

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

November 08, 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 following the Public Hearing on the 2019 Budget, by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, who led in a moment of silence for Veterans Day and for the family and friends of Ken Wilber, former Columbia County Treasurer and Town of Ghent Supervisor, followed by 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 Councilman Keeler to accept minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of October 11, 2018. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Grader patching and drag boxing being done on Manor Rock, Millbrook and Catskill View roads.

Hauled all sand for winter months.

Putting snow fence in all zones and putting sanders and wings on trucks for winter.

Report of Highway Superintendent

Monthly meeting of the County is not until next week, so not a lot to report.

Discussion with Mr. Michael Tucker on expanding the Rail Trail from Hillsdale to Chatham. Consultant has been lined up to study feasibility of this. In the Town of Claverack, most of the land is privately owned.

Committee Reports

None received in the Town Office this month.

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

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

N.Y.S. Department of Taxation and Finance – Re: Assisting seniors who missed the exemption application deadline

National Grid – Re: LED Outdoor Street Lighting conversion Program Inquiry

Dog Control Officer's Report for October

Bank of Greene County – Re: Municipal Financing Programs available

Daniel F. Casale – Director of Constituent Services – Senator Kathleen Marchione's Office – Re: Karen Sheak correspondence

Information received on New York State Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program

Valley Energy – Tim Wyman – Information on Daiken Hear Pump wall units

Columbia County Office of the Aging Elder Express

Churchtown Fire Company #1 – Re: Proposed 2019 information

Association of Towns – Information and Registration form for 2019 Annual Meeting and Training School – February 17 – 20, 2019

New York State Department of Public Service – Re: Consumer educational material available to help with energy savings

Town Board Members' Reports

Councilwoman Lee – Attended a Webinar on "A How to Guide to Shared Services" hosted by the Office of the State Comptroller. Recommended practices and resources available to assist in navigating the shared service process. Contact information also provided for additional assistance.

Attended Town Budget Review Meeting, Town Monthly Workshop Meeting and Monthly Planning Board Meeting.

Took part in Capital Community College Career Consortium CS Employer Summit. Adirondack, Columbia-Greene Community College, Fulton-Montgomery Hudson Valley and Schenectady are all participating in this initiative. In our overall area, more than 11,000 jobs were posted in early 2018, up 5% from last year. There is a critical workforce shortage in our region.

Zoning Review Committee is meeting every other week. There were meetings on October 24th and November 7th. A rough draft of a Local Law to regulate Commercial Event Venues is now being reviewed. Current signage regulations have now begun to be reviewed also. Next meeting is scheduled for November 26th.

Heard from National Grid that Utility pole #262 in New York State Rte. #23, cross from Colonial Arms Apartments is scheduled to have LED light installed next week. Also, a copy of the Claverack LED Average Net Book Value has been received along with a copy of the LED Street Light Conversion Program. Contacted Tara Donadio from Clear Energy. At the last meeting with her, it was left that she would review and assist in evaluating the proposal. She asked that the proposal be forwarded to her and she will be available to meet with the Board at the next Monthly Workshop Meeting on November 26th.

Received requests for two additional street lights on Webb Road. National Grid requires a letter from the Supervisor on Town letterhead in order to do this.

There was concern about the trees that were cut down on N.Y.S. #23B within the last couple of weeks. The 10,000 Trees and Growing Program was adopted by the Town in July 2018.

Contact Dave Fingar from Mid-Hudson Cablevision for an update. The make ready work being done by the electric company is underway on Snyderstown Road and he expects licenses to be issued shortly after that work is completed.

The Town's Employee Handbook Committee is in the process of finalizing its proposed changes and/or recommendations to the Town Board.

Councilwoman Cashen - Attended Town Board Budget Workshop and Regular Monthly Workshop Meeting.

Worked with Highway Superintendent planning the digging of beds for the plantings in the Hamlet Park. Worked with the Hamlet Park Committee and volunteers to plant the shrubs and bulbs in the Park. There were 900 bulbs planted and trees were trimmed. Grasses will have to be planted in the Spring. Thanked the Highway Superintendent for assistance from him and rest of the Highway Department. Five yards of mulch was also used along with fertilizer. Posts will have to be painted in the Spring. Bench in the Park area is in poor shape. Had been dedicated to an Osswald many years ago.

Provided input on draft Employee Handbook.

Responded to a call regarding water runoff issue on property.

Followed up on Winter Ski Program sign-ups. Fifteen have signed up to date. There is no cost to the Town since there will be no bus transportation provided, but those who have signed up will get the benefit of special rates as part of the Town's involvement.

Attended the N.Y.S. Department of State webinar on Shared Services.

Councilman Keeler – Attended Town Board Budget Workshop and Monthly Workshop.

Attended November Planning Board Meeting.

Hudson Valley Resource Group has first draft of the Town Handbook almost ready.

Councilman Hook – Attended Monthly Planning Meeting and Zoning Committee Meeting. Attended Columbia County Planning Board Meeting.

Checked in with the Town Office, Court and Dog Control Officer frequently to see if anything was needed.

Took cardboard from the food pantry to Greenport for recycling whenever necessary.

Worked with Building Inspector.

Met with Mike Bucci, from the accounting office, to go over 2019 Budget.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution to approve Final 2019 Budget. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution authorizing Supervisor Weigelt to File Tax Cap Calculation. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman lee, seconded by Councilman Hook to reimburse resident for water expenditure, with Councilman Keeler abstaining. Carried.

Motion by C

Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution to pay Heather Grimes for plants purchased for Hamlet Park. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for resolution to pay Robert Everhart for tree services performed in Hamlet Park. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Hook for resolution to adopt the Columbia County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Town of Claverack's plan. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Lee to set Public Hearing on Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:45 p.m. to adopt Local Law #4 of 2019, extending the deadline for Senior Exemptions. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Hook to renew contract with Pine Plains Veterinary Hospital for 2019. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Lee, seconded by Councilman Hook to accept draft January – December 2018, draft January -December 2017, draft October 2018 financial statements. Carried.

Town will check with Mellenville Fire Company regarding AED battery replacement – will also check pads and should have an extra set.

The Public Hearing on the West Ghent and Churchtown Fire District contracts will be on Thursday, December 13, 2018, beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Request received for lighting in two places on Webb Road. Letter will be sent to National Grid with pole numbers.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Lee for stipend for Deputy Supervisor. Carried, with Councilman Hook abstaining.

Opened to public:

Two different residents from Catskill View Road complained about a ditch that has been filled in making a water problem. According to Highway Superintendent, a trench has been there for many years and someone filled it in, making the problem. He has been given permission to put the trench in again.

No further questions or comments.

General A Fund bills, totaling \$16,360.47 were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B Fund bills, totaling \$631.30 were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$90,400.83 were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District bills, totaling \$1,202.22 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 Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Councilwoman Lee: _____

Town Clerk: _____