

TOWN OF CLAVERACK
Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting
March 9, 2023
6:00 pm

Board Members Present

✓	Clifford Weigelt Supervisor	CW	✓	George Duntz Councilman	GD	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Stephen Hook Councilman	SH	✓	Douglas Colwell Councilman	DC	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Kathleen Cashen Councilwoman	KC				

Others Present

✓	Louis LaMont, Superintendent of Highways
✓	Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq, Attorney for the Town
	Michael Brandon, Town Judge
	Mary J. Hoose, Town Clerk
✓	Vonda Teaney, Deputy Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes - February 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: SH

Seconded: DC

Vote: Yes: 5 No: Abstention(s): ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Highway Superintendent Report – *Worked four snow and ice events; working on repairing sweeper; installing new water readers but installation requests are slowing – will be sending out another letter for to those still needing installation.*

Dog Control Report – *On file with the Town Clerk*

Correspondence –

Including, but not limited to:

- *Chatham Town Clerk – Beth Anne Rippel – e-mail – Re: NYSTCA Conference*
- *Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Re: Village elections – Tuesday, March 21, 2023*
- *Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Re: Fire siren at firehouse*
- *Brooke McComb – e-mail - Student Intern – Re: 2023 Taconic Hills CSD Success Fest*
- *Kim Keeler – e-mail – Re: Event Monday, March 29 – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Inviting community organization representing themselves and their offerings*
- *Coons, Leslie – e-mail -on behalf of Dr. Spindler, Superintendent – Hudson School District – Re: Hudson Saturday Academy – Saturday, April 01, 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.*
- *Philmont Neighbors – Toby Farley – e-mail – Virtual History program – Anti-Slavery in Columbia County Pre-Civil War*
- *Karen dePeyster – Program Director – Tobacco-Free Action of Columbia & Greene Counties – Offer of new signs to municipalities to update the tobacco use policy to include vaping and cannabis.*
- *Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Re: Vernon Higgins Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner at Philmont Firehouse – Friday, March 3rd, - 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.*
- *Kyle Miller – Dog Control Officer – e-mail – Monthly Report*
- *Et cetera – March – Digital round-up of news and timely updates*
- *Columbia County – e-mail – Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day – Saturday, April 29, 2023 – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Columbia County Commerce Park*
- *Partners for Climate Action – e-mail – Registration open for next Climate Action Mixer – Tuesday - April 4th - Poughkeepsie*

Supervisor Report – *It has been a busy month! Attended workplace violence training last night. Columbia County looking to hire teenagers through it summer work employment program. KW will forward documentation about the program to the Board members. DC suggested having on website right away. KW said participants stand a better chance getting into the program if the Town sponsors them. KW spoke with Donna NYS Senate about grant monies – waiting for funds to be released. County Fair Housing event in upcoming in April. KW went to meeting about rerouting trucks in Hudson. Claverack and Greenport both would be affected and both must approve in order for it to happen. Also going to look at changes to 9G. These changes are only for pass through trucks not local trucks. KW signed contract with Paul Bishop regarding revamping fire companies within the Town.*

Town Board Member Reports

Councilman Hook – Helped with Food Pantry. Attended 3/6 Planning Board Meeting. Attended negotiation meetings regarding rental rate for Temporary Town Hall/Court Bldg. Signed checks and check in at the Town Office several times - went to Bank for Town Clerk. Met with/spoke to past CEO numerous times regarding return of Town Property. Attended Town Board Workshop. Met with Town Engineer regarding roof and pole barn on salt shed at Town Highway garage. Met with Rich Nesbitt regarding Town Insurance.

Councilman Duntz - Youth camp program – working with Rich on preparing folders/paperwork for rehiring counselors - all from last year coming back. Once paperwork is completed Program Director will be setting up first aid training. Awaiting insurance certificates to be sent to Taconic Hills for Park use of school pool as a field trip during park program. Contacted Hudson as well – they are waiting for guards. Field trips planned include Zoom Flume, Sherri's Office visit and weekly trip to school pool. Claverack and Philmont libraries to have some events at the park as well. Working with Taconic Hills Little League and with Highway Superintendent on scoreboard installation. Attended workshop and town hall meeting. Attended Common Council meeting re: truck routes. Attended Hudson Common Council Meeting about truck route and study. Paperwork to be sent to GD and he will share it with Board members upon receipt.

Councilman Colwell – Attended February Workshop; attended March PB Meeting; attended Town Hall meeting hosted by Claverack Library with Congressional Representative Marc Molinaro. Addressed a resident's questions with the assistance of Town's Building/Code Enforcement Department Clerk, Katrina. Summer park program updates – Park Program Director spoke with Dan Grandinetti, County Youth Bureau Director regarding funding – no money for programming this summer (based on 2022) but will be available next year (based on 2023). Money for transportation expenses, up to \$4,000 will be available – receipts need to be submitted. There are currently four field trips planned: TH pool weekly/lessons ; had a brief conversation with Sheriff Krapf regarding park visits – that plan is in the early stages. Need to put notice on website for campers to sign up (possibly in May). Ratio for counselor to camper is 10:1, so plenty of staff available at this time. Program Nurse will be doing first aid training for those who need it.

