

TOWN OF CLAVERACK

Regular Monthly Meeting

November 10, 2022

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Claverack, Columbia County, New York was held in person and “Zoomed” at the former Claverack Library, 629 Rte. #23-B, 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 6:50 p.m. immediately following the two public hearings on the 2023 Budget and Local Law #4 of 2022 in relation to Solar Energy uses, by Deputy Supervisor Stephen Hook.

Present:

Stephen Hook	Deputy Supervisor/Councilman
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
George Duntz	Councilman
Douglas Colwell	Councilman
Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Mary J. Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
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Correspondence

Including, but not limited to:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation – Re: Hudson River Estuary Program.

Columbia County Bd. Of Supervisors – Resolution No. 434-2022 – Re: Authorization to affirm the payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement for Solar Energy Systems Between County of Columbia, the Town of Claverack, the Hudson City School District and Emerson Solar LLC Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §487.

Longroad Energy – e-mail – Public Comment in Advance of Public Hearing on Solar Law.

Jeane LaPorta – e-mail – Received from National Parks and Service that #571 Rte. #23B, property referred to as the Muldor-Miller House, was approved for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Office of the NYS Comptroller – e-mail – Seminars.

Notice of Public Hearing regarding Local Law #4 of 2022 “amending the Zoning Law of the Town of Claverack in relation to Solar Energy Uses.”

Kyle Miller – Dog Control Officer – e-mail – Report for October 2022.

Motion by Councilman Duntz, seconded by Councilman Colwell to accept minutes of previous meeting of October 13, 2022. Carried.

Report of Highway Superintendent – Louis LaMont – Department replaced driveway pipes on Damita Drive.

Hauled in salt for winter.

Serviced trucks and put sanders, plows and wings on for winter.

Removed two bays from old Town Office Building due to the roof collapsing.

Ran underground wire and wired new building in Park.

Still need two wingmen for winter storms.

New pickup truck should be here next week.

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

There is no **Supervisor's Report** due to absence of Supervisor Weigelt.

Town Board Members' Reports

Councilwoman Cashen – Met with group, including Columbia County Economic Development Council and Columbia Land Conservancy to discuss possible options for former Town Hall/Town Court building, including possible grant opportunities that Town could apply for.

Attended webinar sponsored by NYS Association of Towns, "From AirBNB to VRBO and everything in between – Regulating Short-Term Rentals in Your Jurisdiction".

Reviewed PILOT for Emerson Solar LLC Project on Stottville Road prior to Town approval.

Drafted summary information on proposed Large Scale Solar Project.

Followed up with UHF staff to finalize 2023 budget, based on information from Town Board members.

Attended November Planning Board meeting.

Responded to questions regarding Winter Ski Program at Catamount Ski Area.

Followed up with Labor attorney to confirm what state-mandated training needed for employees by Town.

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

Councilman Duntz – Worked on 2023 Budget with other Board members.

Discussed ARPA funds.

Thanked those who assisted in Solar Law.

On-line training on Workplace Violence Prevention and Anti-Harassment training – done thru State – Is this acceptable?

Councilman Colwell – Worked on 2023 Budget.

Worked on AirBnB for information to present to Board at next meeting.

Councilman Hook – Has been covering for Supervisor Weigelt while he is on vacation.

Picked up order for Food Pantry from Hudson.

Took recycling from Town Office and Food Pantry,

Met with Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer.

Numerous telephone calls regarding insurance claim.

Attended November Planning Board Meeting and Town Board Monthly Workshop.

Signed checks at Town Office Building several times.

No further reports.

Motion by Councilman Duntz, seconded by Councilman Colwell for Resolution accepting the Preliminary Budget as the Final 2023 Budget. Carried.

Motion by Councilman Colwell, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen for Resolution giving Supervisor authorization to submit Tax Cap Filing. Carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Colwell to Amend Town Zoning Law in relation to Solar Energy Uses which will be Local Law #4 of 2022. Attorney Fitzsimmons read and completed SEQR. Carried. Noted: Planning Board has learned a lot and Councilwoman Cashen said that it is hoped to continue to amend as needed.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen, seconded by Councilman Hook for approval of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement for Emerson Solar LLC.

Other Business

After discussion of Grievance Day in 2023, tabled until next meeting to get further information.

After discussion on appointment of Deputy Clerk, Attorney Fitzsimmons will draft local law for next meeting.

It was mentioned by Deputy Supervisor Hook that the Messing family residence, #571 Rte. #23B, Claverack, referred to as the Muldor-Miller House, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Opened to Public:

No questions or comments.

General A bills, totaling \$99,728.00 were audited and ordered paid from the accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$2,101.18 were audited and ordered paid from the accounts.

Highway DB bills, totaling \$84,042.42 were audited and ordered paid from the accounts.

Water District bills, totaling \$8,755.96 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 Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilman Duntz, meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Date: _____

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Hook: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Duntz: _____

Councilman Colwell: _____

Town Clerk: _____