work with the present owner of the site to come to an agreement and replace the present facility with a new modular.

Councilman Hook – Met with Philmont Mayor. Also attended Philmont Community Day meeting.

Was called regarding a dog in Philmont with a Stockport license.

Met with Lisa from the accounting office.

Received calls regarding alarm going off at the Town Hall/Town Court Building.

End of Reports.

Supervisor Weigelt reported Attorney Fitzsimmons received a letter on Shaw Bridge project and the State recommends County come on board with the project. It will help out with the matching grant.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to set Public Hearing for West Ghent Fire District and Churchtown Fire District for February 08, 2018 - 6:45 p.m., prior to Regular Monthly Meeting. Ghent has already passed a resolution for West Ghent with addendum. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to give Town Employee Handbook to Hudson Valley Resource Group for review. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to approve Draft January – December 2017, Draft January – December 2016 and Draft December 2017 Financial Reports. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to set meeting for January 30, 2018 – 6:00 p.m., at the Town Office Building, 91 Church Street, Mellenville, New York to discuss PDD Law. This will be open to the public, but is an informational meeting with Liz Axelson, and there will be no public comment period. Carried.

It was noted that Robin Reynolds will be at the next Monthly Workshop.

Meeting opened to public:

Stephen King – Would like any information received on the Claverack Library.

If NYSDEC sends any information on the creek involved in the mudslide, let Planning Board be aware.

Ian Nitschke – Question whether mudslide changed boundary between Greenport and Claverack.

“Mike” Brandon – Consider cancelling S&F Communications. Also change locks on Town Hall, Town Court Building. Discussion on locks, controls and inventory on keys. Also, discussion on furnace problems.

Note in handbook that Town Justices do not get hospitalization or insurance.

Ian Nitschke – Regarding County on Shaw Bridge. State is recommending County get involved. Don't know if County is taking it over.

No further questions or comments.

There were no abstracts for January as all bills received were for services or goods from the month of December and were authorized to be paid as received by the bookkeeper.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler, meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Councilwoman Lee: _____

Town Clerk: _____