

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 5, 2020**

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 **5th day of March, 2020** 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 Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins, and Planning Board Member Richard Barnhart.

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 February 20, 2020.

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

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. Philip Rodriguez spoke to the board about the Comprehensive Plan and possible zoning changes. He explained that he and his wife are opposed to any zoning changes in their neighborhood on Christmas Tree Lane. He further explained that they are supportive of business, but do not want to see any push for agritourism into residential neighborhoods. Supervisor Valk explained that zoning changes have not yet begun. The process is for the Comprehensive Plan to be adopted first. This had not been done as the Town Board was waiting for the Ulster County Planning Board to send their review and comments, which were just received. Supervisor Valk further explained that the first phase of any rezoning will be in the hamlet and river areas, as well as the Gateway zones in Wallkill and Walker Valley. The second phase will be to look at the uses, hopefully before the end of the year. Mr. Rodriguez spoke to the board about reviewing the ads on the Community Calendar. Supervisor Valk explained that a non-profit committee produces the calendar, not the Town. The only involvement the Town has with the calendar is that it's available to residents at the Town Hall.

### **REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES**

#### **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Supervisor Valk explained that although the Highway Superintendent was not present tonight, he had requested approval to attend the Annual Highway Superintendent School in June. Following a brief

discussion, the Town Board agreed that attendance at this school is a benefit. A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Watkins to approve the Highway Superintendent attendance at the Highway Superintendent's Conference in Ithaca.

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

### **POLICE CHIEF**

Chief Marlatt reported the following:

#### **Complaints**

He followed up on a complaint by the soccer field by speaking to the person who filed it. He advised the resident that the Police should be called at the time. So far there has been no complaints lodged. He also spoke to the schools who send fliers and letters to the parents. Chief Marlatt will have patrols go through the area from the second Saturday in April to the third Saturday in June.

In response to complaints of cars running through the stop signs in the CE Penny Drive area, there have Patrols in the area. So far three tickets have been given out. The patrols seem to be helping.

In response to a speed complaint on Grau Road, six patrols were in the area last week. The officers did not find anyone going over the 35 m.p.h. speed limit. Chief Marlatt added, that with the condition of the road, it is difficult to go over 35 m.p.h.

In response to complaints on Buena Vista for speeding and not stopping at signs, out of nineteen patrols, three stops were made, all were residents who were given warnings.

In response to a complaint and concern for safety, Supervisor Valk requested the Chief to check out the stop signs in the Viola Street area.

#### **Dog Control**

In response to the on-going problem with dogs in the DuBois Road area, the Police Department has addressed this many times. The owner has been issued summons, and the matter goes to court. He has spoken to the owner who has agreed to give up two of the dogs. The Dog Control Officer is following up with rescue to learn what the options are. The problem has also created problems with the Town of Montgomery.

He has been in touch with Joyce at the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets who is arranging for training for the Dog Control Officers next month.

#### **Personnel**

A resignation letter from Officer Galeno was received. Chief Marlatt explained that Officer Galeno stayed on as a part time officer when he took a full time job. He now finds it necessary to resign. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman Miller to accept the resignation of Officer Galeno effective March 1, 2020.

Officer Brooks was offered a contingent full time offer of employment. The medical review has been scheduled. It was necessary to call for another list from Ulster County for the other two spots. The county has to put together another list. Once the slots are filled, manpower in the department will be in excellent shape. Supervisor Valk advised that another Civil Service list has been requested from Ulster County.