

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 4, 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, Walkill, NY on the **4th day of November 2021** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Matthew Watkins, and Deputy Town Clerk Dale Weed. Also, present were Councilman Elect Alex Danon, and Police Chief Gerry Marlatt. Councilman Miller was absent.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2021, the Public Hearings & Special Meeting held on October 14, 2021, and the Regular Meeting held on October 21, 2021.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Notice of Public Hearing from the Town of Gardiner for Short Term Rentals on 11/9/21, and Notice from the Town of Montgomery on Zoning Amendments on 11/4/21 were received.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings for the 2022 Preliminary Budget and the Tentative Special District Assessment Rolls were opened at 7:05 p.m. See Public Hearings Minutes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Cannabis Survey

A resident spoke about the survey on the Town Website. He felt the question about political party should not have been on the survey.

Mr. Decker commented on how the survey was presented. He said the Town Board should have had a professional service do the survey. He also stated a lot of people don't know about the survey. A mailing should have gone out, or robo calls should have been made.

Another resident suggested that text reminders also are a good way to get the information to the people.

Mr. Mantello stated the Town could lose business to neighboring towns if the Town Board opts out. He feels that when dispensaries are here more people will come to town and shop.

Supervisor Valk stated that the Town Board is leaning toward opting out of allowing marijuana shops in the Town which could buy the Town Board additional time to gain more information from the State. The Town Board will then hold a Public Hearing to consider additional opinions from the residents.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Gerry Marlatt reported the following:

The PBA members voted to get Class A uniforms at no cost to the Town.

The Police Officers are participating in "No Shave November". Donations will be made to local food pantries.

The plow has been installed on the ATV for the winter.

The Drop Box is ready to be installed at Town Hall.

They still do not have the ammunition that was ordered in the spring. It may arrive in the spring of 2022. Some of the ammunition was ordered from the New Jersey State Bid so they have enough for the qualifications of the officers for this year.

Chief Marlatt explained how the shifts work.

They will be attending the ceremony for Pete Mule on November 6, 2022. Mr. Mule is receiving the Liberty Medal.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Joe LoCicero submitted a request for a Driveway Bond to be released for the Blythe property at 161 River Road. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Watkins to release the Driveway Bond for the Blythe's.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Discussed under Police Chief

WATER & SEWER

No report.

PARKS

Councilman DeWitt reported that the restrooms are closed at Verkeerderkill Park. The restrooms at Galeville Park have been winterized.

SIDEWALKS/LIGHTING

No report.

RECREATION

Halloween

Councilman DeWitt reported that both events that were held, one in Walkkill and the other at Verkeerderkill Park, were well attended and enjoyed by all.

Winter Recreation

Councilman DeWitt reported that the Winter Recreation Program is being considered for this winter. Further discussions are taking place as it is possible that the district may not allow the use of the school.

RESOURCE RECOVERY

No report.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Valk advised that interviews must be scheduled for the following positions:

- Building Inspector
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Planning Board

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to hold interviews on Tuesday, November 6, 2021 at 6 p.m.

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

BUILDINGS

Supervisor Valk reported that a new roof on the back of the Walker Valley Schoolhouse has been completed. The Town purchased the materials and the labor was donated.

COMPUTERS

No report.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

ENVIROMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISISON

Supervisor Valk explained that the EMC has recruited someone from Cornell Cooperative Extension to assist with the Climate Smart Project. The Supervisor further explained that he must send a letter to request this support.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	19	749-791	\$ 42,626.67
HIGHWAY	19	365-380	\$ 55,792.96
WATER	19	123-130	\$ 8,439.33
SEWER	19	190-195	\$ 19,130.45
TRUST & AGENCY	16	75-78	\$ 3,697.50

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor that the claims be paid as audited.

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

TENATIVE SPECIAL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT ROLLS

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to close the Public Hearing for the Special District Assessment Rolls. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:59 p.m. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to adopt the rates for the Special Districts for 2022.

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