

TOWN OF CLAVERACK
Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting
October 13, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York was held both in person and "Zoomed" at the former Claverack Library, 629 Route 23B, Claverack, New York, temporary location of the Town Court and other Town meetings and functions until the new Town building is completed. Meeting was opened at 6:00pm by Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Clifford Weigelt | Supervisor |
| Kathleen Cashen | Councilwoman |
| Douglas Colwell | Councilman |
| George Duntz | Councilman |
| Stephen Hook | Councilman |
| Louis LaMont | Superintendent of Highways |
| Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq. | Attorney for the Town |
| Vonda Teaney | Clerk |

Absent:

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| Mary J. Hoose | Town Clerk |
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Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Colwell to accept the minutes of September 8, 2022 Town Board Meeting. Carried.

Correspondence:

Including, but not limited to:

Penflex Annual Report - Churchtown Volunteer Fire Co. Annual Service Awards
NYS Teamsters Council - Health and Insurance Fund Agreement
Philmont Public Library - e-mail - Library Events
Mindy M. Gardner - Thank You letter for Town's continued support and partnership with Philmont Library
Local Law #3 of 2022 - Extending temporary moratorium on large scale solar energy installations with Town of Claverack
Virtual Event - e-mail - State and Federal Funding, Financing and Resources for Municipal Infrastructure Roundtable Discussions - ZOOM - October 26th - 1:00-3:00pm
Johnson Newspaper Corporation - e-mail - Ad for Demolition Project by Crawford & Associates
Kyle Miller - Dog Control Officer - September 2022 Report

Highway Superintendent Report

Department has been chip sealing in the Village of Philmont; installed a culvert pipe on Decker Road; installed a culvert pipe on Prach Rd and ditched; grader patched and drag boxed Roxbury Road to prepare for chip sealing next year; cleared out old Highway Garage building on Route 217; moved old highway department records to new garage for review; started hauling sand for winter.

Would like to get a price on a lean-to to be put off the salt shed to store equipment. Also, would like to get a price for a shipping container. The Board approved moving forward with getting quotes for these items. Councilwoman Cashen asked how many quotes would be required. Attorney Fitzsimmons felt 3 would be needed. If over \$3,500 then formal bids would be needed.

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

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Weigelt advised regarding activity on Fish & Game Road near Route 66. Was told this property will be wetlands owned by a private company. Councilwoman Cashen stated the parcel is 88 acres owned by Wetland Trust, Inc. Property will remain "as is" - no building will be done.

Fish and Game Road is now open. County advises they will continue work in November to prepare for widening next year.

Supervisor was part of filming done by "power company" people. They were asking him questions about the project they did in the Town. This will be used by the company for other locations where they might be considering the same type of project.

Columbia County Climate Smart Committee is looking for a part-time person.

Board Member's Reports

Councilman Duntz - Spoke with Taconic Hills Little League and Derby Shutts regarding the scoreboard installation.

Will follow up with Town Clerk on reimbursement for Summer Youth Program.

Councilman Colwell - Attended Board workshop; worked on tentative Budget.

Councilwoman Cashen - Met with group of individuals, including the Town Historian and Brenda Shufelt, to tour the former Town Hall building to better understand the historical significance of the property for the purposes of obtaining grants for the property and possible

future uses. Councilwoman Cashen advises there is a grant available from the NYS Preservation Society for a feasibility study that has a short timeline. If the Board is interested, she will need to know by Monday, 10/17. This grant would be for a maximum of \$5,000 and we would match with 20%. The Board agreed to have the Councilwoman move forward with exploring this grant.

Followed up with staff from UHY to discuss 2023 budget items based on feedback from Town Board members.

Attended the 10/3/22 Planning Board meeting.

Worked on planning for the 2023 Youth Snowsports Program at Catamount Ski Area.

Met with Town staff to sort out duties for payroll and other administrative activities.

Attended monthly Claverack Climate Smart Committee meeting with Supervisor Weigelt. Worked on finalizing two resolutions related to Climate Action Plan and Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation Plan for the Town.

Worked with the Clerk's office to post several announcements and meeting notices on the Town website.

Met with Lisa Gill to work on Budget items.

Councilwoman Cashen questioned if the Board Workshop which would normally be held on 10/31/22 should be moved a week earlier due to the Supervisor being out of town. All agreed to have Workshop on October 24, 2022 at 6:00.

