

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 4, 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 at 14 Central Avenue, Wallkill, NY on the **4th day of June 2020** at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in person and recorded via Zoom.

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 Member Richard Barnhart and Dan Leary, representing NY Solar 100. Wallkill Valley Times Reporter Rachael Coleman joined the meeting via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Valk led the Town Board in a moment of silence and the pledge to the flag. Mr. Valk explained that the meeting was being recorded and will be available to the public to view on our Website and You Tube. Supervisor Valk stated that the next Regular Town Board Meeting which is scheduled on June 18, 2020, will be held in the Town Hall with the public present following the appropriate spacing guidelines.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting held via Zoom

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2020 meeting that was held via Zoom.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Supervisor Valk explained that Mr. Dan Leary was present to address the Town Board with regard to NY Solar/E&L Farms decommissioning cost. Mr. Valk explained that at the last meeting the board members had several questions. He requested the Town Engineer to take another look at the cost estimate and provide an explanation with the reasons behind his decisions. In a letter dated May 22, 2020 Mr. Mihm explained to the Town Board the background of the projects and the reasons for the revised decommissioning cost estimate. Mr. Leary stated that he agrees with the letter. Councilman Watkins stated he was okay with a five year revaluation. Mr. Leary stated that the law provides for the ability to review on an on-going basis if circumstances change, as part of the Special Use Permit and Site Plan approval from the Planning Board. Supervisor Valk questioned the nine acre grading and seeding estimate, but noted that possibly because the erosion looks high, that they may be combined. Councilman Miller inquired about the time they were looking at for the restoration of the site being end of life. Mr. Leary explained that it was around twenty plus or minus years. If a bond were to be approved, it would have to look at 2040-2045. Supervisor Valk added that there would be a review every five years. Councilman Miller inquired if it could be adjusted every five years so it could not fall through the cracks if another board does not look at it. Mr. Miller stated that the Town needs

protection for the residents if the owner were to walk away. There was a lengthy discussion on how to project inflation and build it into a contract. Councilman Amthor stated he would like the increase to be built in now so the developer will come back to the board for revaluation, and it does not slip through the cracks. The revised cost that our engineer is recommending is \$124,079.59, and the schedule could be set up to build in fifteen percent today. For example the first five years, the figure would be \$142,690.54, the next five years would be \$164,099.00, and the third five years would be \$188,714.00 and so on. Following the discussion a motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Watkins to add the fifteen percent in today, subject to fifteen percent being added every five years moving forward which will be in a prepared schedule.

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

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

No report

POLICE CHIEF

Protest March

Chief Marlatt reported that the protest march held today in the hamlet went well. He explained that the leader and the organizer worked well with him to set up a peaceful event. There was proper notification and it was well planned out. Chief Marlatt stated that there were about two hundred protesters and he was pleased with the outcome. Mr. Marlatt explained that this event went through the Hudson Valley Crime Center where the information can be analyzed and shared.

Civil Service

Chief Marlatt explained that the Town is still waiting for Ulster County and the YMCA to open back up prior to finalizing the two full time positions.

Dog Control

Chief Marlatt advised that Dog Control is working out smoothly operating with the one position. As soon as COVID restrictions are lifted, he will get the training.

HIGHWAY

Driveway Bond

Supervisor Valk advised that the Highway Superintendent has approved the release of a driveway bond for Craig Lopez at 633 Oregon Trail. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to release the driveway bond based upon the Highway Superintendent's approval.