

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 14, 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 **14th July 2022 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Robert Miller, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Danon was excused. 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 June 16, 2022.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Town of Shawangunk Planning Board on 6/8/22 regarding Donnelly Positive Declaration, Town of Montgomery Notice of Solar Siting Public Hearing on 7/7/22, Pine Bush Fire District Notice of Special Meeting on 7/26/22, Ulster County Municipal Sewer & Water Grant Program on 7/7/22.

DICK PARKER AWARD PRESENTATION

Supervisor Valk explained that Mr. Bob Garrison, representing the Southern Ulster Rotary Club, approached the Town Board several months ago with the idea of starting a program to recognize members of the community for their volunteerism. The award was inspired by the long-time dedication of community service by Mr. Parker. It was agreed that on a quarterly basis, the Town Board would nominate a resident for this award.

Councilman Amthor explained that without hesitation there was mutual agreement by the Town Board and the Southern Ulster Rotary Club that the resident who most stood out for her community service was Joanne Warren. Mr. Amthor further explained that the plaque would be hung in the lobby of the Town Hall. Councilman Amthor and the Town Board presented a plaque to Ms. Warren as the third quarter recipient of the Dick Parker Award for her faithful service to the community.

Supervisor Valk added that not only does Joanne plant and water flowers each year by the Rail Trail, the

triangle at the intersection, and various other locations in town, she is also receiving the Local Champions Award from the Climate Smart Committee this year. Mr. Garrison was present to offer his congratulations. Ms. Warren thanked the Town Board and photographs were taken of the presentation.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Climate Smart Committee

Joanne Warren advised the Town Board that along with her work on the Climate Smart Committee, a liaison from the Town Board needs to be appointed. Supervisor Valk agreed to appoint that person shortly.

Kobbs Korner Road

Peter & Joyce Hamblin from 14 Kobbs Korner Road inquired with the Town Board what the property behind theirs was zoned for. They inquired if it was agricultural zoning. Supervisor Valk explained that it was a RA Zone and explained the allowable uses. Mr. Hamblin advised that he was told by the Town that it was residential. Mr. Valk further explained that he believes it is in the Ridge zone and farming can take place if it is a legitimate agricultural operation. He further explained that New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets makes those determinations. Mr. Hamblin expressed his frustration that he can't get answers. Building Inspector Robert Wallner confirmed that the building permits for the property in question are all in order. Mrs. Hamblin questioned how could that have been done so quickly.

Following a brief recess, Mrs. Hamblin returned to the meeting to share an email she received from the Building Inspector. At that time, he advised them that they should file a formal complaint. Mrs. Hamblin explained that the property owners are using a shed as a meeting place on a private dead end road. She explained that tractor trailers go up and down the road, which is infringing on their life. She further explained that at 5:15 a.m. one morning they awoke to cement trucks going up and down the road. After the seventh truck, they called to question specifics about the permit for the house that was under construction. That is when she learned that the shed and barn were also on the permit. The permits were expired, and the barn that was built is now bigger than their house. They have meetings twice a week from 6-9:30 p.m. with cars going up and down the road. She does not feel this is right, and if the Town Board can't do anything about it, she will be getting a lawyer. Mrs. Hamblin further explained that she has called the town and is documenting all of the activities occurring on the property. Mrs. Hamblin explained the issues they are having to live with. She further explained that the dust and traffic on the road is making their life impossible. They have lived there for twenty years and never had to deal with these types of problems.

Zoning, allowable uses, and inspections were discussed. Police Chief Marlatt explained that the goal of the town is to get people to come into compliance. The private road and shared driveways were discussed. Mrs. Hamblin inquired why the Clagg's were allowed to burn during the state burn ban. She stated that they are destroying her life. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained that because he is a farmer, he knows that according to New York State Ag & Markets, farmers are allowed to burn during the ban as this regulation supersedes the burn ban. The procedures regarding the main residence and accessory buildings were reviewed. It was discussed that someone can live in a travel trailer for 180