

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 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 **19th day of September 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk & ZBA Secretary Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Chairman 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 September 5, 2024.

**VOTE: ALL AYE.**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Supervisor Ronk opened up a Public Hearing on "Override of the Property Tax Cap". Mr. Ronk explained that municipalities cannot exceed the 2% property tax cap set by New York State unless they pass a local law. See Public Hearing Minutes.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Community Room**

Supervisor Ronk discussed a request from a Homeschooler Group who has requested to use the Community Room from November to March for their weekly meetups. This group has used the room in the past with no issues. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve the use of the Community Room for the group.

**VOTE: ALL AYE.**

**Park Bench**

Supervisor Ronk discussed a request for a bench to be purchased and placed on the Rail Trail in memory of a resident. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that Supervisor Ronk will contact the resident who made the request and make arrangements for the purchase and placement of the bench.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR****Stein Road**

Jackie Muskulus inquired when Stein Road would be paved and the status of the grant money. Supervisor Ronk advised that the paving company was approved to proceed. The Town is waiting for the date when they are available to do the paving. Ms. Muskulus inquired about the figures that were discussed. Mr. Ronk explained that \$17,500 is the cost to do the paving and \$43,000 is the cost of the blacktop. He advised that there is some grant money still available. Ms. Muskulus inquired if residents were able to see the engineer's report. She inquired about the erosion, road signs, school buses and the recently purchased paver. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained the process with erosion and explained that school buses cannot use the road until guard rails are installed. The road cannot be opened and the guard rails can't go in until the road is paved. Mr. Blazeski advised that the highway crew will be on Stein Road, and he agreed to take a look at the erosion, the missing sign and the depression with the pipe. He explained that the paver the Town purchased had to get sent back.

**Phil & Joan Kirschen/Roads**

Mrs. Kirschen inquired when the pot holes along Park Avenue and the Library would be fixed. She stated that she spoke to the Town Board about it three meetings ago. Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained that the crew looked at it a few weeks ago. One of the problems is the workers at the Library are parked there along with the walkers on the Rail Trail. Mrs. Kirschen suggested that the area be flagged the night before so no one parks there. She also inquired when the deep pot hole in the middle of Strawridge Road could be fixed. Mr. Kirschen inquired when the minutes of previous meetings are available. Supervisor Ronk explained that the minutes are approved at the next meeting and then posted on the website. Mr. Kirschen inquired if the company previously discussed about taking a road inventory was hired. Mr. Blazeski advised that he has attended meetings and contacted other municipalities for referrals. The details of the program were discussed. Treatments, processes and recommendations that would be utilized were discussed. Specifically, Mr. Kirschen inquired what type of surface would be used for Strawridge Road and when it could be done. Mr. Blazeski advised he would have to check on the surface and there is no schedule at this time. Supervisor Ronk explained guarantees can't be given as things like natural disasters could change schedules. He would guess that it would be three to four years. The entire road cost would be \$400,000.00 which is the entire CHIPS funding. The road would require other work like ditching, culverts and catch basins that could equal the cost of the paving. Long-term planning and the rating system were discussed. The data must be obtained prior to putting together a plan. Mr. Kirschen inquired about the court fine monies and audits. Supervisor Ronk explained the auditing process and advised that the Town has an independent audit