Councilman Hook –

Met with Rich Schumann, CEO.

Arranged for items to be placed in extra storage at Coons Self Storage. Took care of clean up of old building.

Delivered monthly food to Food Pantry and did several trips of recyclables for Town Office and Food Pantry.

Met with Mobile Locksmith for locks on extra filing cabinets in Town Office.

Met with Insurance Co at Hwy Garage for roof issues.

Attended Planning Board meeting.

Met with Churchtown/AB Shaw Fire Companies.

Signed checks several times in Town Office.

Met with Mary Melino, Bookkeeper, to discuss payment issues.

Attended Board workshop.

Went to Lowe's and purchased shelves for Office storage and put together and in place.

Did several walk throughs at Old Building.

Claverack Climate Smart Committee - John Bradley - Reviewed the two proposed Resolutions on the agenda for this evening.

Following review, motion by **Councilman Duntz**, seconded by **Councilman Hook** to approve the undertaking of The Climate Action Plan. Carried.

On motion by **Councilwoman Cashen**, seconded by **Councilman Duntz**, to approve participation in Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan. Carried.

On motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilwoman Cashen** to accept the 2023 Tentative Budget as the 2023 Preliminary Budget and presented to the Town Clerk. Carried. Upon discussion of location and on motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Duntz**, to set a Public Hearing for discussion on the 2023 Preliminary Budget and approval as 2023 Final Budget, on Thursday, November 10, 2022, 6:00pm at the New Claverack Library Community Room, preceding the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting. Carried.

Attorney Fitzsimmons advised the Solar Laws are in Final version. He asked if the Board is ready to proceed in setting a Hearing. **Councilwoman Cashen** questioned if the Board would want to wait until December due to Budget Hearing in November. **Councilman Hook** stated he felt the Laws were ready and the Board should move forward.

On motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Colwell**, a hearing will be held on the Final Solar Laws on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 6:00pm at the New Claverack Library Community Room, preceding the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting. Carried.

Councilman Hook would like to send a Thank You/acknowledgement to Stewart's for their donation for repairs at the park. He would like to be able to send a photo of what was done (or at least started) with the donation. **Highway Superintendent LaMont** stated it is too late in the year to do this work now - will have to wait until next year. There was discussion of marking off where the work would be done in order to provide a photo.

Councilman Hook asked that the Board go back to the discussion of the storage container and shed and reviewed the costs. **Councilman Duntz** asked the Highway Superintendent if a container would be enough storage - to which the answer was yes. **Councilman Hook** stated he would like to see us get both items - 40-foot container \$3469 and 12x20 shed \$9864.

On motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Colwell**, we will proceed with purchasing of both items. Carried.

Brenda Shufelt - asked if the Town map was available on the Town website, to which **Councilwoman Cashen** responded that it was. Ms. Shufelt stated that she had a few questions about the demolition of the old building - that she was not clear what the "hurry" was. She stated she was told it was an insurance issue. **Councilman Hook** responded because of the state of the building, the insurance company has indicated they might pull the insurance. **Supervisor Weigelt** reiterated that the building has been condemned and that Crawford & Co. will be taking it down. He queried, could an option be to sell the site? It is his opinion that if the Town is not liable for anything in that case, they might feel led to agree. **Councilman Duntz** asked Ms. Shufelt if she would be willing to share any notes she has about the site with him, to which she indicated that she would email them to the Board.

Councilman Hook advised the quote for having the shredding of documents in the old building is \$1375 - \$1650. On motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilwoman Cashen**, **Councilman Hook** will proceed with scheduling the shredding. Carried.

Motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Colwell** to go into Executive Session at 6:56pm. Carried.

Motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Duntz** to come out of Executive Session at 8:05 pm. Carried.

There were no attendees via "Zoom" and no further public comments.

General A bills, totaling \$42,909.19, were audited, and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$3,032.85, were audited, and ordered paid from their accounts.

DB Highway bills, were received from the Highway Superintendent at this meeting. Will be audited at a later time.

Water Department bills, totaling \$15,788.84, were audited, and ordered paid from the account.

There were no DA Highway bills.

There were no Escrow Account bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by **Councilman Duntz**, seconded by **Councilman Hook**, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Duntz: _____

Councilman Colwell: _____

Clerk: _____