

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 20, 2025

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 **20th day of March 2025 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, Sergeant John Spinato, Legislator Rich Walls, and several members of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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 held on March 6, 2025.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

A Notice of Public Hearing from the Town of Montgomery on Zoning Changes 4/2/25; A letter from Antoinette Gagan regarding Verkeerderkill Park on 3/16/25.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Wallkill Youth Lacrosse

Brian Thomas, Vice President, and Camaron Croce, Secretary, of Wallkill Youth Lacrosse are requesting permission to place a 4X8 sign at Galeville Park. Mr. Thomas explained that they would like to erect the sign at the entrance to the park and will take the sign down when the season ends. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to allow the league to put up the sign when the season begins in March and allow it to stay up until the end of the season in August.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Mr. Thomas explained that the Lacrosse League has been growing in numbers, and they expect that it will continue to grow in the next several years. They need a place to store their equipment. Mr. Thomas suggested solutions like placing a shipping container, trailer, or shed at the park. Supervisor Ronk explained that the Town Board denied the Lions Club to put a shipping container at Popp Park. Following a discussion on the size, type and location of an appropriate storage option, it was agreed that the

Lacrosse League was willing to place a shed at the park for storage of their equipment. The shed will be no larger than 10X20 in size and will be placed in the lower field area close to the existing shed by the tree line. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to authorize the Lacrosse League to install a shed for equipment near the existing shed. It was agreed that the shed would become town property after the installation.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Vision of Wallkill

Donna Barczak, President, and Julie Craner, Treasurer of Vision of Wallkill distributed a schedule of events the group has planned for this year. They are seeking insurance coverage for the Duck Derby, the summer concerts at Popp Park, the Weekend of Wallkill, and Holidays in Hamlet. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that as long as the Town of Shawangunk was advertised as sponsoring these events in part, they would be happy to provide the insurance. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to join V.O.W. in sponsoring the 2025 events.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Blue Chip Project

Adrienne Gelfand-Perine inquired about the status of the Blue Chip Farm project. Supervisor Ronk advised that there has been no action recently. The owner just reached out to him to request a meeting with him.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The February 2025 Supervisor's Report was received.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The February 2025 Town Clerk's Report for \$23,615.25 was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Supervisor Ronk discussed the written report that Highway Superintendent Blazeski submitted in his absence tonight. The report included the following updates:

He is working on a GIS Mapping system to get an inventory of signs, guard rails, culvert pipes and catch basins. His goal is to hire a part timer over the summer to gather the data.

He is finishing up with the renumbering of highway trucks and equipment.

He is getting quotes to survey Quannacut Road. GPI has done a site visit.

The Preliminary 284 Highway Agreement is \$392,043.10.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT**Monthly Report**

Chief Gerry Marlatt submitted the March monthly report. He explained the statistics and answered questions from the board members.

Parade

Chief Gerry Marlatt reported that he met with the Wallkill Fire Chief regarding coordination for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 23, 2025. The fire department is providing their officers and fire police. In addition, they will be getting volunteers from area fire departments to assist with traffic control. A second meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2025, to address any parking concerns and signage. Chief Marlatt advised that there would be no parking along the entire parade route. There will be signs posting this. He will also have a tow truck on standby if the route needs to be cleared.

Ulster County Chief's Association

Chief Marlatt reported that he has received notice that the Town of Shawangunk Police Department has been selected to receive two awards at their Annual Awards Dinner on May 28, 2025. The Meritorious Police Service Lifesaving Team and the Community Service award. In addition, there may be an additional award to be announced.

Defensive Tactics

The class was held. It was well attended and well received.

Tasers

The new tasers have arrived. Sergeant Reynolds has scheduled two training dates. Chief Marlatt is requesting permission to invite Town of Plattekill to the training. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve Town of Plattekill officers to attend the training with the proper liability and workers compensation submitted.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Radar Units

The new radar units have been calibrated by the state. He is in the process of getting three quotes for the installation of the units.

Events**DARE Graduation**

Invitations to the DARE Graduation on March 31, 2025, have been sent out.

Wallkill School has requested a police officer to cover the National Honor Society ceremony on April 30, 2025.

Duck Derby

At the request of the Vision of Wallkill Committee, they will be assisting with the event on May 10, 2025.

Councilman LoCicero inquired on the status with Lexipol. Chief Marlatt stated he just needs to get emails, and it will be sent out.

Supervisor Ronk inquired if the Police Department has a policy regarding officers and seat belts. Chief Marlatt responded, yes they do have a policy in place.

HIGHWAY & PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has received a complaint from a business owner regarding parking on Wallkill Avenue. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Supervisor Ronk would speak with the business owner on the best options to best manage the issue.

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has received a complaint about parking on Viola Street. The concern is a safety issue. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Supervisor Ronk will discuss the issue with the property owner and attempt to resolve the complaint.

WATER & SEWER

Water Lead Service Inventory

Supervisor Ronk reported that he is working on the new permits for Chemical Bulk Storage.

PARKS

Councilman Danon reported that he has received the park renderings and price quotes from Game Time. He explained that it is necessary to resend the prior approval the Town Board voted on with the previous company before proceeding with this new company. The quote for Garrison Park equipment is \$173,017.03. The quote for Verkeerderkill Park is \$124,222.92. The total quote for both parks, including the mulch, is \$302,612.00. The quotes and color choices for the equipment were reviewed and discussed. Mr. Danon explained that he would like to choose the colors of the equipment and place the order as soon as possible. The delivery time is six to eight weeks. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to rescind the prior approval and approve the quotes submitted by Game Time.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Auditors have completed their audit on the American Rescue Funds and there is a healthy balance. The interest earned on that balance can be used towards the park rehab.

