

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 13, 2020

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York, was duly called and held at the Town Hall, #836 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
Brian Keeler	Councilman
George Duntz	Councilman
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 Cashen to accept minutes of previous Monthly Meeting and 2020 Organizational Meeting of January 09, 2020. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Crew has worked nine (9) snow and ice events with men doing a good job due to soft conditions.

Installed driveway pipe on Schoolhouse Road. Removing dead trees in zones 4, 5, and 6, some with the assistance of Host Tree Service.

Replaced track motor on Doosan Excavator.

Town Emergency Plan has been updated.

Questioned why highway office taken out of Quickbooks when it was “Read Only”. Can’t keep information up-to-date or get answer when needed.

Dog Control Officer’s Report for January received and on file in Town Office for review.

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

Stephanie Sussman – Email – To Board members Re: Concerns regarding Music in the Park
Madison Wellman – E-mail – Congressman Delgado’s Office – Re: DOJ Grant Opportunities
Elisabeth Hotter – E-mail – Re: Proposed Columbia County Local Law #3 of 2020
NYS Oversight Unit – Re: Annual Report filing
Taconic Hills Central School – Titan Herald
Community Read 2020 – Wizard of Oz – List of events
Claverack and Philmont Libraries – Celtic Songs – Saturday, March 21, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. at the Claverack Free Library
Columbia County Pathways to Recovery – Re: Park Fee waiver for July 25th event in Town Park
Borrego Solar – Solar energy project
New York State Board of Assessment Review – Member listing
Columbia County Office of the Aging Elder Express Newsletter
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – Re: Project Number 2696-047
New York State Senate – Senator Daphne Jordan – Re: Clean Energy Community designation
Claverack Free Library – Re: Building partnership possibilities
Philmont Neighbors – E-mail - Re: Philmont Community Day
Philmont Public Library – E-mail – Re: Upcoming Events
Michelle Apland – Flying Deer Nature Center – Re: Proposed County Law regarding vaccinations
Jennifer McIsaac – Re: Proposed County Law regarding vaccinations

Committee Reports

“None” received in Town Office

Supervisor’s Report

On County level - Long discussion at Supervisor’s Meeting regarding immunizations at camps and also for counsellors. Many residents present. Tabled.

“Bill” Better appointed County Historian.

On Town level – Spoke on possibility of tearing down present Town Hall/Town Court Building. Now trying to put information together to rebuild on present location.

Board Member Reports

Councilman Duntz – Attended Monthly ZBA Meeting.

Councilwoman Cashen - Met with A.B. Shaw Fire Company representatives regarding possible use of building by Town Court during new building construction and also discussions on other options.

Filled out questionnaire for tower insurance and worked with Town bookkeeper on items for questionnaire.

Worked on Securing Party Status for the Town on Transco Powerline project.

Reviewed final Employee Manual and worked with Hudson Valley Resource Group to produce copies that will be distributed to all Town employees.

Worked with Town Office on updating items on website and also contacted former webmaster to obtain old files that were on previous website.

Attended Monthly ZBA and Planning Board Meetings. Also thanked the Planning Board members for their time and work. There are three large solar fields being considered and they will be under pressure from these companies.

Councilman Hook – Picked up and delivered monthly food order to food pantry. Took recyclables from Town Office and food pantry several times.

Attended Claverack Senior Citizens Meeting and administered Oaths of Office to elected officers.

Attended Claverack Library meeting.

Attended Columbia County Economic Development Meeting.

Attended County Planning Board, Monthly Town ZBA and Town Planning Board meetings and Monthly Town Workshop Meeting.

Met with Dog Control Officer to try and find a place for stray dogs that are picked up.

Met with Court Clerks and Judges regarding temporary placement of office and Court if proposed new building project becomes a reality.

Stopped by Town Office several times a week to see if there were any problems and sign checks for bookkeeper to be able to deposit checks, pay bills and make necessary transfers.

Supervisor Weigelt thanked Councilman Hook for the work he does for the Town.

Motion by Councilman Hook. Seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to change 2019 Local Law #3 (Large Scale Solar Law) to Local Law #2 of 2020 and 2019 Local Law #4 (Zoning map amendment of parcel from HR to HB1) to Local Law #2 of 2020. The reason for this was explained by Attorney Fitzsimmons. When he contacted the State to see where the acknowledgments were for these laws, they did not have them

and, since it was now a new year, they had to be renumbered for 2020 and had to be sent in again. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Keeler, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution for Application for Party Status for the Town of Claverack on the Department of Public Service/Public Service Commission (DPS/PSC) docket for the New York Transco LLC Power Line Project (Case 19-T-0684). Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to approve Building Inspector, “Jay” Trapp to attend New York State Planning Federation Conference April 19, 20 and 21,2020. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Duntz to accept draft January – December 2019, draft January 2020 Financial statements. Carried.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Duntz for resolution approving Building Department Fee Schedule as suggested by Building Inspector “Jay” Trapp. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to waive Park Fees for Pathway to Recovery, an organization that uses the Park each year and is received relief of the fee each year. Carried.

After discussion, motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to have Summer Youth Program run from July 6th for five weeks this coming summer. Carried.

Discussion on Town Credit Card and rules and regulations that are mandatory for the use of it.

Ian Solomon, a resident of the Town explained the positives of signing up for Party Status for the Town on the Department of Public Service/Public Service Commission (DPS/PSC) docket for the New York Transco LLC Power Line Project. Will be going to landowners and explain. The number of structures has been changed and some areas less, but Claverack more. Being a part of this will also help keep this area in the loop by supplying up-to-date information.

Meeting opened to public:

“Mike” Brandon – Attended inspection of A.B. Shaw Firehouse facility for possible use for the Town Court during proposed construction of new building. It is doable but sees a problem with the number of ingress and egress areas. The other judge, “Mike” Cozzolino stated that if it would be for more than one year, he would not want to use the facility. Judge Brandon also questioned what the price would be as there would be a number of things that would be necessary for the office equipment and also for court proceedings. Also, cameras would have to be installed.

The former Claverack Library is also a consideration. There is confined space and handicap bathrooms would have to be installed. Parking may be a problem.

O.C.S. - \$30,000. As long as a licensed engineer and licensed architect are used. Also need an estimate of time.

Ian Nitschke – Regarding Shaw Bridge. Attorney Fitzsimmons will check over contract.

Supervisor Weigelt – Noted that the bridge on the east end of Roxbury Road will be replaced. The work will be starting soon and that part of Roxbury Road will be closed for approximately 3 – 4 months.

Councilwoman Cashen questioned whether anyone connected with High Falls has been contacted so that people can be advised of an alternate route.

Councilman Hook – Brought to Board’s attention that the cost to the Town from the American Legion for flags and markers is \$1,400. There is no paperwork submitted with voucher – tabled until next meeting.

“Jim” Brady – Reported that there was an accident on Route #66 which took three hours of coverage. There were twenty-five firemen and fire police present to assist.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Supervisor Weigelt to go into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss fire district boundary dispute. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to come out of Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. Carried.

General A bills, totaling \$11,947.88, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$879.98, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$25,173.06, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

There were no Highway DA bills.

There were no Water District 1 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 Councilman Hook, meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Councilman Duntz: _____

Town Clerk: _____