

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK**  
**Organizational & Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting**  
**January 4, 2024 6:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present**

|   |                                      |   |                                    |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| ✓ | Clifford Weigelt (CW)<br>Supervisor  | ✓ | George Duntz (GD)<br>Councilman    |
| ✓ | Stephen Hook (SH)<br>Councilman      | ✓ | Douglas Colwell (DC)<br>Councilman |
| ✓ | Eugene Hallenbeck (EH)<br>Councilman |   |                                    |

**Also Present**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SWEARING IN OF NEW ELECTED OFFICIALS – Eugene Hallenbeck, Board Member (*term ends 2027*) and George Duntz, Board Member (*term ends 2027*)**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Local Law #1 of 2024 - Revisions to Campground Zoning Law**

RF explained the purpose of this proposed law is in relation to the Getaway Project. The Board of Appeals determination on that project was that it was going to be year-round usage and not seasonal or temporary. The Town put a moratorium on these types of projects in place to allow time to look at rules and regulations. The Town as now tightened up issues and has been mindful not to adversely affect previously approved sites. RF reviewed what projects can't and can have according to new law. RF stated it is important to note that the law only allows for seasonal (May to September) usage.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:04 pm

**Local Law #2 of 2024 - 3-month Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)**

RF received a request from the law firm that represented the party interested in property on Humane Society Rd for this type of project. RF went over potential issues. RF suggested the Town might want to put pause on these types of projects to allow time to review, discuss and work on it. RF advised several other towns also currently have moratoriums on this type of projects. KW stated he feels the biggest issue, currently, is the Town does not have enough information to make an informed decision.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:06 pm

**2024 TOWN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

*Resolutions #1 through #30 of 2024*

**Regular Monthly Board Meeting**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - *Town Board meeting minutes of December 14, 2023.*

**Motion:** SH      **Seconded:** DC

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_       Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

**CORRESPONDENCE** – Including, but not limited to:

- Town of Greenport – Re: Notice of Water Rates for upcoming year. They are keeping the current rate for the calendar year
- Columbia County Historical Society – 2023 Annual Report
- Catalist – e-mail – Warm wishes for Happy Holiday Season
- KCACT – e-mail – Social Security – Agency and Accomplishments
- ProShred – e-mail – Embrace the Magic of Security This Season
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Re: Community Day Meeting – Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>
- Philmont Neighbors – e-mail – Re: Philmont Historic District nomination to State Registry of Historic Places

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** – *No report due to absence*

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

**SUPERVISOR REPORT** – *Spoke with Gina Crowley regarding current speed limits on 23B. She advised he needs to talk to Linda from Columbia County first. After that conversation, KW will ask the Board for a vote before going to State.*

## **SUPERVISOR REPORT (continued)**

*KW had a call from Marion Weiner about the cost of her cable bill. KW advised he was not aware of an “across the board” increase. RF advised Town has franchise agreement but that might not address the issue. DC said he would look in to this.*

*KW advised he is going to NYS DEC regarding issues at Quality Aggregates. Seems that they are not doing things as other gravel banks are required to. KW had drone pictures taken and will be providing them to DEC for their investigation.*

*KW advised the Town is currently looking for a grant writer and we will be advertising on website. He asked that everyone pass the word on to help find someone.*

*DASNY grant has been approved. Currently will be working to get cost of playground equipment previously installed (which was included in original grant application) reimbursed.*

## **TOWN BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

**Councilman Hook** – *Attended Village of Philmont Board Meeting; park sign from NextGen – sign should be coming soon – cannons moved to the Village with others ; Food Pantry; Recycling; Bank Trips/Deposits; office (daily) and signed checks as needed; spoke with R. Nesbitt regarding insurance; Met with Bookkeeper every week; Spoke with Lisa Gill at UHY; Deliveries to the County Board of Elections, County Clerk and Real Property for fire company documents; Picked up tax bills; Attended Planning Board January Meeting.*

**Councilman Duntz** – *Working on National Fitness Campaign/MVP Grant with David Chavez. We have a ten-day window to submit grant application. He suggests we move forward with the application. Rich Michael and Mary Melino will be helping pull information together. GD speaks with Mr. Chavez once a week. KW asked if this is a matching grant? GD advised that MVP gives up to \$50,000. The concrete slab and other small things will require to be covered by the Town. GD feels the Highway can do some of the additional work since they are doing DASNY work anyway.*

**Councilman Colwell** – *Met with Michael Layman at Columbia County MIS regarding Google Meets system. He is hopeful we will have the system by next meeting. County will be taking care of “zoom” for community members to view meeting and posting recording on YouTube channel. DC advised that anyone who wishes to speak during the meeting will be required to be in attendance and sign in to speak at meetings.*

**Councilman Hallenbeck** – *Nothing to report as this is his first meeting.*

**PROPOSED MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS**

**Motion** *for negative declaration for purposes of SEQURA.*

**Motion:** SH      **Seconded:** GD

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_      **Motion:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

**Motion** *to pass Local Law #1 of 2024 – Revisions to Campground Zoning Law.*

**Motion:** SH      **Seconded:** GD

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_      **Motion:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

**Motion** *– to pass Local Law #2 of 2024 – 3-month Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).*

**Motion:** GD                      **Seconded:** EH

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_      **Motion:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

**Resolution #30 of 2024** *– to approve purchase of two Kronos time clocks at a cost not to exceed \$6,100.00 from Columbia County MIS per Quote #Q-1000957.*

**Motion:** SH                      **Seconded:** DC

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_      **Resolution:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Climate smart CAP** – GD received an email from KC and John Bradley regarding where we are at with this. GD responded to Katy with some questions which she answered. GD stated he is alright with it.
- **New Building** – KW would like the Board to get together within the next couple of weeks to meet only on this topic. GD asked if there were members of the public that should be attending. KW said the Board needs to decide on location before there can be a discussion about what is going to be built. The Board will meet Thursday January 11, 2024 at 6:30pm at Temporary Town Hall building.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** (*Personnel*)

**Motion to move into Executive Session:** SH                      **Seconded:** DC

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_                      **Motion:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

Time moved into Executive Session: 6:42 p.m.

**Motion to Return to Regular Session:** SH                      **Seconded by:** EH

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: \_\_\_\_ Abstention(s): \_\_\_\_                      **Motion:**  Accepted    Rejected    Tabled

Time Returned to Regular Session: 7:20 p.m.

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

- General A - \$ 36,973.89
- General B - \$ 2,948.98
- Highway DB - \$ 9,450.64
- Water Dept. - \$ 2,688.81
- Highway DA – *none*
- Escrow Accts/Bills – *none*

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, on motion by Clifford Weigelt, seconded by Stephen Hook, meeting adjourned by Supervisor Weigelt at 7:22 p.m.

Date:                   Approved February 15, 2024                  

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

Councilman Hallenbeck: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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