

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 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 **1st day of October 2020** at 7:00 P.M.

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

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. Supervisor Valk expressed his appreciation to the Town Board and Town Clerk for their assistance in covering town matters while he was home with his terminally ill wife.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting

The approval of minutes will be at the October 15, 2020 meeting due to absence of a quorum from the September 17, 2020 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

County Legislative Report

Air B & B's

Legislator Ken Ronk updated the Town Board on the collection of occupancy taxes for Air B & B's in the county. He explained that the tax is collected from the owner if the unit is used less than two weeks at a time. Ulster County has contracted with a company that does data mining. Since the information obtained is from a third party, it can be shared with the municipalities. The Town has signed an intermunicipal agreement and receives the information which can be used for code compliance.

Sales Tax

Mr. Ronk explained that the sales tax has been approved for another five years. The 3% split with the Towns in the County remains the same. The County Executive and City Mayor must re-negotiate the split if the amount raised in 2019 exceeds the level.

Ulster County Budget

The budget has been presented with no tax increase and no layoffs. The County is in a good financial position at this time.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT****Driveway Bond Releases**

Highway Superintendent LoCicero requested the bonds be released for three driveways that were posted. All three were for BENJI Holdings and located at 72, 76 and 80 Bert McCord Drive.

Leaf Pick Up

Mr. LoCicero advised that leaf pick up will be held every Monday in November. The dates are November 2,9,16,23, and 30. Leaves must be in biodegradable bags and should be left at the curbside.

Materials

The department will be picking up 50 Ton of cold patch again this year. They are able to get the material from Peckham for half the price.

POLICE CHIEF/PUBLIC SAFETY**Vehicles**

Chief Marlatt explained that he found out that the quote he got at the end of last year for the new vehicle is still in effect. It is the same exact price as the new bid. The decision that needs to be made is does the Town purchase a 2020 or 2021. With the 2021, there is a sixteen week wait, the 2020 is available at this time. He explained that he was able to shave off \$5,000 in options. The insurance recovery is 40% of the cost. He will have to get the estimate for the installation of the equipment.

School

Chief Marlatt explained that most bus runs are starting on October 5th for four days a week. Monday through Thursday school will be open at 25% capacity. Friday is learning remotely for all students. The S.R.O.'s schedule is moving forward with the four days a week.

Labor Management

Chief Marlatt reported that there is a labor management meeting scheduled for Tuesday.

Halloween

Following a discussion on Halloween, the Town Board agreed that the hours for Trick or Treating will be held as usual, from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to hold Halloween as discussed.

VOTE: Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman Amthor, aye, Supervisor Valk, aye. Councilmen Miller and Watkins were absent.

WATER & SEWER

No report.

PARKS

Councilman DeWitt reported that the chlorine tank at Verkeerderkill Park has sprung a leak. D.J. Henry went up and by-passed the tank. The tank will need to be replaced next year for summer camp.

RECREATION**Halloween**

Councilman DeWitt reported that after careful consideration he has come to the conclusion that the Halloween parades and contests just cannot be held this year. In the past the Town has teamed up with businesses, groups and fire companies to hold festivities at each end of town. Mr. Garrison from Walker Valley contacted him about holding the Trunk or Treat. After discussing alternatives back and forth, it was agreed that a Trunk or Treat Drive Thru could safely be held at Verkeerderkill Park. Mr. DeWitt explained that the cars could be spread out 15 to 20' apart which would provide for safe distancing. The rest rooms would not be open. The hours could be from noon to 4 p.m. The Fire Company may be willing to help out with directing the cars through the park. There are some outstanding details to be worked out, but he recommends partnering with Mr. Garrison to provide for a safe Halloween event. Councilman DeWitt reported that the Lions Club contacted him to discuss the possibility of having a Drive Through candy hand out at Popp Park. The event could be held with two lanes similar to their take-out dinner. The members handing out the candy would be wearing masks and gloves and all candy would be pre-bagged. The event would be held on the 31st from 5 to 7 p.m. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve both Halloween events for this year.

VOTE: Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman Amthor, aye, Supervisor Valk, aye. Councilmen Watkins and Miller were absent.

SIDEWALKS/LIGHTING

Councilman Amthor distributed a list of sidewalks that need attention. He discussed focusing on necessary repairs and fixing the hazards with blacktop this year. Those areas are the corner of Orchard Street and Pleasant Avenue, corner of Cottage Street and Berry Street, DuBois Street and Crittenden Street. The areas that need concrete are the corner of First and Wallkill Avenue to First and Lavoletta Street, Wallkill Avenue between the bank and #29 Wallkill Avenue, and the corner of Main Street and Wallkill Avenue towards The Chocolate Store and Barbershop, which will be held off until next year. Councilman Amthor explained that he is getting three prices and will go with the lowest bidder. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to complete the areas listed as hazards with the lowest bidder at this time. The sidewalks needing concrete will be completed next year.

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