

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**May 11, 2017**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the own Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, was held at the Town Hall #8936 Rte. 217, Mellenville, New York. Meeting called to order by Deputy Supervisor, Stephen Hook, who led in a moment of silence in respect to Councilwoman Cashen, on the death of her brother-in-law this afternoon. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was preceded by the Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2017, amending the Zoning Law and Zoning Map to add parcel 121.3-2-24 from the Hamlet Business 1 to the Hamlet Residential.

Present:

Stephen Hook	Deputy Supervisor and 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

Absent:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept minutes of previous monthly meeting of April 13, 2017. Carried.

**Report of Highway Superintendent – Louis LaMont** – Completed sweeping in all zones for the first time around.

Grading dirt roads in all zones and ditching on Dunbar Road and Stevers Crossing Road.

Department has redone the Little League field for T-Ball and Minor League and Park is now opened for the season.

**Dog Control Officer's Report** for April 2017 received and on file in Town Office for review.

## Committee Reports

None received in Town Office.

## Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Bank of Greene County : Re: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Claverack Free Library: Re: Annual Spring Book and Plant Sale, May 12, 13 and 14  
Columbia County Economic Development Corporation – Re: Annual Meeting  
Trinity United Methodist Church, Re: Columbia County Reach 2017  
C.T. Male Associates, Re: Upcoming CFA and Grant writing needs  
United States Census Bureau, Re: 2020 census  
NYS Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association, Re: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
The Association of Towns, Re: NYS 2017 – 2018 Budget – Planned Services  
Guterman Shallo & Alford, PPL, Re: Town of Hillsdale Proposed Local Law 2-2017  
LAM Development, LLC, Re: Proposed solar power lease  
Columbia County Planning Board, Re: Approval of Town of Claverack Proposed Local Law #1 of 2017  
Berkshire Botanical Garden, Re: Plants and Answers, May 19 – 20  
NYS DEC – Re: Philmont Reservoir Dam  
NYS Department of State, Re: County-Wide Shared Services Initiative meetings  
NYSEG, Re: Dig Safely New York at 811  
Association of Towns, Re: Countywide Shared Services legislation seminar times and locations  
Guterman Shallo & Alford, PPL, Re: Town of Ghent proposed Local Law #1  
NYS Department of State, Re: Round 7 Consolidated Funding Application is now available  
NYS Town Clerks Association, Re: Municipal Clerks Week, May 7<sup>th</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>  
State of New York Department of Taxation and Finance, Re: BAR Training Certificate for Neil Howard  
Jack Race, Re: Thank a Vet Day park fee waiver request  
Jeane LaPorta, Re: Jay Van Hoesen House  
Dave Vitti, Re: BAS IT services  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Re: Filing extension for Stuyvesant Falls

There is no Supervisor's Report this evening.

## Town Board Member Reports

**Councilwoman Lee** – Met with Jay Trapp to discuss creating informational sheet for online and in hard copy form that would be helpful to perspective applicants when planning projects. They reviewed Columbia County's Planning Procedure page to see if it made sense to create a link from our site.

Met with Town Clerk and Councilwoman Cashen to go over current website information. Some corrections, additions and omissions were made.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> attended 2017 Columbia Economic Development Corporation Annual Member Meeting. Some of the key initiatives for 2016: County Broadband mapping to identify unserved and underserved areas and businesses, County sewer expansion, Microbusiness Seminar series and Student Internship program.

Met with Carl Quinn from Technology 4AI, Inc. to go over our findings and get his input. He will be forwarding a copy of the new website for our review in the next few weeks.

Attended Summit Lake and its' Watershed: Philmont's Natural legacy. Behan Planning and Design presented findings of six reports and studies conducted over the last two years, defining what is causing the island growth at the easterly inlet, an increase of invasive plant growth, and silt build-up. Summit Lake is approximately 170 years old and, according to the report, over half of the lake is less than 5 feet deep. Some of the causes for the lake to be dying are huge storms, global warming, increased plant life, depletion of oxygen, pollutants that have settled to the bottom of the lake. The watershed draining into the lake is approximately 13,000 acres. Recommended better management of the watershed, farmers using best managing practices and community support approach. Takeaway, set a goal for the lake, watershed issue being one of the first steps. Mitigation plan to remove sediment and pollutants from lake. Need to hear from community.

Was contacted by healthcare broker, Karen Landau, with Medical Benefit Cost Analysis for 2017. Meeting set for May 8<sup>th</sup> regarding healthcare renewal. Meeting also set for Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> to go over healthcare options for 2017 – 2018, inviting Highway Department to be in attendance.

