

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 10, 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 **10th day of December 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 Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt and Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins. Wallkill Valley Times Reporter Connor Linskey was in attendance.

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.

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 November 19, 2020.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Notice of Public Hearing – Town of Wawarsing received 12/3/2020

Letter from B & M Vukel – Mount Valley Road received 12/4/2020

Supervisor Valk advised that he called the Vukel's and explained why the Town cannot consider their request to lower the speed limit.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Red Top Road

Mr. Sal Patella addressed the Town Board. He introduced his wife Angela and several neighbors. Mr. Patella advised that he has brought to the attention of the Highway Superintendent the condition of Red Top Road several times and has received no response. He recently filled in a pothole himself. The road continues to deteriorate. He realizes that Red Top Road is a dead-end road and is not a priority, but they travel it every day, sometimes several times a day. Mr. Patella stated that many other roads in the town were re-surfaced which were not in as bad of a shape as their road. He stated he is here tonight to get an answer as to when the road will get some attention.

Mrs. Angela Patella stated she has done some research and found that the road has not been resurfaced in at least fifteen years. At this point, it is a safety issue. She bent a rim on her car because of the

condition. Mr. Ken Bell stated that there is no surface left on the road. Supervisor Valk agreed that it has been a long time since the road was paved, at least twenty years.

Highway Superintendent LoCicero stated that he is well aware of the condition of Red Top Road. He explained that there is just no money to resurface it. He will send the crew out to patch what can be patched. When the figures for the CHIPS money are released, he can address it further. Mrs. Patella questioned what the criteria was in deciding what roads get worked on. Mr. LoCicero explained it depends what is needed; blacktop or tar & chip, how bad the condition of the road is and the use of the most traveled. Mr. LoCicero further explained that the roads in the hamlet were a priority to him. They have not been paved since the 1950's. He further explained that when he makes the decision to spend money on a road, he likes to do everything, ditching, widening and pipes, so he doesn't have to come back. Mr. LoCicero explained that the Town lost \$60,000 in funding from the Governor this year and has no idea, with the COVID situation, what the Town will get. He explained that there is over one hundred miles of road in the Town. There are other roads in worse shape that need to get fixed before Red Top Road. There are so many roads that need help but the money is just not there. Mrs. Patella explained that they understand but just want to be heard. They appreciate whatever can be done. Mr. LoCicero confirmed that he will send the crew out to do some patching. He would like to get the Town Engineer out to look at the road and do the project correctly. In the spring, they will try to do what they can.

Lions Club

Mr. Sal Patella reported to the Town Board that due to COVID they have decided not to do the ice-skating rink at Popp Park. He said the Curling Tournament has been canceled. Mr. Patella further explained that if the Town Board wanted them to put the ice rink in for the public, they would. Supervisor Valk thanked the Lions Club for all the work they do for the community. He also thanked them for helping with the holiday wreaths this year.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor's Report for November 2020 was received.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk Report for November 2020 for \$25,261.63 was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent LoCicero reported the following:

With the recent rain, there were some issues on Birchwood Drive and Vinegar Hill Road. There was some damage which will require some changes and additional pipes.

One of the issues is the public blows leaves into the ditches which end up clogging the drains. When we get heavy rains, it creates flooding. Supervisor Valk suggested that a public service announcement should be considered to prohibit this in the future.

Received a shipment of salt. The price came in \$20.00 a ton cheaper than expected.