

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

July 12, 2018

The Regular 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
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Brian Keeler	Councilman
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Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to accept Regular Monthly Meeting minutes of June 14, 2018 and Monthly Workshop Meeting minutes of June 25, 2018. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Department has been ditching on Carlson Road. Also, ditching on Millbrook Road and installed driveway pipes on Millbrook Road and Bate Road - replaced a rotted culvert pipe on Palmer Road.

Mowing road sides in all zones.

Getting roads ready to oil and stone.

Park workers are keeping Park and other Town properties mowed and trimmed.

Councilwoman Cashen received a complaint from resident at end of Wentzel Lane. Wants road to stay as dirt road and not be chip-sealed as planned - was surprised that it had started on Monday. **Highway Superintendent LaMont** had spoken with the resident also.

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

Committee Reports

None received in Town Office.

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Jeane LaPorta – Town Historian – e-mail: Re: Conservator for old map restoration
Councilwoman Lee – e-mail – Re: Along with Councilman Hook, visited Rondout Municipal Center on Tuesday, July 10th.
Elizabeth Nunan – e-mail – Re: Conservator for map restoration
Columbia County Office of the Aging – Quarterly ELDER EXPRESS
NYS Department of Health – Tips to get cool in extreme heat
DASNY – Town of Claverack SAM Grant
Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society – Invitation to meet Amateur Radio operators of the community on the national Field Day event, from 2:00 p.m. June 24th at Town Park
James W. Trapp – Town Building Inspector - Re: Dutch Village Mobile Home Park Water System
Mark Lawlor – e-mail – Re: Mastodon information
Thank you letter from Town to Senator Marchione for assistance on Getting guardrails installed on Rte. #23 near Craryville
American Legion Post #252 “Certificate of Participation” to Town of Claverack Highway Department Superintendent, Louis LaMont, for many years of service making the float that is used each year for Memorial Day decorated and available
Lotus Solar – Information on installing solar
Jay Shulman – e-mail – Re: Engine brake noise from large trucks
Rural Resource Magazine edition
Cornell Cooperative Extension – Columbia & Greene Counties – Re: Summer 2018 Programs, Workshops and Events
Ann M. Thane, Director, Division of Local Government Services – Re: Cyber Security Grant Program from NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

Supervisor’s Report

County Board of Supervisors passed Commerce Park sewer line installation.

Veteran Resource Fair being held at Columbia/Greene Community College on July 20th.

County working on insurance for firemen that they must have in the near future. Will probably have to be covered by municipalities. Not sure how this will be done yet.

Town working on two major projects – Replacement of the Town Hall/Town Court Building. And talking to Town of Taghkanic for shared services.

Town will have to start on 2019 Budget. Information will be given to Department heads soon and will have to be back by end of August.

Town Board Member Reports

Councilwoman Cashen – Attended Governor’s Broadband Update Meeting for Columbia County, sponsored by Assemblywoman Didi Barrett. Still a couple of Town roads that are not covered. Thielman Road has no coverage.

Worked with Councilman Keeler, trying to plan a meeting with Mellenville and Philmont Fire Departments and architects on plans for shared company building at current Town Office/Town Court Building location.

Attended Town’s Historical Society Meeting and re-elected as a Trustee. It is planning several events for this coming fall season.

Attended June Town Board Monthly Workshop and PDD Meeting.

Attended June Monthly Planning Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Lee – Guardrail in Rte. #23 near Craryville has been installed after almost 18 months.

Reviewed Town’s Health Renewal options for 2018-2019.

National Grid Audit Report has been reviewed, accepted and submitted. Spoke with Joe Pallone’s office about adding street lights within the lighting district. Bruce Newman, owner of Colonial Arms Apartments, located on Rte. #23 near road to Rte. #217, is requesting that the street light across from the apartments be changed to a higher-powered light. He has been asked by his residents to do something to help with the lack of light and view at the driveway entrance. He has put some reflectors and a solar powered light, but it’s not efficient enough. Mr. Pallone confirmed that any new lights will be replaced with LED. Mr. Newman also reminded that there was an accident at the entrance not long ago.

Contacted County Legislator Marcus Molinaro’s office regarding the **ThinkDifferently** initiative and was referred to Sean McMahon. They spoke about what options the Town might consider that would promote environments for residents of all abilities. Also, spoke with the Town’s Building Inspector, Jay Trapp, who has already assisted in getting a grant for the Town Park and asked him if he would look into what might be available as far as grants, maybe a block grant, that could be used for playground equipment for the Town Park for kids of all needs.

Contacted by Sue Meddoff, Town bookkeeper, who was concerned that AFLAC’s recent invoice showed a substantial increase from prior months. It turned out to be an extra week in that billing run. She asked the representative when open enrollment was scheduled for and who is eligible? Mr. Staats stated all employees are eligible, including elected officials. She would like an open meeting date for the

entire Town staff, including elected officials and is also requesting that Sue Meddoff be listed as an authorized contact for AFLAC.

Duane Dickinson from National Grid (Vegetation Strategy) e-mailed the application for National Grid 10,000 Trees and Growing. A resolution must be passed at an official meeting.

Asked Jay Trapp to contact the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DSNY) to see if the Town could fill and/or patch areas of deterioration at the Town Park without endangering our Restoration Grant (SAM). Brian Lichorowiec, Senior Grant Administrator, stated that because the Town is not requesting funds for reimbursement for the cost, DASNY has no issue with the repairing of cracks for safety concerns.

Met with Jay Trapp to discuss several concerns regarding the Planning Board meeting that took place on Monday, July 2nd.

