

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 7, 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 7th day of October 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Matthew Watkins, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Robert Miller was excused. Also, present was Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Member Alex Danon, Deputy Highway Superintendent and Highway Superintendent Elect Rich Blazeski and several members of the community.

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 – September 16, 2021

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 16, 2021.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Rotary Club & Lions Club Presentation – Dick Parker Memorial Award

Supervisor Valk explained that Mr. Garrison had previously approached the Town Board about conducting a recognition program for distinguished members of the community. This year they would like to present the Dick Parker Memorial Award. Mr. Bob Garrison, and Mr. Will Farrel, representing the Southern Rotary Club, and Mr. Sal Patella, representing the Wallkill Lions Club presented a plaque to the Parker family. Mrs. Carole Parker and Mr. Darren Parker were present to accept the award. Mr. Parker thanked everyone present and advised that the Parker family will continue to be supportive of the community. Supervisor Valk explained that the plaque will be hung in the lobby of Town Hall. The award will be presented each year to a deserving member of the community.

Mr. Garrison advised the Town Board that the Rotary Club has replaced six plaques on the benches along the Rail Trail. Supervisor Valk and the Town Board members thanked the Rotary Club for their contributions.

Lions Club

Mr. Sal Patella, President of the Wallkill Lions Club updated the Town Board on the club activities.

Holiday Wreaths

Mr. Patella explained that the bulbs were purchased for the holiday wreaths. They will make arrangements to replace any bulbs that are needed prior to hanging the wreaths this holiday season.

Storage Trailer

The Lion's Club has been in communications with the Wallkill Fire Department with regard to the storage trailer they currently have at the Transfer Station. Mr. Patella further explained that with the new firehouse, they will not have a use for the storage trailer and they are willing to transfer the ownership to the Lions Club. Mr. Patella inquired if the trailer can remain at the Transfer Station with access for their members. By having this storage option, they will not have to pursue the prior idea of locating a storage container at Popp Park. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that the Town Board has no objections and Councilman Watkins will discuss a better location at the Transfer Station for the trailer.

Rail Trail

Mr. Patella reported that they have done some work on the Rail Trail, with more to be done. Supervisor Valk stated that the Highway Department mower needs to go through and do the trimming.

Curling Tournament

Mr. Patella reported that they have not been able to hold the tournament the last two years, once due to weather and the last year due to COVID. They plan on moving forward this coming February with the curling tournament and hope to expand the activities this year.

Noise

Mr. Andy Ghiorse stated that after reviewing the Town Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Law, he is of the opinion that language is built in to protect the residents and their quality of life. The Town Code addresses amplified sound in Section 177, under public sound. He stated that the Agri-Business venues can be handled by the Police or Code Enforcement Officer. It addresses closed events and Special Use Permits. He feels it covers indoor and outdoor noise. He suggests that the Town Board re-define what these businesses are, as they are not defined in the zoning. Under Special Use Permits, pertaining to noise, it takes three property owners to file a complaint. He feels this is unfair as any amplified noise off the property line is not acceptable.

Mr. Paul Mader advised that there is a problem with noise. He has neighbors to run heavy equipment at all hours of the night, he has neighbors who burn all night. Mr. Mader feels the Town Board should consider some type of ordinance after certain hours, for example after 9 or 10 p.m. at night. He stated that he moved away from Queens where these were problems and it is starting here in Shawangunk.

Mr. Jay Lenny, who is a neighbor agreed with Mr. Mader's comments. He stated his children can't sleep at night with the heavy machinery and the burning.

Ms. Marie Wilkin stated that she supports these views. On River Road there is shooting that makes a lot of noise, there are fireworks that disturb the neighbors and pets. This noise travels across the river. She is in support of a noise ordinance. Supervisor Valk explained that it is difficult to enforce the issue of fireworks. By the time the police respond they are done. It is difficult to enforce. He further explained that he is not dismissing these suggestions, but some people just don't care. A Boy Scout who is working on his merit badge, inquired if the Town Board had any solutions to fix this community