

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 21, 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 **21st day of November 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Member Ryan Reid, 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 DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, and the minutes of the Public Hearings held on November 7, 2024.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from The Town of Montgomery on 11/18/24 regarding a Public Hearing on Battery Storage was received. A letter from the Homeschool Picnic Group on 11/19/24 regarding use of the Community Room was received.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Delaware Engineering/Water System Lead Service Line Inventory

Mary Beth Bianconi, representing Delaware Engineering, provided information on the company. Ms. Bianconi explained that the company has been in business for thirty-five years. They are civil engineers who work with institutions, municipalities, and industry. They work on public water systems, industrial projects, parks, and various projects. They have a staff of eighty engineers, scientists, planners and environmental technicians who work with their clients and communities. Ms. Bianconi introduced Mike Aiello who is a partner and runs the Goshen Office. In total they have five offices in New York State.

Ms. Bianconi explained that a new law was passed that requires a Water System Lead Service Line Inventory to be completed and submitted to the New York State Department of Health by November 16, 2024. The Town of Shawangunk was notified in 2021 and has not developed the inventory. Delaware Engineering contacted the Supervisor and offered their services to develop the inventory. She explained that the Shawangunk Water & Sewer System is operated by a private contractor who they work with. The Town has approximately five hundred and fifty water customers. The first step would be to identify where there are lead services and have them replaced with safe pipes. They would collaborate with the operator and submit the data to New York State. The timeline to finish the project would be next summer. The cost of their portion of the work would be \$51,500.00. Their company would work in coordination with the Department of Health. The second part of the plan would be to provide a Capital Plan for the water supply. A sample master plan for Monroe was distributed for the Board Members to review.

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Water Code for the Town was developed in 1982 and needs to be updated. The Supervisor and Town Board Members thanked Ms. Bianconi and Mr. Aiello for providing the presentation.

Walker Valley Schoolhouse

Town resident Katie Baxter, representing a group of Homeschoolers, inquired if the Town Board was able to find out from the Town Attorney if her group could sign a liability waiver and have use of the building. Supervisor Ronk advised that he was in contact with the Town Attorney who advised that the waiver is not sufficient. Mr. Ronk will contact the Town Insurance Agent and inquire what options that Town has for use of Town Properties.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Supervisor Ronk advised that since the Highway Superintendent is out of town, he has been in touch with the Working Supervisor. With the upcoming weather, he has been assured that the equipment is ready to go and the storm will be handled by the department.

POLICE CHIEF

Training

Chief Marlatt reported that Officer McDermott attended Defensive Tactical School. He is proposing a joint department training with interested police officers from Shawangunk and Plattekill. The Ulster County Sheriff has an instructor and will assist with the training. It may be necessary to provide liability insurance to the School District for the training. Chief Marlatt explained that multiple agencies learn to work together with this training. The techniques the officers learn from each other is beneficial when they work together. Dates for the training are scheduled for February 27th and March 1st of 2025. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the training.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Promotion

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to promote Officer Curt McDermott to the position of Sergeant.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Seargent McDermott was congratulated by the Town Board Members.

HIGHWAY

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Burn Ban continues for one month. The Executive Order must be renewed every five days. Mr. Ronk advised that the New York State Burn Ban allows for contained campfires. The Town of Shawangunk Burn Ban is more restrictive and will continue until the threat is lifted.

WATER & SEWER

Sewer South Bids TSW 231 & TSW 241

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Bid Opening for these projects was opened on November 8, 2024. The Town Engineer anticipates the job to begin in April 2025 and should be completed within a four-month time frame.

Supervisor Ronk explained that **TSW241** is for the low-pressure sanitary sewer pump stations. There was only one bidder that came in at \$184,554.00. Town Engineer Dennis Larios has reviewed the bid submission and is recommending the Town accept the bid.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to award the bid to Cummins-Wagner-Sieweret Equipment of Rochester, New York for \$184,554.00.

VOTE: ALL AYE

Supervisor Ronk advised that **TSW231** is for furnishing and installing low pressure sanitary sewer for the 208 Sewer South Sewer District. There were five bidders, one of the bidders withdrew. Town Engineer Dennis Larios reviewed the bids with the lowest responsible bid coming in at \$682,200.00. Mr. Larios is recommending the Town accept the bid.