Attended Planning Board Meeting, which, for the first time, included a one hour workshop starting at 6:00 p.m. for anyone interested in attending.

Met with Assessor, Charles Brewer, regarding lighting district.

Follow-up claim submitted through Johnny Walker Insurance in early April for roof and water damage due to snowstorm. Town Clerk contacted the Agency and claim was submitted against new policy, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

Follow-up with NYS DOT and left message with resident engineer, Tom Story, regarding water along State Rte. #23 east of Martindale.

**Councilman Keeler** – Working on Personnel Manual – Adjustments and updates to be considered.

Attended Planning Board Meeting, which was also the first meeting that had a 6:00 p.m. workshop for those interested.

Two more AED's delivered today. One will be installed at the Town Garage and one in the Town Office Building. There will now be one in each of the Town Buildings and one in the Town Park.

Along with Supervisor Weigelt, went to attend the Active Shooters Drill at the Taconic Hills School. This included Stat Police, Sheriff's Department, Rescue Squads and 911. Very successful.

No further Reports.

A resolution authorizing Town Park Improvements and the issuance of Serial Bonds not to exceed \$150,000.00 was pulled for now. "Jay" Trapp, Building Inspector and bookkeeper, Sue Meddoff are working on a grant for this purpose.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution authorizing issuance of Serial Bonds, not to exceed \$505,000., for the acquisition of trucks for the Highway Department. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilman Lee for resolution to pay Mellenville Fire Department for AED's purchased for the Town when the invoice arrives. Carried.

After explanation by Attorney Fitzsimmons, motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler to declare Negative Declaration in regards to Local Law #1 of 2017. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler, to approve Local Law #1 of 2017 as explained by Attorney Fitzsimmons at the Public Hearing held prior to the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting. Carried.

Bid opened for Summer Youth Program and Winter Ski Program. There was only one bid:

Michael S. Johnston LLC  
165 Main Street  
P. O. Box #867  
Philmont, New York 12565

The bid was \$3.45 per hour and \$35.00 waiting time. The bid papers were examined by Attorney Fitzsimmons and determined that all were in order. Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept bid. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept draft January – December 2016, draft January -December 2017 and draft April 2017 Financial Statements. Carried

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to accept 3-year contract at #570.24 per year from Kool Temp Heating and Cooling, covering air conditioners at the Town Hall/Town Court. Carried.

Due to Memorial Day Holiday, motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler to change May workshop from Monday, May 29, 2017 to Wednesday.31, 2019. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Keeler to waive Park fee, as requested, for Thank-a-Vet Program, set for July 30, 2917. Carried.

**Opened to public:**

**Susan Roberts** – Spokesperson for Claverack Library. Will be going for referendum to be included on ballot in November for an increase of \$5,000.00. Stated it was suggested by Mid-Hudson Library System.

**Ian Nitschke** – Spoke on Van Hoesen House and Shaw Bridge. Was told that the Town had already been given information by Jeane LaPorte, Town Historian, who has been in contact with new owner of Mobile Home Park, the property where the Van Hoesen House is located.

Town Board still needs information regarding the \$170,000.00 matching grant for the Shaw Bridge. Per Town Clerk, who took issue with Mr. Nitschke's comments at the last Town Board Meeting that the Town Board was not doing the work necessary quickly enough on the grant received, was told that along with the bookkeeper wants clarification as to where the matching funds are to come from and answers to other unclear issues, as these are taxpayers funds and there needs to be a clear explanation as to how and where the funds are to come from. The Town Board is responsible to the taxpayers of the Town.

Letter read by Attorney Fitzsimmons regarding Hudson River clean-up.

County-wide Shard Services Initiative program from New York State Division of Local Government Services read and explained by Attorney Fitzsimmons. Town has to come up with a plan and cannot be something already in their plans. It has to be something new. The downside to this plan is the time frame, which only gives two to three months to go forward.

**Councilwoman Lee** read a proclamation by Linda M. Gilbert, President of the New York Town Clerks Association, recognizing the week of May 7<sup>th</sup> through May 14<sup>th</sup> as Municipal Clerks Week.

**Jim Brady**, a commissioner from the Mellenville Fire Company, read a letter from the Board of Directors of the Mellenville Fire District, stating their wish to pursue with the Town Board in the process to facilitate shared services pertaining to a new building. They are willing to help pursue all avenues of available funding to help save taxpayer dollars.

No further comments.

General A bills, totaling \$10,517.86, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$3,298.01, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$22,431.27, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District A bills, totaling \$1,248.65, 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 Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee, meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Dater: \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Hook: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Keeler \_\_\_\_\_

Councilwoman Lee: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_