Councilwoman Cashen - Followed up with Senator Michelle Hinchey's office about the Town Park grant. Along with Deputy Supervisor Hook (SH), met with the Claverack Library representatives to discuss extension of the lease on the Temporary Town Court building. Provided information to and met with the Town's insurance broker (along with Deputy Supervisor Hook) regarding the 2023-2024 insurance renewal. Broker advised to expect a 10% increase. Broker will be attending workshop to go over details. KW will advise Broker about scoreboard. Researched access to Town utility information for Climate Smart Committee's request for information to submit an update to the Greenhouse Gas Inventory. Attended 3/6 Planning Board meeting and Town Hall meeting hosted at Claverack Library.

Proposed Motions/Resolutions

Motion - Motion to approve beginning the bidding process for the pole barn at the Town Highway property. *KW advised they are getting specs.*

Motion: SH **Seconded:** GD

Vote: Yes: 5 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Resolution:** ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Motion – Motion to approve beginning of the bidding for water tank painting (inside and out).

Motion: SH **Seconded:** KC

Vote: Yes: 5 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Resolution:** ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Motion – Motion to approve installation of new softener (filter) system.

Motion: KC **Seconded:** SH

Vote: Yes: 5 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Resolution:** ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Motion – Motion to approve beginning the bidding process for the repair of the salt shed roof.

Motion: SH **Seconded:** GD

Vote: Yes: 5 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Resolution:** ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Motion – Motion to approve the following individuals (at the recommendation of Program Director, Alexandria Colwell) to be hired as Summer Park Camp Counselors beginning July 7, 2023:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Jeffrey Montague Asst Director | Noah Winters, 2 nd Asst Director |
| Jason Gaylord | Aaron Peck |
| Tyler Peck | Faith Judisky |
| Brandon Rosano | Marissa Ensign |
| Lyndsey Martin | Patrick Mier |
| Little Zachariah Johnson | Jonny Robles |
| Anthony (Tony) Simmons | Dillion Simmons |
| Samantha Saavedra | |

Motion: GD **Seconded:** DC

Vote: Yes: 5 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Resolution:** ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

Other Business (none)

Public Comments

Stephanie Sussman - Thanks to Councilman Duntz for mentioning substance abuse/mental health issues and the problems associated within the county and our town. Ms. Sussman requested having a pamphlet put on our website. She feels it shares valuable contacts and asked the Board to consider. Ms. Sussman also stated she met with Linda Guntert of Claverack Seniors (at the suggestion of KW) to discuss her concerns. Mrs. Guntert will bring details of their discussion to a Seniors meeting and will follow up with her.

Ian Nitschke – KW advised Mr. Nitschke that the State recommended we reevaluate the project because of length of time that has gone by. Therefore, they did away with grant as plans for the project have not been finalized. KW has an engineering firm interested in the project and decision for plan needs to be finalized. Mr. Nitschke explained the type of bridge it is and its importance. KW talking with State about grants for a different plan. KW will contact Mr. Nitschke for input.

Mr. Nitschke indicated he is pleased to hear Board is taking action. He also advised that on the public's part, they are also taking action. He believes the Town does not have to take responsibility for matching the grant. His group will take responsibility. Committee has been formed (Friends of Shaw Bridge) and they are determined to raise \$200,000 to prove to the Town they will meet the responsibility. KW suggested that the Committee reach out to property owners to be sure they are on board with moving forward – get owner's agreement in writing. Mr. Nitschke advised this has already been done. KW advised once this is done, with the assistance of the Town Attorney, the Board can address legal (deeded rights).

KW asked Mr. Nitschke if he would be interested in working with Bill Better on the 250th anniversary of Claverack celebration. KW thought Mr. Nitschke would be an asset to Mr. Better in gathering information. He said he would be glad to do that.

Laura Bradford - Asked the Board to consider a brief moratorium of campgrounds in the Town so that clarifications to the rules and regulations can be made. She states there are projects all over the Hudson Valley. She would like to see the Town clarify rules more before moving forward with any new additions. Ms. Bradford feels the rules and regulations are needed to help protect rural conservation areas and neighborhoods. KW indicated the Board would consider her request.

Matt Franceschi – Has attended a few meetings to discuss the Town's position on Clover Meadows. Asked if any further information has been received. Attorney Fitzsimmons indicated George Schmitt is involved in this issue.

Executive Session (Discussion of Town Contracts)

Motion to go into Executive Session: GD

Seconded: DC

Vote: Yes: 5 No: Abstention(s):

Resolution: Accepted Rejected Tabled

Time entered into Executive Session: 6:45 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session: DC

Seconded by: KC

Vote: Yes: 5 No: Abstention(s):

Resolution: Accepted Rejected Tabled

Time out of Executive Session: 7:13 p.m.

Pay Bills

- General A - \$ 20,382.24
- General B - \$ 2,512.36
- Highway DB - \$ 33,323.42
- Water Dept. - \$ 2,185.98
- Highway DA – *none*
- Escrow Accts/Bills – *none*

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by SH, seconded by GD, meeting adjourned by Supervisor Weigelt at 7:45 p.m.

Date: Approved at 4/13/23 Meeting

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Duntz: _____

Councilman Colwell: _____

Town Clerk: _____

Prepared by Deputy Clerk, Vonda Teaney