

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

July 14, 2016

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 7:30 p.m. immediately following Public Hearing #2, amending the zoning law to add parcel 101.-2-27.110 (632 New York State Rte. 9-H, from Rural Agriculture to the Highway Commercial Zone. Meeting opened by Supervisor, Clifford Weigelt, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
Maryanne Lee	Councilwoman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of June 09, 2016. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Completed replacing culvert pipes on Snyderstown Road and are doing the true and leveling with blacktop to prepare for chip-sealing.

Ditching on Thielman Road to prepare for oil-and-stoning the surface.

Completed second round of mowing along roadways in all zones.

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

Committee Reports

None received in the Town Office

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

NYS Government Finance Officers' Assoc, Inc. – Northeast Summer Seminar August 11, 2016
Hudson River Valley Greenway – 2016 Greenway Conservancy Trail Grant Program
Letter – Karen and Walter Sheak – Re: Water Relevy
NYS Department of Public Service – Re: Additional 518 Area Code evaluation
NYS Public Service Commission – Re: Compliance Report on Stray Voltage Testing and

Inspections

NYS Public Service Commission – Re: Petition of CTIA
Farmers and Families for Livingston – Re: Update on latest development on Power Lines

Campaign

National Grid – 10,000 trees...and Growing application information
Correspondence – Re: Bills benefiting waterways
Frank Clegg – Letter of Resignation from Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)
NYS Department of Taxation & Finance – Office of Real Property Services – Equalization Rate –

100%

E-Mail – Audrey Kropp – Culvert follow-up
Berkshire Botanical Gardens – 46th Annual Grown Show – August 13th and 14th
NYS Office of Attorney General – Re: Solar Power

Supervisor's Report

Received engineering report on the Town Hall/Court Building. Advises the closing of the building due to all the problems and deterioration of the building. Committee will now be working of Phase 2. Committee will have to meet with the Court staff and will need to find a place for them and others who hold meetings in this building. Have to make sure there is no asbestos in the building. **Councilwoman Cashen** said that as long as we don't sell the property, we can still use the property (grounds). Numbers have to be put together.

County Board passed the sewer line project. Line is from Greenport up State Rte. #66 to the Commerce Park. This will take approximately two years.

Federal Government is doing free audit by Town Garage for a solar field. They will just recommend.

Regarding the Rte. 9-H bridge project, they are now pouring the northbound side and are on track for a late October or early November 2016 completion. They are in constant communication with neighbors.

State Route #66 bridge project is going okay.

Board Members' Reports

Councilwoman Lee – Attended Economic Development Meeting.

Received Town Hall. Court Building Inspection Report from Crawford and Associates. Building Committee members will be contacted with a tentative date for the next meeting to review the report. Tentative plans include a list of building possibilities within two months and to cease using building by December 2016.

Along with Councilman Hook, met with Joe Pallone from National Grid on Wednesday, July 6th. Did s drive thru of Lighting District in Claverack. Will be getting back with recommendations. Mr. Pallone mentioned possibility of switching to LED lighting, which is more energy efficient and would be a cost savings. He also mentioned grant money available for a project like this. May have report for next Workshop meeting.

Attended ZBA Meeting.

Along with Supervisor Weigelt and Councilman Keeler, will be scheduling a meeting with Health Insurance Broker to review healthcare options. Renewal is in September.

At workshop, brought up possibility of reducing number of ZBA and Planning Board seats. At the January 2016 Association of Towns workshop 2 – 5 members seemed to be the norm. We have 7 members with seven year terms. Reducing the number of members would also reduce the length of terms. Further discussion and input will be important in this review and will be on the agenda for the next workshop.

Attended Philmont Community Day on Saturday, July 9th. Senator Kathy Marchionne attended and we had the opportunity to thank her for her assistance in being awarded the grant for our local Food Pantry Program and for all she does for the Town of Claverack.

Councilwoman Cashen – Attended training seminar on Municipal Considerations Related to Solar Energy Installments, sponsored by Columbia County Planning Department.

Checked with Town regarding letters to neighbors with information on Local Law #2 of 2016 zoning change.

Worked with webmaster to update website and renewal of hosting contract.

Attended Planning Board meeting as Town Board liaison.

Drafted notes from June workshop.

Researched number of ZBA and Planning Board members in other Towns in Columbia County.

Councilman Keeler – Worked with Summer Youth Program Director, Brett Holmes, getting ready to open for this summer’s program.

Checked with West Ghent Fire Company and received some of the necessary information.

Working with Supervisor Weigelt and Councilwoman Lee to set up a meeting with Health Insurance Broker.

Councilman Hook – Attended Senior Luncheon at Pine Haven Home. Town Clerk also attended.

Met with engineers regarding Town Hall/Court building.

Attended meeting on bus run for seniors in Philmont.

With Councilwoman Lee, met with Joe Pallone from National Grid regarding Claverack Lighting District.

Reported two residents working in Park in Claverack Hamlet, cleaning up and weeding.

Summer Youth Program has 150 children signed up and 100+ attending each day.

Attended meeting with Supervisor Weigelt and Superintendent of Highway LaMont at property on Rte. #23B, which is owned by someone not living in the Town. According to the owner, who rents the property out, there is a water problem, including overdue payments.

Attended a weekly court proceeding on a Tuesday evening.

Attended Philmont Community Day on Saturday, July 9th with other members of the Board.

End of reports.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for a Negative Declaration on Local Law #2 of 2016. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept Local Law #2 of 2016. Councilwoman Cashen had the understanding, before the public hearing, that there were no issues. Now she is more concerned. Carried with Councilwoman Cashen voting “No”.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for Resolution changing time of Monthly Workshop from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Hook, to waive park fees for the Village of Philmont’s Thank-a-Vet event in August, even though we did not receive a request. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept draft January – June 2016, draft January – June 2016 and draft June 2016 financial statements. Carried.

Meeting opened to public:

Ian Nitschke – Re: Shaw Bridge – Explained grant, which is a matching grant. Stated Town Highway Department will play important part in this project. Deadline for the grant application is July 29th.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution approving resolution for Consolidated Funding Grant, pending clarification of the terms included for matching funds. Carried.

After short discussion, it was agreed to honor Karen Garafalo, who has retired from the Philmont Library. During her tenure, she built the library up to a five-star library, improved the library facilities and did many innovative programs for the public, especially childrens' programs.

Opened to public:

Jim Van Deusen – Re: Solar farms – Ruins landscape and makes it ugly. Near Taconic Hills Central School has ruined land. Lot of issues related to this.

Lisa Bowe – How far along is AED? – Informed they will be ordered in next day or two.

General A bills, totaling \$10,235.71, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$2,014.86, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$12,600.76, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$8,976.48, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

Fund H bills, totaling \$46.00, were audited and ordered paid from the account.

There were no Highway DA bills.

There were no Escrow bills.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Hook, meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Councilwoman Lee: _____

Town Clerk: _____