

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 30, 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 **30th day of December 2020** at 4:00 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 was Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 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 December 10, 2020.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There was no one present from the public.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent LoCicero reported the following:

In reviewing the budget, it looks like it's in good shape with all the lines being in the black after the bills were paid. It was anticipated that a budget transfer would have been necessary to cover the \$30,000 for the purchase of salt, but as it turned out, it was not necessary because the price for the salt was only \$10,000.

Since the price of salt dropped, he will be placing an order next week. He will also be ordering the stone dust from Grosso Materials at that time.

The mechanical bills for the trucks after the recent snowstorm are starting to arrive. There were multiple breakdowns. The department is now down two small trucks.

He has obtained prices for a one-ton truck. There is a truck at Gabriello (formally Glick) which is on New York City bid, and cheaper than state bid. He is obtaining another price.

Supervisor Valk reported that he is looking at financing options for the loader with the first payment coming due in 2022. The lease is not favorable, at 4%. The price for the loader is \$161,000, with \$15-1800 allocated for the bonding council. The loader was not built into the 2022 budget and is in stock. Councilman DeWitt inquired about a plan for purchases. Councilman Miller agreed that a plan is needed to determine what will be spent in the future from year to year. He suggested that a spreadsheet with the condition of the trucks be submitted. Supervisor Valk advised that Robin provides an inventory each year and suggested Mr. LoCicero utilize that to submit a spreadsheet with a long-term plan. He inquired if an equipment plan for replacement can be submitted next week. Mr. LoCicero agreed that he would submit a plan.

There was a discussion on gas versus diesel as well as types of trucks. It was agreed that these things need to be explored prior to any purchases.

POLICE CHIEF/PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Valk reported that Chief Marlatt was out of town. Mr. Valk reported that the two officers that were scheduled for their medicals have passed. A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Amthor to hire Curt McDermott and Joseph Butor as full-time police officers starting February 1, 2021.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Supervisor Valk discussed the need to schedule a meeting with the Police Reform Commission that was formed. He advised that were two citizens appointed to work with the chief and the Police Committee. One committee member, Mr. Spencer, has started working on policies.

WATER & SEWER

Supervisor Valk explained that the five- year contract with Environmental Consultants was up for renewal this year. He further explained that the Town Attorney had previously reviewed the contract. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Watkins to authorize the Supervisor to sign the five- year contract with Environmental Consultants.

VOTE: ALL AYE

PARKS

Supervisor Valk advised that the water at Galeville Park had froze and will be an additional expense in the spring.

RECREATION

No report.

SIDEWALKS/LIGHTING

No report.

RESOURCE RECOVERY

Transfer Station

Councilman Watkins inquired if the Fire Department would be willing to fill the plastic barriers when they are brought into the Transfer Station. Superintendent LoCicero confirmed that they would fill the barriers. Mr. Watkins advised that the electronics are backed up again. The Highway Department has been working with Steve at the Transfer Station. He would like to consider sea containers for storing the tires and electronics. Councilman Miller will check on the containers. There was a discussion on options for fencing and cleaning up the area.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Valk explained that the current Building Inspector is out of the office for an extended period of time. He is proposing to hire Craig Ross as a part time Fire/Code/Building Inspector. Mr. Ross has all of the required classes to hold this position. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to hire Craig Ross for this position beginning January 1, 2021, with a starting salary of \$19.00 per hour.

VOTE: ALL AYE

BUILDINGS

Supervisor Valk advised that there was a sewer back up at the Police Station. It required to be jetted out to resolve the back up.

COMPUTERS

No report.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sloan Court Access

Supervisor Valk advised that the Town Attorney needs to draw up a letter to start the process with the sale of this property.