

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 6, 2023

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 **6th day of July 2023, 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 Alex Danon was absent. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk/ZBA Secretary Kathy Ebbrell, County Legislator Ken Ronk, and several members of the public. See Sign In Sheet.

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 15, 2023.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

New York Citizens Audit

Roni DeSantis spoke to the Town Board about passing a resolution in support of an audit of the 2022 general election. She explained that she provided a report entitled "A Study in Deficits" which outlined irregularities in an audit done by a citizens group who analyzed 21 million records of data from the 2020 elections. Ms. DeSantis stated that the 2022 election was conducted using the same voter rolls. She further explained that as a resident she is proposing the Town Board pass a resolution for an Audit of NY State 2022 General Election. Ms. DeSantis stated that this resolution would help the group get the audit accomplished.

Nikki Simon introduced herself as a resident of the hamlet and backs up what Roni DeSantis discussed. Ms. Simon spoke of the discrepancies regarding the Ulster County voter rolls and duplicate I.D. numbers. Ms. Simon advised that her source of information was obtained from the Ulster County Voter Rolls.

Karen Ambrasetti joined the group to request the Town Board pass this resolution. Ms. Ambrasetti shared that the data they base their request is the New York State Voter Data. A NYS Voter ID number is issued to only one voter, yet there are 2.4 million ID numbers attached to 1.1 million residents. She explained that their groups asking for help across the United States. The number of votes must equal the voters. This is a moral issue. She requested the Town Board to look at the facts and agree to support the audit. Councilman Miller inquired who conducts the audit. Ms. Ambrasetti stated that it

would have to be Independent. Councilman Miller suggested that he is supportive but this may work better with the audit being from New York State. Ms. Ambrasetti explained that there are Cyber Security Experts that need to look at the complex system. She indicated that the problem exists when the county reports the results to the state. Police Chief Marlatt suggested that the simple answer would be Voter I.D.

Jose`

Mr. Jose` stated he is a concerned citizen and supports the audit. He read a statement and explained that this request is a petition on the local level for their first amendment rights. He is requesting that the Town Board stand with them.

Roni DeSantis stated that she has conducted various audits and the extent of this audit is overwhelming. The group can request the audit, but it needs to be known that they want it done. Supervisor Valk thanked the group for their presentation.

Parkview House Car Show

Mr. Dan Grove requested permission to use Garrison Park and town streets for the fifth Annual Parkview House Car Show to be held on August 5, 2023. Mr. Grove introduced Craig Ross, who will be handling the safety of the parking and the security of the show. Supervisor Valk added that a portion of the proceeds from this show go to charities. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Amthor to grant permission for the use of the park and streets provided the appropriate insurance was provided. Mr. Grove agreed that he will provide the insurance, additionally insuring the town, as he has always done in the past.

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

County Legislator Report

Mr. Ken Ronk reported that Ulster County announced that the Town of Shawangunk was awarded the \$100,000.00 Park Grant applied for.

Stein Road

Ms. Jackie Muskulus inquired about any updates on the Stein Road project. Highway Superintendent Blazeski advised that he is still waiting for estimates from the borings that were taken by the Town Engineer. Supervisor Valk suggested details may have been delayed with regard to a contract with the town. He asked Mr. Blazeski give the engineer a call.

Town Board Meetings

Andy Ghiorse inquired if the Town Board ever considered live streaming their meetings. He explained that this would be a way for people to view the meetings and be in touch with issues. Supervisor Valk suggested that the Town Board could discuss the live streaming.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor's Report for May 2023 was received.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for May 2023 for \$42,392.04 was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported the following:

Vehicles

The two new single axle trucks are here. One is at Arkel Motors and the other at the Highway Garage.

Projects**Brimstone Hill Road**

The paving of Brimstone Hill Road is scheduled for mid-July.

Cooper Road

Making progress on the project.

Steen/Red Mills/Watchtower

Borings will be done tomorrow to determine the base of Steen Road. The project is scheduled to start on August 12, 2023.

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Vehicles

Chief Marlatt distributed a report listing the vehicles, year, mileage and usage of each. Chief Marlatt added that the 2016 school vehicle is not on the list. He reported that he received the estimate from Strictly Ford for a used motor at a cost of \$5,000.00. The motor has 74,000 miles on it. Chief Marlatt is recommending not to replace the motor and surplus the vehicle. Mr. Marlatt advised that the 2013 Dog Control vehicle has 115,000 miles, is not running, and has mold contamination. He is recommending that the vehicle be surplus. Chief Marlatt is requesting that the Town Board explore purchasing a second vehicle with the leftover money from the 2023 vehicle. He added that the Volvo flatbed could also be added to the surplus list when eligible to raise additional money. Councilman Miller inquired if there is availability for another vehicle. Chief Marlatt stated that yes, there is one ready to go at the same price with the warranty. Mr. Miller recommended that the Chief work with the Supervisor to determine how to find the money to make the purchase. Supervisor Valk agreed to research financing