

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 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 7th **day of November, 2019** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Robert Miller, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Matthew Watkins, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present were Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero and 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

Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 17, 2019.

VOTE: Councilman Watkins, aye, Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman Miller, aye, Supervisor Valk, aye. Councilman Brian Amthor abstain.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings for Special District Assessment Rolls, 2020 Preliminary Budget and Walker Valley Fire Protection District were opened at 7:02 p.m. See Public Hearing Minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

A Public Hearing Notice was received from Town of Gardiner, 10/12/19 Amending Tourism Related Accommodations, A Public Hearing Notice was received from Town of Crawford, 10/23/19 regarding a Solar Array. A SEQRA Notice was received 10/25/19 from the Shawangunk Planning Board regarding Lead Agency Status for CS Energy/Magruder Solar, regarding application for proposed project on Plains Road.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments or questions from the public.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Marlatt reported that along with the Police Committee he recently held interviews for the vacant police officer positions and the dog control vacancy.

Dog Control Officer

Chief Marlatt explained that it was determined the Town should go back to the system of having two dog control officers so there would always be a backup. Mr. Marlatt is recommending that Bruce Anstey and Justin Arnold be hired as part time Dog Control Officers. He explained that Mr. Arnold is a full time corrections officer and is available to cover nights. Mr. Anstey is from the Walker Valley end of town and is available during the day.

A motion was by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to hire Mr. Anesty and Mr. Arnold as part time Dog Control Officers at \$12.79 per hour, as set at the Annual Organizational Meeting for 2019.

Police Officers

Chief Marlatt explained that eight applicants were interviewed for the three part time positions that needed to be filled. Mr. Marlatt is recommending that Klye Weiskittel, Jonathan Lembo and Justin Larchevesque be hired to fill the vacancies. Councilman Miller noted the candidates interviewed were all excellent, but these three stood out. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman Milller to hire these three officers, effective today, at the contract rate of pay.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The Police Officers took the Oath of Office and were sworn in by the Town Clerk.

Equipment Storage

Chief Marlatt reported that the Highway Department has cleaned up the property behind the Police Station. Previously he was looking into a temporary structure to store the equipment and vehicles. He has become aware that a temporary structure may not withstand the snow and not be the best option. He is looking into other options for the structure.

Road Closure

Chief Marlatt reported that the Ulster County Department of Public Works has notified the Town to advise that part of Awosting Road will be closed starting November 12th. The county will be doing some culvert work for a few days.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero reported the following:

Salt has been ordered, there is a small stockpile from last year.

The Drainage Project on Viola Street is working well. He has gone out the last few storms and is happy with the results. A few minor adjustments may have to be made in the future.

Lavoletta and Viola Streets have been blacktopped. In the spring, First and Second Streets will be the first to be blacktopped.

Part of Pleasant Avenue will not be reopened for the winter. The Town Board will need to pass a resolution to close the road for the winter.