

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 3, 2021

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 **3rd day of June 2021** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Robert Miller and Matthew Watkins were excused. Also, present were Police Chief Gerry Marlatt and Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins.

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 DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 20, 2021.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from the Town of Montgomery regarding a Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan on 6/3/21, Town of Wawarsing regarding a Public Hearing on Zoning Changes on 6/17/21, and a letter was received from E & L Garvey regarding Special Use Permit Fees on 5/25/21.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Eagle Scout Project

Nevin Cannistra presented his finished project to the Town Board. Nevin is a Life Scout in Boy Scout Troop 1002 of Pine Bush. Nevin explained that his project was the rehabilitation of Elleison's Chapel Cemetery located at Mountain and Redder Roads. He explained that his goal was to honor the two civil war veterans that are buried there. He cleaned up the property by trimming and rebuilding the rock walls, replacing the old fence, erecting a sign at the entranceway, and building a bench for visitors. He cleaned the gravestones and collected those in multiple pieces. He discovered that there was a total of five graves located in the cemetery. Along with the veteran, his family members were also buried there. Nevin presented a photo board and photo book with before and after pictures. He requested Supervisor Valk sign his papers of release now that the project was completed. He requested that the Town add this property to its maintenance roster. Supervisor Valk stated that they will add this cemetery to the list. He inquired when Nevin's Court of Honor will be taking place. Nevin shared that there is not a date

as of yet, but it will probably be in the fall and he will advise the Town Board when the date is scheduled. The Town Board and the audience thanked Nevin for his accomplishment and applauded him for a job well done.

Police Reform Committee

Mrs. Adrienne Perine inquired if the Town Board was familiar with a video that caught her attention on Facebook regarding a situation that took place last year on Bruyn Turnpike. There are claims of harassment that took phone calls to the Ulster County Sheriff to get attention. Ms. Perine stated that she feels this issue needs to be referred to the Police Reform Committee. The Town Police should have been taking the claims of ridicule and harassment seriously. Councilman Brian Amthor stated he was familiar with the situation and wanted to clarify that Police Chief Marlatt did bring in outside agencies to look at how his department handled the case. Councilman Amthor stated that Facebook videos and posts have been escalating the situation. He suggested waiting for Police Chief Marlatt to arrive so he could explain the on-going situation.

Memorial Day Parade

Mrs. Adrienne Perine stated that she attended the Memorial Day Parade which was a wonderful event. She suggested that it was not well attended because there was not enough advertising. Supervisor Valk stated that one of the reasons was the High School Band was not able to play this year, therefore many parents did not attend. He also stated that it was better than last year, when the parade could not be held due to COVID.

United Sherpa Association

Ms. Tshering Sherpa, President of United Sherpa Association approached the Town Board and introduced members of her association that were present. Ms. Sherpa explained that they purchased land at 184 River Road last year. Due to COVID, they were not able to have an event on the property last year. They wish to hold a fourth of July celebration this year. They are here tonight to inquire if a permit is necessary. They would have under four hundred people attend the event. Ms. Sherpa explained that they have the Walden Temple on Route 208 but need guidance because they are new in this town. Supervisor Valk explained that a permit is not needed if there would be under five hundred people in attendance. Ms. Sherpa distributed the non-profit organization's journals with a plot plan of the property showing the location where the event will take place. She stated that since they are expecting 50-60 cars, they have requested to rent the parking lot at Popp Park. They will have a sound system, and the hours of the celebration are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will bus the guests to the property. The Town Board was provided an agenda for the celebration and invited them to attend the event. Ms. Sherpa stated they just want to be aware of any rules the town may have. Supervisor Valk advised that as long as the event was kept under five hundred people, and they talk to the Police Chief about the traffic and noise, they should have no problems.