

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

June 10, 2021

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York was held virtually for the public as in the past several months, per Executive Order from the Governor of the State of Ne York. The Town Board members were present at the Town Hall, #836 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York. Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. 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
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

George Duntz	Councilman
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Supervisor Weigelt introduced John Kramel, who commented on a statement presented to the Town Board on views and concerns of many Claverack residents in response to the City of Hudson’s Truck Traffic Engineering study, which was presented in April 2021.

The editors of this statement were John Bradley, Mame Bradley, John Kramel, Ian Solomon and others and included a list of 22 Claverack residents signing the statement.

There were eight recommendations in the statement, all stating the fact that the residents of the Town of Claverack, especially in the Hamlet do not approve of the alternate truck route to be routed through the Hamlet instead of the City of Hudson.

A copy of the statement was given to all Town Board members and a copy will be available at the Town Office for anyone interested.

Residents should send information to Hudson, County, State and other Towns in Columbia County stating they are against routes from Hudson being changed to go thru Routes #23 and #23B. Town now will have to pay for a study on this. Will have to work towards a resolution of the problem.

Supervisor Weigelt stated, which he has made known many times before, that he will not agree to any truck routes being set up to run from Hudson thru the Town.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept minutes of previous Town Board Meeting of May 13, 2021 and Workshop Meeting of May 24, 2021. Carried.

Report of Superintendent of Highways – Louis LaMont – Ditched Stickles Road and installed a culvert pipe.

Department has cut out a soft spot on Justice Road, installed road fabric and gravel and blacktop to prepare for chip-sealing.

Department has readied Decker Road and Snyderstown Road for chip-sealing.

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

Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

NYS Environmental Facilities Corp. – e-mail – State Revolving Funds Webinar – June 16 – 2:00 p.m.

NYS Department of Health – Interim Guidelines for Camp Programs during COVID-19

Maron, Nicole – New York Energy Solution – Sunday work on 05/23

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers – Re: - Permit Application #NAN-2019-01444-USH by New York Transco, LLC

Airosmith Development – Re: - Verizon Wireless modification to the existing wireless facility located off Old Lane

NYS Department of Taxation and Finance – State Office of Real Property Tax Services – Final State Equalization rate is 100.00%

Philmont Neighbors- e-mail – Three Volume Cultural Resource Survey

Columbia County Planning Department – Nomination of John Bradley as Claverack's representative on the Environmental Management Council for a two-year term

Photo of sign for Hamlet of Claverack to be placed at Park

Claverack residents' statement on Hudson Traffic Study – June 07, 2021

Supervisor's Report

At the County meeting learned that Stimulus funds to be allotted around July 24th. Has to be spent by 2026. Quarterly Reports have to be done showing where funds are being used. Have to look at budget and keep track.

Sales tax in the County is up over 25% and Mortgage tax is much higher also.

The Town Park in the hamlet should have its' own water source within the next two weeks and the second flower tree should be installed by then also.

The week of June 21st, the crew from the Company where the playground equipment was purchased will be installing the equipment. The playground will be closed for approximately one week as ground work will need to be completed by the Park workers and the Highway Department.

Board Member Reports

Councilman Keeler – Attended Planning Board Meeting.

Worked with Councilman Hook

Have been compiling financial information with other Towns in the County.

Councilwoman Cashen – Followed up on Federal Funding status for American Rescue Plan grant to the Town. Do not have funds yet. Will we get Philmont's share to give to them? Water tower work should be put on the list for stimulus funds.

Followed up with Assemblywoman Didi Barrett's office and DASNY on status of Town Park improvement grant.

Followed up on Churchtown and A.B. Shaw Fire Companies boundary adjustment. Map has been drawn and need list of property owners. Can't do resolution until properties are agreed on.

Paperwork submitted to NYSEG for converting the Mellenville section of streetlights to LED.

Requested price quote from NextGen Signs for new sign in Hamlet.

Worked with Columbia County Planning to get a map of all parcels in the Town that do not have road frontage.

Worked with Town bookkeeper for information for 2019 Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Set up Zoom meetings for Town Board Workshop on May 24th, ZBA Meeting on May 26th and Planning Board Meeting on June 7th.

Responded to calls regarding cancellation of Summer Youth Program.

Attended Memorial Day Parade and Purple Heart Ceremony in Village of Philmont.

Attended Claverack Climate Smart Committee monthly meeting.

Corresponded with legal counsel regarding Highway Department uniform reimbursement.

Councilman Hook - Did food pantry monthly pickup and did Town Office and Food Pantry recycling several times.

Signed checks at Town Office several times.

Signed Humane Society contract and Playground Equipment Installation Agreement.

Spoke with S&F Technologies in reference to installing additional cameras and placement.

Went over cemetery mowing bids and interviewed persons who had submitted bids.

Met with State Police regarding damage at the Town Park twice, May 17th and June 9th.

Met with Insurance Representative to inspect Town properties.

Met with Highway Superintendent and Town Engineer regarding water tower and also with Highway Superintendent on other matters.

Met with contractor at former Claverack Library Building several times and also met with contractor at the Town Park.

Met with electrician at Town Park for electric work needed to be done at the pavilion and also with electrician at office to fix ceiling light.

Attended ZBA Meeting.

Spoke with office of County Outhouse and also spoke with ACP. Then met with ACP to receive new lawn mower.

Contacted locksmith to open file cabinet drawer.

Met with Building Inspector to mark out locations for new playground equipment.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for resolution that the Town Board of the Town of Claverack and the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claverack Fire District will hold a joint public hearing on July 08, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Claverack Town Hall, #836 Rte. #217, Mellenville, New York to consider the proposed boundary lines between the Churchtown Fire Protection District in the Town of Claverack and the Claverack Fire District. Carried, with Councilman Keeler abstaining.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to accept draft January – May 2021, draft May 2021 and draft May 2020 Financial Reports. Carried.

Opened to Public:

Stephanie Sussman – Deputy Merante gave presentation in March. No longer resident deputy. Has been increase in robberies and crime.

Per Stephanie. Sussman, “We need a representative from the Sheriff’s office to speak with the residents about public safety. We don’t know how many incidents of crimes such as robbery, malicious mischief, sexual abuse, domestic abuse, drug arrests, vandalism, etc. or how many seniors are receiving check calls from Sheriff’s Dept. or when they plan to have a car seat safety event in the park to help families with children”. (This was stated verbatim by Stephanie Sussman in an e-mail on August 12, 2021 – 5:35 p.m. and wanted this as a correction to the original minutes. The change was approved at the Monthly Workshop on August 30, 2021).

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Keeler to go into Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to go out of Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. Carried.

General A bill’s, totaling \$10,661.41, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$1,090.24, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$30,327.01, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

Water District bills, totaling \$4,264.45, 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 Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Keeler: _____

Town Clerk: _____