

TOWN OF CLAVERACK
Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting
May 11, 2023
6:00 pm

Board Members Present

✓	Clifford Weigelt Supervisor	CW	abs	George Duntz Councilman	GD	
✓	Stephen Hook Councilman	SH	✓	Douglas Colwell Councilman	DC	
✓	Kathleen Cashen Councilwoman	KC				

Also Present

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Carl Nabonzy from Columbia Greene Community College explained the Owl technology that is being tested to stream this evening's meeting. KW explained Board is investigating options for streaming all town meetings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Town Board meeting minutes of April 13, 2023

Motion: SH

Seconded: KC

Vote: Yes: 4 No: Abstention(s): ✓ Accepted Rejected Tabled

CORRESPONDENCE – Including, but not limited to:

- Minkler-Seery American Legion – Invitation to Memorial Day activities

- Columbia County Habitat for Humanity – e-mail – Latest News
- Kyle Miller – Dog Control Officer – e-mail – Will be absent from May 14th to May 21st – Will handle calls accordingly
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Free Local History Lecture – April 30th
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Child, age 14, interested in mowing laws.
- Brad Tito – Director of Community Energy – e-mail – Sent on behalf of the Opt-Out CDG Coalition – Take action to support clean energy in New York State
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail - Groundbreaking Ceremony – 18 Eagle Street – May 10th – Noon - Habitat for Humanity
- Teamsters Local 294 – Re: Juneteenth as Holiday
- Taconic Hills Little League – e-mail – 2023 Little League Game Schedule – Claverack Town Park
- Concerned Citizens of Orchard Mills Road
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Proposed NYS Legislation – Clean Slate Bill

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – *Removed all plow wings and sanders from all trucks; completed sweeping in all zones; have been grading gravel roads; worked on ditching on Miller Rd II and Carlson Rd; replaced dump body on Truck #82; blacktopped walk way at the Town Park from pavilion to the playground equipment and added mulch around equipment; ran electric line for scoreboard; have been installing more new meters and have approximately 34 more yet to do.*

DOG CONTROL REPORT – *On file with the Town Clerk*

SUPERVISOR REPORT – *At the Board of Supervisor’s meeting all were advised that the Town’s portion of mortgage taxes will be received soon. Columbia County passed RPTS tax exemption for volunteer Firefighters and are looking at Income levels for Senior exemptions. The Board of Supervisors also established levels for low income. Have been working with fire companies – had meeting today – currently working with Paul Bishop from CGR trying to figure out what to do. They are exploring options and doing fact finding at this point. Columbia County did survey about pickle ball courts. Chatham & Copake have 2, Ghent has one, plus there are some at Taconic Hills. KW received a copy of NYS Assoc of Towns Directory and it will be kept in the Town Office if anyone needs it.*

TOWN BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Councilman Hook - *Attended PB/ZBA Meetings; Met with Mobile Locksmith – park keys; Martindale Cemetery; Food Pantry; Signed checks and repaired plumbing in Ladies’ room at Town Office; Reviewed applicants and prepared paperwork for Comprehensive Plan Committee; Met with Building Inspector and Clerk; Met with ACP/Toro dealership re: lawn mower purchase; Met with electrician for repair of equipment due to vandalism at pavilion; Met with Julie Nack*

re: maintenance on Temporary Town Hall; Met with Accountant, Lisa Gill, re: year-end audit finalization; Met with Highway Superintendent several times.

Councilman Duntz - *absent*

Councilman Colwell – *Attended ZBA meeting; per agenda two individuals not returning to summer program as staff this summer but staffing is adequate even with resignations; spoke with several residents re: issues. Thanked Carl for taking his time to come to the meeting and show us the Owl products.*

Councilwoman Cashen - *Sent in the Town's ARPA Compliance Report to the U.S. Treasury; met with Planning Board member to discuss changes to the town's campground law; spoke with residents regarding concerns related to the Transco powerline; worked on finalization of the lease for the Claverack Library; attended the May 1 Planning Board meeting; attended the May 8 Claverack Climate Smart meeting.*

PROPOSED MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS

Motion to accept the resignation of Jason Gaylord and Lindsey Martim as Camp Counselors for the 2023 Summer Program (per email communication with Program Director).

Motion: SH **Seconded:** DC

Vote: Yes: 4 No: ___ Abstention(s): ___ **Motion:** Accepted Rejected Tabled

OTHER BUSINESS

- Presentation/Information on OWL system - Carl Nabonzy
- Discussion of bussing for summer park program – *all set. KW clarified that they are not looking for upgraded buses for field trips. DC explained all trips are local and no special busses are needed.*
- Complaints have been received regarding condition of tennis and basketball courts – *KW explained how the state is holding up funding from 6 years ago. Town was awarded grant but money but have not received it yet. The dilemma is we cannot begin or do repairs without risking losing funding. We have been just doing small fixes in meantime in hopes funding will come through.*
- Discussion of current Park rental rules and regulations – *Deputy Clerk explained there were two versions in two different locations on the website, neither were dated. Requested clarification to know which we are to follow. SH stated the one requiring a \$150 refundable deposit on rental is the most recent and what should be followed.*
- Water Tower Painting Project – *Letter from Verizon/Cell Tower – KW advised he spoke with Philmont about problem. Claverack's is currently out for bid. SH advised the Town is going to apply for a 50/50 grant but wouldn't have an answer until Dec.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Brandon, Judge – *Advised he had a conversation with the Judge in Stuyvesant regarding their building. Stuyvesant gave Judge Brandon the plans to share with our Board. Judge Brandon requested that Board make time to look at plans to get ideas for new building. Judge Brandon will make himself available whenever the Board would like to see them. SH advised most board members have either already been to the Stuyvesant building or have seen plans. KW asked Judge Brandon to come to the next workshop to discuss.*

Ian Solomon – *shared information on issues he has encountered with Transco power lines. Mr. Solomon has spoken with Transco and advises they are aware of issues. KC clarified how far lines go and where issues has been noted. KW will investigate to find out more information. KW stated Transco is really trying to work with everyone and do things right.*

Dave Baylen – *Gave feedback on Owl system and video conferencing of this meeting. He stated the system greatly exceed what his expectation was. Thanked all involved for setting this trial up.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION (*discussion Union holidays and shared DPW services/contract negotiations*)

Motion to move into Executive Session: DC

Seconded: SH

Vote: Yes: 4 No: Abstention(s):

Motion: Accepted Rejected Tabled

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

Motion to Return to Regular Session: SH

Seconded by: DC

Vote: Yes: 4 No: Abstention(s):

Motion: Accepted Rejected Tabled

Time Returned to Regular Session: 7:30 p.m.

RESOLVED that the following bills were reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

- General A - \$ 103,740.51
- General B - \$ 2,980.24
- Highway DB - \$ 27045.88
- Water Dept. - \$ 25,466.05
- Highway DA – *none*
- Escrow Accts/Bills – *none*

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by SH, seconded by DC, meeting adjourned by Supervisor Weigelt at 7:33p.m.

Date: Approved 6/8/23

Supervisor: _____

Councilwoman Cashen: _____

Councilman Hook: _____

Councilman Duntz: _____

Councilman Colwell: _____

Town Clerk: _____

Prepared by Vonda Teaney, Deputy Clerk