

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 4, 2024

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 **4th day of April 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joseph LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Members Richard Barnhart, Patricia Turner and Ryan Reid, Court Clerk & ZBA Secretary Kathy Ebbrell, and several members of the public. Councilman Alex Danon entered the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins entered at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Ronk led the Town Board in a moment of silence and the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 21, 2024.

VOTE: Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman LoCicero, aye, Councilman Amthor, aye, Supervisor Ronk, aye. Councilman Danon was absent.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to discuss.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Police Chief Appreciation

Police Chief Gerry Marlatt presented Certificates of Appreciation to Gidget Orr of the Wallkill Fire Department Fire Police. Ms. Orr was present to accept the certificates for Wallkill Fire Department and the other departments that assisted. Chief Marlatt explained that the Wallkill Fire Department assists with traffic control each year for the Shamrock Scramble and the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Police Department has limited manpower and depends on them each year. Assisting Wallkill this year was Modena, Walker Valley, Pine Bush, and Kerhonkson Fire Police Departments.

Eagle Scout Project

Michael Vaccarino from Boy Scout Troop 37 in Pine Bush discussed his Eagle Scout project with the Town Board. Michael explained that he would like to build a Gaga Ball Court at Verkeerderkill Park. Michael met with Councilman DeWitt and it was agreed a good spot to build the court would be by the basketball court. Following questions and answers, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the construction of a Gaga Court at Verkeerderkill Park.

VOTE: Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman LoCicero, aye, Councilman Amthor, aye, Supervisor Ronk, aye. Councilman Danon was absent.

Milk Factory

Delbe Spath inquired what the status of the water and sewer district was for the Milk Factory on Route 208 South. He explained that he read an article in the Wallkill Valley Times that it was approved in the Town of Montgomery. Supervisor Ronk explained that a sewer district was being created to run a new line down to the county line, which could accommodate the Milk Factory project. He has a meeting on Friday with the attorney and developers. Mr. Ronk further explained that at this time, only a sewer district was being formed. A new water line is not planned as the Town does not have excess water capacity at this time. When the sewer line is being installed, the piping will be installed for both sewer and water. In the future, when water is available, the lines will be there.

Planning Board

Planning Board member Patricia Turner addressed the Town Board regarding her position on the Planning Board. She recently learned that she was not being re-appointed and is disappointed with that decision. Mrs. Turner explained that the Planning Board was not an enforcement agency and she stands by her past decisions. Supervisor Ronk explained that a decision was not reached regarding her seat. There are three additional residents that need to be interviewed prior to making a decision.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported the following:

Bridge Closures

On April 9th Awosting Road will be closed for a box culvert replacement.

On April 8th Red Mills Bridge will be closed for repairs. It is expected to be closed for three weeks.

On April 10th Galeville Bridge will be closed for replacement. It is a long project and expected to be closed indefinitely.

Stein Road

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that the surveyor came out and put stakes in for property to be acquired. The engineer has an outline for property taking. The project is going well and the entire road is being cleaned up.

284 Agreement

A preliminary agreement was submitted. The total number at this time is \$447,889.00. The state budget was discussed. Further details will be submitted when state funding is known.

Truck & Equipment Purchases

Mr. Blazeski reported that Tim Hunt is willing to come down and make a presentation to the Town Board for capital planning. Mr. Blazeski will schedule a date.

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Director of Ulster County Soil & Water met with Superintendent Blazeski at the Stein Road site. They discussed a plan on reseeding and mulching. Watchtower has offered their assistance with hydroseeding when the time comes.

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Auctions International

Most items that have been sold have been picked up. The auction raised about \$20,000.00. The Town Board will need to determine if they wish to post the flatbed again, or go with another venue. Other options may be to keep it for the Highway Department, or for the new sewer project.

Thank you

A letter from the Orange County Department of Health was received. The letter thanked two of our officers for going above and beyond for an injured cat.

Monthly Report

Chief Marlatt is establishing a program that will transition with the new laptops to develop a report that will track calls and accidents. He will have the ability to make the report available to the Town Board at the next meeting.

Vehicles

Chief Marlatt is getting estimates for Car 584 which will be used for the Dog Control Officer. The estimates were requested from Walkill Auto Repair and Walkill Automotive. If the car can't be serviced at one of those shops, Strictly Ford will be contacted.

Traffic Control

Chief Marlatt has been in contact with Ulster County to schedule dates for the speed sign to come to Town.

LIASION TO HIGHWAY

Discussed under Highway Superintendent Report.

LIASION TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Discussed under Police Chief Report.