

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**DECEMBER 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 December 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Alex Danon and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Adrian DeWitt was absent. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins and Member Ryan Reid, Zoning Board Member Robet 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 LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, December 5, 2024.

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

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A thank you letter to the Town Board from the Vision of Wallkill on 12/12/24 was received. A Public Hearing Notice from Verizon Wireless in the Town of Crawford dated 12/4/24 was received.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – RESTORE NY GRANT**

The Public Hearing for the RESTORE NEW YORK Grant was opened at 7:01 p.m. See Public Hearing Minutes.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

There was no one from the public to present any issues to the Town Board.

## **REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**

### **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor's Report for the month of November was received.

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk's Report for the month of November for \$16,475.48 was received.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski submitted quotes for the purchase of two storage sheds. One Storage Shed is needed at the Highway Garage and another at Popp Park. Supervisor Ronk reported that he and Superintendent Blazeski went out to measure the location of where to place the storage shed at Popp Park. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to purchase two 12X26 sheds from Foote's Amish Sheds. One shed has a double door, and the cost is \$10,357.00. The cost of the other shed is \$9,857.00. Both sheds are in stock with free delivery with the purchase of both. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to move forward and purchase both storage sheds from Foote's Amish Sheds.

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

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to use Rescue Funds for this purchase.

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

**Stein Road**

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that Stein Road is finished and open. Supervisor Ronk will work on organizing a ribbon cutting. Mr. Ronk explained that this was a million-dollar project that was done for \$170,000.00 thanks to Mr. Blazeski. Highway Superintendent Blazeski credits the highway crew for their expertise and dedication in getting the work completed.

**Vehicles**

Highway Superintendent Blazeski advised that there are currently two trucks from the fleet out of service. The new truck has a problem with the motor and is at Arkel Motors. Although they are down a truck they will cover the storms as best as possible.

**Strawridge Road**

Highway Blazeski reported that borings were done on Strawridge Road today. Mr. Blazeski explained the process to determine what the base of the road is so the proper treatment can be used.

**Pavement Management Systems**

Highway Superintendent Blazeski advised he has met the team of people from the company who will be putting the program together for the Town. The survey of the roads will be done in January of 2025.

**Employees**

Highway Superintendent Blazeski recommended to the Town Board that Cliff Breuer be hired to fill the current vacancy in the Highway Department. Mr. Blazeski explained that Mr. Breuer has over twelve

years' experience running all types of equipment. He formally was a Department of Transportation Supervisor and has an enormous amount of experience, he is ready to go to work. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to hire Mr. Breuer at the full rate of \$27.76 per hour, effective December 30, 2024.

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

#### **POLICE CHIEF**

No report.

#### **HIGHWAY**

Discussed under Highway Superintendent.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilman Amthor reported that Seargent Reynolds has located a Ford Explorer that is available for purchase. The vehicle was ordered and then canceled. Mr. Amthor explained that the Town Board budgeted in the 2025 budget, funds for another vehicle. By purchasing this vehicle, \$3,000.00 can be saved. The Chief's F150 truck will be put in circulation. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to move forward and purchase the Ford Explorer.

Supervisor Ronk reported that he signed a purchase order to update the tasers. Mr. Ronk advised that the graphics will be re-done on 7850 for use by the Dog Control Officer.

Councilman LoCicero reported that the Town Board budgeted for a Full Time Police Chief and will be moving forward to that goal. Supervisor Ronk advised that there is an active Police Chief B list which applies to a police force of ten or more full-time officers. A Police Chief can be hired provisionally until Ulster County schedules a test. Following a discussion a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to post for a Full Time Police Chief position.

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

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Stop DWI Plan has been received from Ulster County. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract.

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

#### **WATER & SEWER**

No report.