

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**

**Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting**  
**September 08, 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 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. The meeting was held immediately following the Public Hearing on Local Law #3 Of 2022, a local law to further extend a temporary three (3) month moratorium on large scale solar energy installations within the Town of Claverack.

Present:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor
Kathleen Cashen	Councilwoman
Stephen Hook	Councilman
George Duntz	Councilman
Douglas Colwell	Councilman
Robert Fitzsimmons, Jr., Esq.	Attorney for the Town
Mary J Hoose	Town Clerk

Absent:

Louis LaMont	Superintendent of Highways
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Motion by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen to accept minutes of meeting of August 11, 2022. Carried.

**Correspondence**

Including, but not limited to:

e-mail – The Social Security Star  
Clear Energy Communities Program- e-mail – Grant approval \$5,000. Action Grant  
Local Law No. 2 of 2022 – To extend moratorium on large scale solar energy installation  
Stewart’s Shops – Dake Family – Donation of \$7,500. for support of new handicap accessible park playground  
Amanda Baker – e-mail – No speed sign on Millbrook Road, the side that intersects with County Rte. #27. People drive much too fast – bad sight distance from her driveway due to trees/shrubs on properties on either side  
Resolution #38 of 2022 – Health Insurance for non-union employees  
Local Law No. 3 of 2022 – To further extend moratorium on large scale solar energy installation  
Philmont Public Library - e-mail – Events at the library  
Tax bill – Unknown Owner – Near Gahbauer Road – 24.50 acres  
Kyle Miller – Dog Control Officer – August 2022 Report

There was no Highway Superintendent’s Report due to vacation.

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

### **Supervisor's Report**

Had a meeting with John Bradley.

Will get information and suggestions from other Towns regarding a Grant Writer for the Town.

Old Town Hall/Town Court Building – Demolition bid will be going out within the next two to three weeks. Hauling will be included. Highway Department needs to look over remainder of property that is still in the old garage facility downstairs of the building.

### **Board Member's Reports**

**Councilman Hook** – Went to Pro-Printers several times.

Went to Grand Opening of Stewart's and accepted donation for handicap path in Town Park Playground.

Signed checks several times at Town Office.

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

Met several times with Building Inspector.

Set up use of storage unit with representative of Coon Self Storage for use until new Town building is completed.

Went to Harbor Freight for masks for Town residents who need them due to COVID.

Worked on new Solar Law.

Worked on Town Employee and Highway Union Insurance.

Met with locksmith to determine and install several locks on file cabinets in the Town Office. Many needed locks and some repaired.

**Councilman Colwell** – Worked on Solar Law.

Reported that on the last day of Summer Youth Program, two bikes were raffled.

Worked on the Healthcare Program options for Town employees and Union members.

**Councilman Duntz** – Worked on the Healthcare Program for Town employees and Union members.

Paperwork needs to be completed when it comes from the County for the Summer Youth Program.

**Councilwoman Cashen** – Finalized health insurance options for Town employees and Highway union members, working union representatives, legal counsel and bookkeeper on paperwork and forms necessary for a new insurance provider.

Drafted an Executive Summary highlighting the proposed Large Scale Solar Law amendments.

Met with Brenda Shufelt to go over historical documents necessary in the application for National Historical Designation of the former Town Hall/Town Court Building that many years ago was a papermill.

Met with staff of U H Y to discuss 2023 budget. Followed up on requests for Department heads and their funding requests for 2023.

Attended August Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meeting and “Zoomed” meeting for the public.

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

**Councilman Duntz** reported that he worked with Lisa Gill of U H Y and gave a preliminary list for 2023 Budget. Building Inspector and Building Department paperwork of “needs and wants” has been submitted.

He also met with Brenda Shufelt regarding documents dating back to 1854.

**Vonda Teaney** of the Town Clerk’s Office reported that blueprints of a proposed addition by Tjark Reiss had been found while she and Town Clerk were going thru records at the former Town building.

No further reports.

Motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Duntz** to approve proposed Local Law #3 of 2022 – Extension of the Solar Moratorium. Carried.

After short explanation, motion by **Councilman Duntz**, seconded by **Councilman Colwell** to approve Block Party on Perry Road on September 18, 2022 from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. Will need barricades for road, which will be shut off to local traffic, but not to emergency vehicles. Carried.

After explanation regarding storage units for things needed to be kept from former Town Hall/Town Court Building until new building is ready, motion by **Councilman Hook**, seconded by **Councilman Colwell**, for approval. Cost will be \$120. per month and will be able to pay every six months instead of monthly. Carried.

Discussion on Salt/Sand Shed at the Highway Department and the need for a new roof. This is being referred to insurance company also to see if it is covered. Received bid of \$54,000. from Phelps. If only one bid received, need to prove no other bids received. **Attorney Fitzsimmons** will check on this and may need proof in writing. Will also ask for proof of insurance.

A resident of the Town, Amanda, reported there is no signage on the road past Schoolhouse Road. This was explained by **Councilman Colwell**.

Meeting opened to public:

**Stephen King** – Re: Lighting. There are ballast issues.

Also reported that the book sale coming up in October is the first sale in three years, due to COVID. At this time not receiving any more donated books. Sale will be Friday – Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

**“Mike” Brandon** – Should appreciate work done by office employees going over all the boxes of information at the former Town Hall/Town Court Building the last few months, sorting and keeping necessary information. It was not part of their job description.

**John Bradley** – Climate Smart Committee - Will get information on someone who identifies as a Grant Writer.

Also, there is a meeting of the Climate Smart Claverack Committee at the Library in Claverack at 5:30 P.M. on September 12th, 2022. It will be a good time to get to know the people on the Committee.

**Brenda Shufelt** – Commended the work done in going thru and preserving old and important papers. Will save dozens and dozens of years of research.

The former Town Hall/Town Court Building and years ago housing the Town Garage has hydro-columns that were set to hold back floods. This building was a papermill many years ago.

One person was on “Zoom”, but had no comments.

Motion by **Councilwoman Cashen**, seconded by **Councilman Hook** to go into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m. Carried.

Motion by **Councilman Hook** seconded by **Councilwoman Cashen** to come out of Executive Session at 6:55 p.m. Carried.

General A bills, totaling \$32,093.57, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

General B bills, totaling \$2,121.03, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

DB Highway bills, totaling \$98,387.28, were audited and ordered paid from their accounts.

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

There were no DA Highway bills.

There were no Escrow Accounts bills.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by **Councilman Duntz** seconded by **Councilman Hook**, meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilwoman Cashen: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Hook: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Duntz: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Colwell: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_