

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 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 **15th of December 2022 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor John Valk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Alex Danon, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Adrian DeWitt and Councilman Robert Miller were absent. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Building Inspector Robert Wallner, Zoning Board Member Ryan Reid, 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

The approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 1, 2022 were tabled as there were only two board members present eligible to vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Public Hearing notices were received 12/8/22 from the Town of Montgomery regarding Local Law #7 and Local Law #8 to be held on January 24, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING – INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #7 of 2022 – HAMLET OF WALKKILL GATEWAY

Supervisor Valk opened the Public Hearing. He explained that this proposed law is less restrictive than the current law. The area is expanded by 250 feet south of Route 208. Copies of the proposed law were available. Supervisor Valk opened up the hearing for public comment.

See Public Hearing Minutes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Climate Smart Planning Assessment

Stephanie Herbstritt joined the Town Board meeting by Zoom. Ms. Herbstritt explained that she has been working with program partners, EMC Chairman Dave Haldeman, Joann Warren and Town Board member Alex Danon. She is prepared to share the results of the New York Climate Smart Communities Program. The framework of the Watershed Resiliency Project was discussed. She explained that the Town of Shawangunk is working toward reaching the Bronze Level. Ms. Herbstritt reviewed the points that have been earned and the areas that will be worked on. She explained that the program is based on points and those points will be useful to the Town when applying for grants. Ms. Herbstritt will

research the average timeframes involved in completing the points in relation to the documentation and grant application process.

Short Term Rentals

Mr. Dyer Halpern explained to the Town Board that he represents a group who is open and willing to work with the Town Board on the Short-Term Rental law. Mr. Halpern supplied his contact information with Supervisor Valk who will be in touch with him.

Resource Recovery

Mr. Andy Ghiorse advised the Town Board that he has been appointed to the Resource Recovery Board. Supervisor Valk explained that Andy started the Recycling Program in the Town over thirty years ago. Mr. Ghiorse reported that he will be focused on getting deposit cans out of the waste stream. Councilman Danon stated that the Climate Smart Committee will be reaching out to Mr. Ghiorse for his expertise.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The November Supervisor's Report was received.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for November 2022 for \$97,646.57 was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Projects

Stein Road

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that there is progress on the Stein Road project. He has received an estimate of \$50,000.00. The Ulster County Department of Public Works is willing to drive the sheet shoring for the Town. The Engineer has determined that forty sheets are needed. Mr. Blazeski discussed the process that has been recommended.

Valley View Drive

Mr. Blazeski explained that the property has not been surveyed or staked out as of yet. The Town Engineer has advised that the survey crew is three to four months out before they could get out to survey it. Central Hudson refuses to hook up electric until this is done. Discussions are on-going, and he is hoping to get this accomplished soon.

Driveway Permits

Mr. Blazeski explained that he has reviewed the Town of Crawford driveway law and application. He has spoken to Mr. Hoyt, and the new process will be clearly defined.

Vehicles

Mr. Blazeski reported that he has quotes for the tandem axle truck and the boom mower. The chassis won't be available until the end of 2023 with the body to be installed in 2024. Mr. Blazeski explained that a letter of intent is needed so he can proceed. Supervisor Valk requested the information be submitted so the Town Board can discuss and approve at the December 28th end of the year meeting.

POLICE CHIEF

Vehicles

Police Chief Marlatt reported that he has been following up on the 2022 car order with a new company. There are a few changes with the paint that he has no issues with. The specifications were given today, and he is waiting for a response. He is still looking for the 2023 car. Supervisor Valk advised that the money is in the budget for both the 2022 and 2023 cars. He requested the updated information be provided at the next Town Board meeting.

LIASION TO HIGHWAY

Discussed under Highway Superintendent.

LIASION TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Discussed under Police Chief.

WATER & SEWER

No report.

PARKS

Supervisor Valk reported that he has learned about a matching Ulster County Grant available for up to \$100,000. The grant would be matched by the Town of Shawangunk. He will pursue applying for the grant for a handicap dock at Popp Park.

SIDEWALKS/LIGHTING

No report.

RECREATION

No report.

TRANSFER STATION

Supervisor Valk reported that the containers were moved to the Transfer Station and placed in the prepared locations. Police Chief Marlatt reported that he was able to get a pallet jack for use at the Transfer Station. Supervisor Valk reported that the closed Landfill did not get mowed this year and will need to get mowed next year.