

## REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 1, 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 **1st day of August 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Amthor was absent. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Sergeant John Spinato, Court Clerk & ZBA Secretary Kathy Ebbrell, ZBA Member Robert Wallner, Planning Board Chair Mark Watkins, and several members of the public.

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 Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 18, 2024.

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

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 29, 2024.

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

### CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to discuss.

### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

#### **Borden Road**

Mark Bodnarczuk introduced himself to the Town Board. He inquired when Borden Road would be paved. He thought it would be paved last year. He read the minutes from the meeting and found out that Dana, Calabrese, Birch and other roads would be paved, with no mention of Borden Road. He did

some research and found out that Borden Road has not been paved since 2000. He has driven around to see other roads that have been paved. Mr. Bodnarczuk inquired what determines when a road gets paved. Supervisor Ronk advised that decisions have not been made for 2025. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained the 284 Agreement process and how the CHIPS money can be used. He explained the 2% tax cap and how the Town is making strides in making progress with the roads. Mr. Bodnarczuk questioned again what determines what roads get done. He stated that Red Top Road was done three years ago and inquired why that road was done. He stated that since the bridge went out it seems like Borden Road has been forgotten. Mr. Blazeski stated that with the current funding, he can only do four miles per year. He explained the surface treatments used. Supervisor Ronk explained that Mr. Blazeski brings in professionals to determine what roads they can work on. Mr. Blazeski explained that the base of roads are not built to today's standards and this needs to be considered to determine the treatment and equipment for the roads.

A resident stated that the road is a hazard. Since the bridge has been closed no tree trimming has taken place. Cars have to wait before they can pass each other near the turn. They pay taxes and inquire where the money is going. Mr. Blazeski advised that he will go out and take a look at that area. Mr. Bodnarczuk stated he realizes the budget issues, but the road should have been paved at least once in twenty-four years. Mr. Blazeski explained his goal of applying the correct treatment to each road. He explained that drainage work including culverts and ditching needs to be done prior to the road treatment. Councilman Danon explained that Mr. Blazeski is working on getting a company to come out and analyze every road and create a plan for each road. Mr. Blazeski explained that they have created a capital plan for equipment, and he wants to do the same for the roads. Supervisor Ronk explained the bonding rates and the possibility of putting a proposal on the ballot.

### **Stein Road**

Jackie Muskulas inquired what the plan was to finish the project on Stein Road. Highway Superintendent Blazeski discussed the condition and the plan to complete the road. Mrs. Muskulas inquired who would maintain the concrete wall. Mr. Blazeski stated the Town will. Supervisor Ronk explained that presently there is an issue with the paver, and they have companies coming in to give estimates.

### **Red Barn Road**

Mr. Brett Cohen inquired about the brush that is hanging out to Route 52. He stated that it is not safe to pull out. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained that it is the responsibility of the New York State Department of Transportation, and the Town cannot do the brush trimming. He agreed to reach out to the NYSDOT and request they trim the brush in that area.

**REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS****HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported the following:

The One-Way Resolution and paperwork for Main Street and Wallkill Avenue has been submitted to the New York State Department of Transportation. The next step is they will come out and do a traffic study.

He will be attending a meeting in the Town of Montgomery regarding a presentation from a research company who specializes in evaluating roads to come up with a five-to-ten-year plan. He hopes to find out if this is something the Town would benefit from.

The agreement to purchase lands necessary for Stein Road was received from the Engineer. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilmen LoCicero to authorize Supervisor Ronk to sign the agreement.

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

**POLICE CHIEF**

Police Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Previous Town Board requested he add lighting to the patrol cars. He has received an estimate of \$19,000. Chief Marlatt stated that this expense would be eligible under the \$185,000.00 Tech Grant the Town received. Supervisor Ronk advised that the funds have been deposited in the Town Bank Account. A plan on how the money will be spent needs to be developed. Chief Marlatt will come up with a plan and review it with the Police Liaison.

**LIASION TO HIGHWAY**

Brander Subdivision on Wildrick Road

Supervisor Ronk discussed a letter received from Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins regarding a recommendation from the Town Engineer setting a Performance Bond of \$18,155.00 for the road. A recommendation for up to \$3,860.45 in a separate Escrow Account for inspections was also included. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to set the bond amount as recommended by the Town Engineer.

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