

**Workshop Meeting**  
**August 31, 2020**  
**836 Route 217, Philmont, NY 12565**  
**6:00pm**

Attendees:

Clifford Weigelt Supervisor	Stephen Hook Councilman
Katy Cashen Councilwoman	Brian Keeler Councilman
George Duntz - Absent	Robert Fitzsimmons – Town Attorney
William R Michael Deputy Town Clerk	

Discussed with Gillian Black of Eden Renewables an update of where the Catskill View and Claverack Creek Solar projects are at in the application process. Mr. Black then went on to discuss and give an example of a PILOT, payment in lieu of taxes agreement that is offered to municipalities to cover taxes on properties leasing land to solar companies and exempt from property taxes.

Resolution to recognize Local Union 294 as representing highway department employees.  
Motion by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Supervisor Weigelt, all in favor, carried.

Discussed possible speed limit changes within the town. Councilwoman Cashen gave examples of citizens requesting the limits lowered on certain town roads. Attorney Fitzsimmons explained to the Board the State requires Towns interested in lowering speed limits on Town roads hire an engineer to complete a traffic study, which could be very costly. The Board will further look into regulations by the State.

Discussed Hamlet Park fencing. It was recommended by the Town's insurance company to remove the old fence which has rotten posts, and fill the holes with dirt.

Discussed a letter received by the Town from East Light Partners of a possible solar project and giving the Town the option to express their interest to entering into a PILOT agreement.  
Motion to accept PILOT agreement payments for any solar project constructed within the Town based on a received letter from East Light Partners made by Councilman Keeler, Seconded by Councilman Hook, all in favor, carried.

John Bradley updated the Board as to the Climate Smart Community process. He expressed the need of having some volunteers to start a Climate Smart Task Force. He was encouraged by the Board to draft an announcement to be used to solicit volunteers. The announcement will be posted on the Town website.

Discussed upcoming budget meetings. The Board is looking into having at least two meetings in the month of September to get started.

Discussed Town employee health insurance contributions. Resolution to have Town/employee contribution rates of 87.5/12.5 passed in July, was changed to 90/10. Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, Seconded by Councilman Hook, all in favor, carried.

Discussed the old Claverack Library / temporary Town Court of waving all permitting fees for renovations. Motion by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, all in favor, carried.

Discussed a proposed agreement of new projects given by Highway Superintendent LaMont using current CHIPS money available. Motion to approve agreement made by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Supervisor Weigelt, all in favor, carried.

Discussed the Town's water tank repairs. Supervisor Weigelt spoke of a letter sent to him by Advanced Solutions who expressed an interest to meet with the Board at September's workshop.

Discussed new building fee schedule. Motion to accept new building fee schedule for subdivisions and large solar projects within the Town. Motion made by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Councilman Keeler, all in favor, carried.

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss union negotiations made by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Councilman Keeler, all in favor, carried. Enter into executive session 7:24 pm.

Motion to adjourn executive session made by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Supervisor Weigelt, all in favor, carried. Out of executive session 8:06 pm.

Motion to adjourn workshop meeting made by Councilman Hook, Seconded by Councilman Keeler, all in favor, carried. Meeting adjourned 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
William R Michael