

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 5, 2022

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 **5th day of May 2022** at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Robert Miller, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Building Inspector Robert Wallner, and several members of the public.

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 Miller and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 21, 2022.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter and Notice of Public Hearing to be held on May 19, 2022 was received from the Town of Montgomery regarding Zoning Amendments.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Pleasant Avenue

Mr. Valiant Jones from 56 Pleasant Avenue introduced himself to the Town Board. Mr. Jones explained that he has owned his home for four years. He feels the highway system has provided him a disservice. He is \$6,000.00 in the hole since the new road got put in. Mr. Jones explained that the height of the road that was installed floods out his house. Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that he has discussed this issue with Mr. Jones and has a few thoughts on how to divert the water. Supervisor Valk inquired about a pipe that may be plugged going to the drainage ditch, which is something that has happened in the past. Mr. Valk explained that the road was built by the developer. Mr. Jones stated that he can't continue to talk about this and needs action now. In the last four to five months, he has lost over \$5,000.00 and needs an answer now. Supervisor Valk reported that he was contacted by another resident on this street who has requested a street light, but has not heard of this issue. Councilman DeWitt and Highway Superintendent Blazeski will do a site visit of this property following the meeting.

Brimstone Hill Road

Ms. Jean Marie Zawojski introduced herself to the Town Board and stated she was here tonight to discuss the condition of Brimstone Hill Road. She submitted various photographs of Brimstone Hill Road and explained that many areas flood and are broken up. The plows have damaged the road further because of the condition. Ms. Zawojski stated that this road should have been addressed years ago. It is a shortcut and has a lot of traffic that travels through. She has been there nineteen years and the only thing that has been done to the road is some patching. Ms. Zawojski inquired where all the stimulus money is and why can't it be used on roads. Supervisor Valk explained that there are restrictions on what the stimulus money can be used for; infrastructure is one of the approved uses. Ms. Zawojski suggested the Town Board needs to do the right thing by the taxpayers. She stated she is willing to pay more in taxes if the Town Board would approve getting the roads fixed. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained that he is trying to work on Brimstone Hill, Quannacut and Pirog Roads on this end of town. He has a plan to ditch and limb this year and next year complete the roads. He further explained that in the highway budget it's hard to follow the 2% tax cap; it just does not work for the highway system. Supervisor Valk explained that Ulster County just does not share the sales tax revenue that Orange County does. Councilman Miller explained that the roads are the duties of the Highway Superintendent; the Town Board has no control over the roads. Ms. Zawojski suggested that the elected officials in the town should get the money the town is entitled to get. Supervisor Valk explained that the Town Board tries hard to do this. He stated that the level of cooperation has been excellent between the Town Board and Superintendent Blazeski.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported the following:

284 Agreement was distributed and discussed. Roads to be worked on in Phase I are, Bruyn Turnpike, Kings Lane, Old Hoagerburgh Road, Schrempp Lane & Schrempp Lane Extension.

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adopt Phase I of the 284 Agreement as submitted. When the CHIPS funding is released and the final numbers are known, more work may be done in Phase II.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Mr. Blazeski explained that he is waiting for Gorman to advise of the oil and chip prices.

He has inquired with another company for the fog and crack seal, which will all have to be done the same day. The price is \$48,000.00.

He would like to hold off on surplusizing the F350 Truck until the body on the replacement truck can be sandblasted.

Town Engineer has the elevations on the River Road Bridge and is working on a plan to redesign the box culvert.

Met with DEC on Ulsterville Road to discuss erosion control. The plans will be forthcoming. The estimated amount of rock that is necessary for stabilization is 250-300 tons.