

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 5, 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, Walkkill, NY on the **5th day of September 2019** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Matthew Watkins and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present were Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt and County Legislator Ken Ronk. Councilman Robert Miller was excused.

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 DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 15, 2019.

VOTE: Councilman Watkins, aye, Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman Amthor, aye, Supervisor Valk, aye. Councilman Robert Miller was absent.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Lion's Landing

Sal Patella updated the Town Board with the progress of Lions Landing. Mr. Patella explained the following:

He has met with the Ulster County Department of Public Works. The guardrail system that will be installed will replace the existing rails and be solid up to the bridge guardrail. There will be an open space for a lockable bollard to be installed to allow for vehicles that may need to get in.

The gas lines have been marked, there will be no disturbance of that area.

Ulster County will clean up the west side of the property.

He met with the DEC who will be donating trees and shrubs under the Trees for Tribes program. They will donate up to 30 slow growing trees and 70 low growing shrubs. The DEC will help the Lions Club with planting on October 17th. The DEC has established the types and amounts they would provide that will help stabilize the river bank and retain the barrier. Mr. Patella advised that he spoke to the DEC about the large dead tree on the property. They granted approval to have the tree dropped per their regulations. Now that they have that approval, they are looking for volunteers to assist with that. Since there is a utility pole near the site, the Lions Club would like to install a sign with low voltage LED lighting. Mr. Patella is suggesting that the sign tie into the architecture of Town Hall.

In the future the Lions Club would like to create a walkway with picnic benches on the site. The plan would be slowly implemented.

Rail Trail

The Lions Club would like to purchase and install welcome signs on the Rail Trail. They would also be willing to volunteer and clean up the Rail Trail once or twice a year. They will work on designing a sample and come back to present to the Town Board.

Red Top Road

Mr. Sal Patella spoke to the Town Board about the poor condition of Red Top Road. He explained that it is a dead end road and is crumbling. He asked the Town Board to consider raising taxes to re-do this and other roads in Town. Mr. Patella stated that other roads that are in better condition have been resurfaced and paved. As a taxpayer, he is respectfully requesting that Red Top Road get resurfaced and paved to maintain the surface of the road.

Highway Superintendent LoCicero explained that the reason he is working on Burnt Meadow Road was because the Town of Gardiner was re-doing the road. The Town of Shawangunk owns 2300' of the road. Since Gardiner was doing the road, Shawangunk got a very good price to do their portion. Mr. LoCicero explained that they put in new pipes, ditched, chipped the stumps, cleaned up and now that it has settled, they are scheduled to pave next week. The schedule was held up because there were some contract issues between the contractors involved.

Mr. LoCicero explained that at the beginning of the summer the highway crew ditched and replaced pipes as needed on Red Top Road. They widened and prepared the road with the intention to pave this year. Unfortunately, there are insufficient funds to do the paving this year. He further explained that there are one hundred miles of roads in the Town. The CHIPS funding total \$300,000.00. If he had the funding, he would do all the roads, the money is just not there. Mr. LoCicero explained that it was necessary to spend a great deal of money in the hamlet on a major water issue this year.

Mr. Patella stated he is respectfully requesting that the roads in the poorest condition be the ones that get the attention.

Sunset Trail

Danielle Curylo addressed the Town Board on the condition of Sunset Trail. She stated that she has attended meetings and been inquiring what the plan of action is. She understands the money issues and the delays, but there is a safety issue that exists. She continued to explain that there are forty-three houses on Sunset Trail, which is a dead end road. The catch basins have no grates and she can stand in some of them and it is knee deep. She is fearful for the many children that live on the road and ride their bicycles. Ms. Curylo inquired how it is determined which roads get worked on. She noted that she has seen work being done on Lake Shore Drive. Highway Superintendent LoCicero agreed that the road needs to be completely done over. He further explained that the entire road needs to be re-surveyed. They don't know where the catch basins go, they cannot be used. The Town Engineer needs to go in and re-survey the road and design a plan. The highway crew could come in and place temporary covers on the catch basins.