

## REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 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 **17th day of September 2020** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Deputy Supervisor Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Robert Miller, Councilman Matthew Watkins, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present was Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero, and Zoning Board member Roger Rascoe. Supervisor Valk was excused.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Deputy Supervisor DeWitt led the Town Board in an extended 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 Amthor to approve the minutes from the September 3, 2020 meeting.

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

### CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from The Town of Shawangunk Planning Board regarding Winter Wonderland Realty on 9/3/20, along with a letter from Judith Pulver regarding parade concerns on 9/11/20, Riverkeeper Sweep regarding clean up on 10/19/20 and Pine Bush Library regarding use of Galeville Park on 10/6/20.

### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

#### **Rail Trail**

Father Mark Kurowski introduced himself to the Town Board. He explained that he is new to the community, having moved here in June. Father Kurowski advised that on June 21<sup>st</sup> he was riding his bike throughout the hamlet and was being stalked by a young man in a car. He proceeded to go to the Rail Trail and rode to Walden. When he arrived at the other end, the young man in the car ambushed him. He assaulted him bad enough that he had to go to the hospital. Not knowing where he was, not having his cell phone with him and with no one was stopping to help him, he got back on his bike and rode the three miles on the Rail Trail back to the Wallkill Police Station for help. Father Kurowski stated that he thought this was an isolated incident, but later found out about other incidents, including one that took place last week when an 82-year-old man was assaulted on the Rail Trail. Father Kurowski stated the reason he was at the meeting was to propose some emergency light alarm system for the Rail Trail.

He stated that he would serve as a citizen on a board to raise funds to see the project through. Father Kurowski inquired if there was a Chamber of Commerce in the Town; and if not, he would be interested in starting one.

Councilman DeWitt advised that one of the obstacles is that the Rail Trail is governed by three governmental bodies, the Village of Walden, the Town of Montgomery and the Town of Shawangunk. Mr. DeWitt stated he would refer this idea to the Police Chief. Mr. Joe Sosler volunteered to help with the Rail Trail. He explained that he previously worked on the trail in Goshen.

Councilman Amthor explained that there was a Chamber of Commerce in the past in the Town. He further explained that prior to COVID, he was working with the New Paltz Chamber to join forces. Councilman Amthor stated that he would appreciate his assistance with the Chamber and agreed to contact Father Kurowski.

### **Blossom & Apple Lane**

Mr. Joe Sosler advised that since the last meeting he has met with John Valk and Joe LoCicero to address the issues. Supervisor Valk will be getting back to Mr. Sosler on the Lighting District. Mr. Sosler explained that he and Joe LoCicero walked the neighborhood and looked at the drainage problem. It was agreed that the work could be done in the spring of 2021. Councilman DeWitt advised that he had gone up and looked at the issues as well. Mr. Sosler questioned the status of the entranceway and if it was the homeowner's responsibility. There was a brief discussion on who owns the property beyond the New York State right of way. Councilman DeWitt stated he thinks the State will clean it up. Highway Superintendent LoCicero stated that he would call the State DOT and request them to clean it up. Councilman DeWitt suggested when a call is placed, that the issue of site distance be stressed. The outstanding issue of the Zombie house still remains unclear. Councilman DeWitt explained that they are in the process of looking at the options.

## **REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES**

### **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero reported the following:

### **Blossom & Apple Lane**

Mr. LoCicero advised that he met with Mr. Joe Sosler and walked the neighborhood, identifying the problems. He explained that last year the crew did some ditching and patching with the money that was available. The drainage issue needs to be resolved; he needs an engineer to draw up a drainage plan. He needs to get the water moving in the right direction; his thought is to pipe the water and tie into the catch basins at Ostrander School. He is in the process of getting permission from the School District. Once he can get the drainage tied in and connected, the crew will grind the road and get it blacktopped. He explained that he wants to do the project correctly and get it done all at once. In the mean time they will fix the potholes and clean up as best they can.