

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 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 **7th day of November 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Amthor and Councilman LoCicero were absent. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins, Zoning Board Member Robert Wallner, 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 October 17, 2024.

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Supervisor Ronk announced that the Town Board has created and is distributing informational sheets where residents can provide their contact information to the Town. The information will be used to contact residents with any Town Emergency or important announcement. He stated that the contact information will not be shared. A letter will be sent to residents providing instructions on how to provide the contact information to the Town.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters from Marco Civiglia on 11/4/24 regarding zoning, and a Notice of Claim regarding Walker Valley Schoolhouse on 10/23/24 were received.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings for the 2025 Preliminary Budget and the Tentative Special District Assessment Rolls were opened at 7:05 p.m. See Public Hearing Minutes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**Lions Club**

Andy Harcher and Dave LaSpada, representing the Wallkill Lions Club, discussed the proposed Ice Skating Rink at Popp Park that has been previously discussed with the Town Board. Mr. LaSpada inquired if the Town Board has come to any decision on what they can contribute towards the project. Mr. LaSpada advised that it is necessary to have a decision prior to lining up the volunteers. He further advised that they are raising funds and plan on moving forward with the project. Supervisor Ronk advised that the Town Board has budgeted \$15,000.00 for the purchase of the shed for the chiller. Mr. Ronk also advised that the cost of electric is being considered. Supervisor Ronk explained to the Board Members that Watchtower needs the authorization from the Town Board to install the concrete pad for the chiller. Following a discussion, a motion as made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to authorize the installation of the concrete pad so the project can move forward.

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

Presentation of Proclamation

Town Historian Kyle Williams presented a New York State Senate Proclamation honoring the 160th Anniversary of the 156th Infantry Regiment of the Battle of Cedar Creek. Mr. Williams explained that many of the men who served were from the Town of Shawangunk. Supervisor Ronk accepted the proclamation and said it will be proudly displayed in Town Hall.

Supervisor Ronk, on behalf of the Town Board, thanked Mr. Williams for his assistance with the Eagle Scout project recently completed by Joseph Davis. The Colored Cemetery is located at the intersection of Route 208 & 300. Kyle was instrumental with assisting with the history of those buried in the cemetery.

Housing Project

Ms. Andrea Joyce voiced her concern and inquired about the rumors she has been reading on the Facebook page, Wallkill Happenings. Supervisor Ronk explained that the Town Board has no control

over what is posted on that page. He assured Ms. Joyce that the Building Inspector has been working closely with the builder to ensure the thirty-unit apartment buildings are built according to the plan that was approved. He further explained the apartments are available for anyone to rent. Councilman DeWitt added that the realtor that was hired has to stick to the plan.

School Crossing

Dana Winchell expressed her concerns to the Town Board with the area of Route 208 and with the School Crossing Guards. Ms. Winchell explained that she has seen children almost get hit and it is dangerous for the crossing guards. She is inquiring what the Town can do to address this dangerous corner. Supervisor Ronk explained that the Town is working with the New York State Department of Transportation. In addition, the Police Chief is working on signage for the crosswalks. The Town Board will discuss having the Police Chief assign patrols to do speed checks during the busy times.

Zoning Issues

Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins addressed the Town Board and requested direction with Food Trucks. They have had inquiries and assistance with directing applicants. He stated that there is nothing in Zoning that addresses food trucks. Mr. Watkins also requested the Town Board address regulations on Agri-tourism. There are many farms that are holding wedding events and he is concerned with the safety of these events. Supervisor Ronk discussed the need for guidance from New York State Agriculture and Markets. Mr. Ronk also advised that he has been working with the Town Clerk and issuing Peddlers Permits until the regulations are in place for food trucks.

Town resident Delbe Spath advised the Town Board that the camper at 55 Bona Ventura is too close to the property line, he feels it does not belong there. Supervisor Ronk explained that this property is a bank foreclosure, and the Town has been working with the bank to get matters resolved.

Walker Valley Schoolhouse

Town resident Katie Baxter introduced herself and advised that she has a group of Homeschoolers. Ms. Baxter explained that she is requesting to use the Walker Valley Schoolhouse on a few dates. She advised that she and the parents would be willing to sign a waiver of liability. Supervisor Ronk discussed a recent issue when someone fell on the property. He agreed to discuss the issue with the Town Attorney and will contact Ms. Baxter with a response. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to allow the group to use the building, pending the approval of the Town Attorney.

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