Contacted Dave Fingar from Mid-Hudson for an update. Still waiting for poles to be licensed, which is out of their control. He attached a highlighted map, which was very difficult to read, but highlighted which roads were awarded in round 3 grants. Courts Lane, Wenzels Road, a portion of Tishauer Road, West end of Roxbury Road, Stever's Crossing, off Gahbauer Road, Deer Drive, Summit View Lane, a small part of Rte. #217 heading northeast out of Philmont, Eagle Rock Road and Maple Avenue.

Along with **Councilman Hook** visited the Rondout Municipal Center (Rosendale Town Hall and Marble Town Hall). It is considered New York State's model for shared services. Rondale Supervisor, Jeane Walsh, gave a tour of the facility. Marbletown Supervisor, Rich Parete, joined for a discussion after the tour. Supervisor Walsh said they started the process by appealing to their State Senator and Assembly person. Improving services and cost savings was their main focus. It took approximately two years for the New York State Senate to pass a bill that would authorize the Town of Marbletown to relocate their Town Hall and Municipal Offices into the former Rosendale Elementary School building. The cost to the taxpayer to refurbish the school building was \$260,000. All revenue goes to the Rondout Municipal Center Fund and is used to run the facility and any additional funds needed is split between the two Towns. All revenue and expenses are evenly shared and in addition, the personnel that work for Rosendale is billed back 50% to Marbletown. The building will belong to both Towns jointly - they have shared service agreements to cover the running of the facility and a contract with the school district. They also have lease agreements with Ulster-Greene County ARC, a bistro and Rondout Valley Growers Association. Both supervisors couldn't say enough about Senator George Amedore being instrumental in getting this project through.

Councilman Hook – (June and July) - Attended Town Court proceedings.

Coordinated with Camp Director, Brett Holmes, for Summer Park Youth Program.

Checked on a complaint from a resident on Old Lane.

Has attended the monthly meetings for Philmont's Community Day.

Attended Columbia County Planning Board Meetings and Town Zoning Board Meeting.

Procured Mulch needed for various parts of the Town Park before the Summer Youth Program began. Thank you to Almstead Nursery for the donation.

Met with the Town of Greenport to discuss water.

Attended Economic Development Meeting.

Took part in the Village of Philmont Memorial Day Parade and services.

Worked with Jay Trapp, Town Building Inspector, on complaints and also Mr. Trapp's grant work.

Worked as liaison with Dog Control Office, Reg. Conklin.

Attended ribbon cutting ceremony of Roma Fence.

Visited Stuyvesant Town Hall and Rondout Municipal Center

End of Reports.

Town Attorney, Rob Fitzsimmons, spoke with the special attorney, regarding the fire boundaries in the Town.

Attorney Fitzsimmons also stated that resolution was passed authorizing the transfer of all title and interest in the Shaw Bridge in the Town of Claverack to the Town of Claverack. In regards to the grant received it will be administered by Ken Flood. It was noted that the road on which the Shaw Bridge is located is a user road.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution to approve budget transfer of \$13,000. in the Highway Department for the purchase of a mower as recommended by the Town's Accounting Firm and Town Budget Officer. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Hook for resolution to add Lot Line Adjustment Fee of \$100. to the Building Fee Schedule. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept Draft January – July 2018, Draft July 2018, Draft January – December 2017 and Draft January – December 2018 financial statement. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to approve Maintenance Service Fee of \$574.20 to Kool-Temp for maintenance of air conditioners at the Town Hall/Town Court building. Carried

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for minimum wage adjustment for Town Park Summer Youth Program Counselors. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution for National Grid's Tree Initiative. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution approving a National Historic Marker for Green Hole, property owned by Steve Formel. Carried.

A resident has requested a STOP sign by the bridge on Roxbury Road, where there is a barrier where repairs must be made by the County. Highway Superintendent LaMont will contact the County with the request.

It was noted that there will be Life Savings Classes for counselors who will be employed by the Summer Youth Program.

Meeting opened to the public:

Stephen King – Questioned whether National Grid has jurisdiction over trees on personal property. They would have jurisdiction if they were near and interfered with power lines.

Councilman Hook questioned **Mr. King**, who is also President of the Claverack Library, as to what the library has done in regards to a problem a few months ago. **Mr. King** stated that a special committee has been set up to work on putting filters on the computers there. This is quite expensive, but necessary for the new library.

Steve Formel – Would like to use his property for weddings and other events, as brought up to the Board at the last meeting. To get things rolling, he will have to go to both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

Jeane LaPorta – Town Historian – Requested a place to store Shaw Bridge sign, which had been taken and recently found, until it is ready to be installed permanently. Highway Superintendent LaMont offered to keep it in the Town Garage.

Also, regarding the 1857 map donated to the Town by Malcolm Hood. Halley Halperin will look at it and give a price for restoration if brought to her in Red Rock, New York.

Mark Lawlor has reached out to come to a Town Meeting to discuss the Mastodon. It was decided that he should come to a regular meeting instead of a workshop so that more people might be interested and attend. He would be speaking about the significance of the discovery of the world's first mastodon, a discovery which happened on the banks of the Hudson in 1705 in what was at that time part of the Town of Claverack and is now in the vicinity of Greenport. He would like a state historic marker, monument and kiosk with educational materials and perhaps a replica of the tooth that was discovered

or even a complete mastodon erected near the location of where the mastodon tooth was actually found on the shore of the Hudson. He will be contacted for an agreeable date.

No further comments or questions.

General A bills, totaling \$12,913.04, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$3,087.26, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$48,221.40, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$1,662.88, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no Highway DA bills.

There were no Escrow account bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Carried.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilwoman Lee: _____

Town Clerk: _____

