

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 3, 2019

Minutes of a Regular Meeting held by the Town of Shawangunk Town Board, County of Ulster, State of New York, at the Town Office Building, 14 Central Avenue, Wallkill, NY on the 3rd day of January 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Robert Miller, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Matthew Watkins, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present was Police Chief Gerry Marlatt.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Emergency exits were announced by Supervisor Valk, followed by a brief moment of silence and the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 20, 2018.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman Watkins to approve the minutes of the Special End of Year Meeting held on December 28, 2018.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

A Public Hearing Notice was received from the Town of Montgomery regarding a Solar Energy Moratorium on January 17, 2019.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Vision of Wallkill – Sparkle & Shine Awards

Donna Myer and Paul Mader, representing the Vision of Wallkill, announced the winners from the 2018 Sparkle & Shine Decorating Contest. Awards were given out to the participants who were present and photographs were taken.

Wallkill Public Library

Lisa Palmer, Library Manager, Ken Simon, President of the Board, and Camille Reid, Library Board Member, spoke to the Town Board about exploring options for the potential renovation of the library. Mr. Simon explained that the library has hired an architectural firm that specializes in designing libraries. The firm has done over thirty projects and most recently, finished library projects in Gardiner, Warwick and Washingtonville. One of the partners in the firm sits on a local library board himself. Mr. Simon explained that a study was done of the existing structure and although the building is 84 years old, it has good bones. He noted that the library board and the staff have taken good care of the building over the

years. Mr. Simon further explained that the library is transitioning into more of a multimedia space, rather than housing rows and rows of books. Accessibility to a restroom for the public is a concern for the library. One of the partners in the architectural firm is a trustee himself on a library board. The goal is to find out what the community, staff and Library Board feel is needed. That plan must be economically feasible going forward into the future. Mr. Simon advised that they will be holding two meetings on January 15th. One meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. and the other at 6:00 p.m. The meetings will be held in the Community Room and the public is encouraged to attend and participate. Mr. Simon stated that there are grants available for libraries both at the federal and state levels.

Supervisor Valk inquired if after this process, will it be evaluated if an expansion is necessary. Mr. Simon stated that the answer may be to just make improvements to the building. With existing technology, they may be able to move forward by upgrading the accessibility. The architectural firm will help them get the most out of the existing space. Councilman Miller stated that he met with one of the firm members and was impressed how well he knows the community. Councilman Miller commented that the Gardiner Library has an excellent flow.

Road Issue

Danielle Curylo addressed the Town Board regarding a road issue. She introduced herself and her wife Julia. She explained that they recently moved from Oregon to Sunset Trail. She spoke to Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero several months ago about the condition of the road. At that time he advised that he intended to have the Town Engineer come out to survey the road. She wanted to bring to the Board's attention that she has not heard anything back since then. Supervisor Valk explained that Mr. LoCicero was in his office yesterday and advised that Sunset Trail was one of the two large drainage projects that he would be working on for 2019. There was a short discussion on the location of their home and the water that goes across the road. Supervisor Valk stated that it is Mr. LoCicero's decision to make, but it is his intention to do the work on the road. Ms. Curylo stated that she just wanted to bring this matter to the Board's attention.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**POLICE CHIEF**

Officer Marlatt updated the Town Board on the progress of the computers in the police cars. After much research, it was determined that a new program did not need to be purchased. The county program will be installed in the cars tomorrow. Chief Marlatt advised that Rob Malatesta will be available on Monday for the Dog Control Officer duties.

REPORT OF TOWN COMMITTEES

HIGHWAY**Street Trees in Subdivisions**

Supervisor Valk advised that this proposal will be tabled until the next meeting when the Planning Board Chair can be present.

PARKS

Councilman DeWitt advised that the skating rinks are being set up at Popp and Verkeerderkill Parks.

SIDEWALKS/LIGHTING

Supervisor Valk advised that Central Hudson will be giving credit to the Town for the streets lights that have not been fixed.

COMPUTERS

Councilman Amthor advised that the website will be ready soon. Rich Barnhart is making arrangements to take additional photographs. It was agreed that Mr. Barnhart will be asked to attend the next Town Board meeting to take some of those photographs.

NEW BUSINESS**2019 Contracts**

Supervisor Valk read the 2019 contracts for the Pine Bush Fire District, the Walker Valley Fire Company, the Walker Valley Marching Band, the Wallkill Senior Citizens Club, the Walker Valley Senior Citizens Club, and the Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance Corp. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Miller to authorize Supervisor Valk to sign the contracts with these groups for the approved amounts in the 2019 budget.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Comprehensive Plan

Supervisor Valk advised that the Re-Zoning Committee has been discussing updating the commercial business areas in Wallkill and Walker Valley. The Comprehensive Plan was last updated in 2003. Mr. Valk further explained that although the Re-Zoning Committee has been running behind schedule, they are ready to hold public planning meetings. The zoning in place today is based upon what the people wanted sixteen years ago. Some of those areas may be too restrictive. If people want change, this is the opportunity to speak up. The economy is different today and perhaps zoning changes may promote business development. The goal of the Re-Zoning Committee is to get public input. By holding the public meetings, it is the roll of the Planning Consultant to gather the feedback from taxpayers on potential zoning changes. Both of the meetings will take place on January 26th. The Wallkill meeting will