Supervisor Ronk reported that there is a grant opportunity from T-Mobile for dog waste stations and trash and recycling containers at the parks. He will be applying for two of these for each park.

Councilman Danon reported that he has applied for an extra \$35,000.00 grant from Game Time.

Benches were discussed. It was agreed that the design and style will continue to be followed as in the past, so they are consistent throughout town.

Councilman Danon reported that recent vandalism at the parks have been cleaned by Councilman LoCicero and Supervisor Ronk. He also clarified that the Police Officers addressed a group of children that were trying to be helpful and clean the equipment.

The gazebo at Garrison Park was discussed. It was agreed that with the amount of damage, it should be removed. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to remove the damaged gazebo from Garrison Park.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Supervisor Ronk reported that New York State Parks Enhancement has a grant opportunity available. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the town will apply for funds to build the pickleball courts at Galeville Park.

Supervisor Ronk reported that he intends to apply for another grant through New York State Traffic Enforcement for car seats.

Councilman DeWitt reported that the mowing bids have been released and are due April 1st. Last year's contracts had the second-year option that could be accepted depending on the bid amounts.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

Supervisor Ronk reported that he received a complaint about a streetlight at the corner of DuBois and Walkkill Avenue. He will follow up on that.

RECREATION

Summer Camp

Councilman DeWitt reported that at the last meeting, the Town Board hired Gillian Batchsingh as Recreation Director for Summer Camp. Mr. Dewitt is proposing the hourly rate for the Director be set at \$26.00 per hour. He is also proposing a \$600.00 stipend on top of the salary for EMS Services including CPR and First Aid. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the salary and stipend as proposed.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Councilman DeWitt reported that the food for camp has been approved today. The inspection at the camp is scheduled for April 18, 2025. The flyer and application will be posted on the Town Website.

Councilman Danon reported that the concern with the swing at Verkeerderkill Park would be addressed.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION**Transfer Station**

Councilman Danon reported that he worked with Steve on Sunday at the Transfer Station. They are making progress in clearing out the area for electronics. They were able to fill two additional bins. The box is now in place, they will continue with the cleanup plan. Measurements were taken for the bins for electronics. The installation of a concrete ramp was discussed. A tire pick up is necessary. Supervisor Ronk will locate a contract for tire removal.

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has been in touch with the RRA about ownership of the shed/office. They do not have any records showing ownership. Councilman Danon said it needs to be replaced with a new shed. The location could be changed as to open up an additional area. Supervisor Ronk thanked Mr. Danon for his help in cleaning up the Transfer Station.

Supervisor Ronk reported that the County Legislature approved a "Re-Use" Center last night.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

No report.

BUILDINGS**Police Station**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the heat at the Police Station is not working. He provided the station with portable heaters. MDS, the heating company for the town, has reported that the heat exchanger is cracked. Mr. Ronk stated that it is not sensible to replace it if the Police Department will not be occupying the building next heating season. He is waiting for a quote on the air conditioning for the upcoming season.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING**Planning Software**

Supervisor Ronk reported that he met with a company that provides Planning Board Software. The Planning and Zoning Board Secretary and Highway Clerk attended the meeting. The features of the program were reviewed. It overlays GIS and all zoning districts and allowable uses. The program provides electric submission which saves time and money for both the town and the applicants. Mr. Ronk has requested a quote.

Chamber of Commerce

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has been approached by a resident who is interested in creating a Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Amthor explained that the Gardiner/Shawangunk Chamber is trying to reorganize.

COMPUTERS**Website**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town Website will need to be updated in the near future.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS**Signage**

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has Timely Signs scheduled to visit next week. He is trying to schedule dates with the other companies he contacted. Mr. Ronk will be requesting suggestions on locations of signs in and outside of Town Hall. Based upon their suggestions, he will request quotes and report back to the Town Board.

Short Term Rental Law/Food Truck Law

Supervisor Ronk reported that the first Town Board meeting next month will be a work session to work on both of these proposed laws.

Building Department

Supervisor Ronk reported that he is waiting for Ulster County Personnel regarding Civil Service.

NEW BUSINESS**Spectrum Franchise**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the current franchise agreement with Spectrum is outdated. He is working on updating the agreement with them. A meeting with their Special Relations Representative is scheduled for next week. They will be discussing the necessary drainage work in the River Glen area with their Engineer.

AUDITOR REVIEW**Electric & Plumbing**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the auditors brought to his attention that the Electric & Plumbing contracts are outdated and should go out to bid. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that at the next meeting these bids should be prepared to go out to bid.

Driveway Bonds

Councilman LoCicero inquired the opinion of the auditor regarding the driveway bonds that have been posted. Supervisor Ronk explained that they felt it was a legal question.

Credit Card

Supervisor Ronk reported that he discussed the best practices for credit card use with the auditor. It was the recommendation that the Town apply for one credit card to be kept in the Supervisor's Office to ensure control. Mr. Ronk explained that he would like to apply for a Business American Express Credit

Card. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve Supervisor Ronk making application for the credit card.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	6	175-215	\$ 62,395.88
HIGHWAY	6	95-113	\$ 75,766.34
WATER	6	18-23	\$ 41,452.69
SEWER	6	44-53	\$ 47,446.05
TRUST & AGENCY	5	27-41	\$ 4,242.70

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt that the claims be paid as audited.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk