

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 5, 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 **5th day of June 2025 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, and Deputy Town Clerk Dale Weed. Also present were Highway Superintendent Richard Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Chairman Richard Barnhart, Sergeant John Spinato, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, 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 LoCicero to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 15, 2025.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Project letters were received from the New York State Department of Transportation on May 23, 2025 regarding projects on Route 52 and Route 208. A Notice of Public Hearing from the Town of Mamakating was received May 12, 2025. Comments on STR'S were received from the Ulster County Planning Board on May 28, 2025. Letter from Urania Castaneda regarding a festival was received on May 27, 2025.

The Town Board discussed a request from Ms. Castenda who wishes to hold a Spirit and Soil festival at Bernhart Road on September 27, 2025. The information she submitted was reviewed. Concern with the amount of people and the narrow road were discussed. The request was given to Police Chief Marlatt for review and comment.

PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUATION – Short Term Rentals – Local Law #2-2025

Supervisor Ronk announced the Public Hearing has remained open since May 15, 2025. Mr. Ronk inquired if there was anyone in the audience that had any comments. Comments were submitted on June 4, 2025 from the Town of Shawangunk Planning Board. Chairman Richard Barnhart was present and advised that the Planning Board discussed the proposed local law at their meeting on June 3, 2025. The comments were reviewed and discussed. The Town Board did not agree that STR's should be

restricted in specific zoning districts. Mr. Barnhart explained their reasoning for specific sensitive and high-density areas. The Town Board agreed with recommendations three and four in the Town Planning Board memo. The Ulster County Planning Board reviewed Local Law #2 of 2025 on May 7, 2025. The recommendations and comments that were sent were discussed. The Town Board did not agree with the modifications suggested for recommendations one and two in the memo. They did agree with recommendation number four regarding the County's Occupancy Tax. Supervisor Ronk advised that the revisions discussed will be added to the law and continued until the next Town Board meeting on June 19, 2025

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

A resident from Borden Road thanked the Town Board for all the work done on the road. Supervisor Ronk thanked the Highway Department for performing the work.

Mr. Randy Baglier, a resident on Bruyn Turnpike, requested the Town Board take action about the high rate of speed people go on the road. He explained that there is a large amount of traffic, and it is dangerous. Mr. Baglier inquired if a permanent digital speed sign could be installed. He discussed one of these signs on Drexel Drive in Crawford that seems to be effective.

WORK SESSION**UNFINISHED BUSINESS****FOOD TRUCK LAW**

Supervisor Ronk distributed copies of a revised Food Truck Law. The Town Board members reviewed the changes. Councilman Danon suggested that adding a clause stating the property taxes are paid on the property where the food truck will be. The size of the signs on the food truck were discussed. It was agreed that all signs must comply with the Town of Shawangunk Zoning. Other items discussed were fire inspections, porta potties, fees and generators. Mr. Andy Ghiorse inquired about enforcement.

DUMPSTER LAW

Resident Adrienne Perine read a text from a resident who lives on River Road. She is concerned about how close to the road some dumpsters are.

There were no updates on the draft law previously reviewed. A resident inquired about a provision to keep animals out of the dumpsters.

NEW BUSINESS**Home Rule Request**

Supervisor Ronk explained the request for the Home Rule. He explained that the request needs to be submitted to Assemblyman Brian Maher's office as soon as possible. The legislative session will be ending shortly for the year. The special legislation would authorize Police Officer Daniel Montalto to take the civil service exam to be eligible for a full-time position. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the Home Rule Request as discussed.

VOTE: All AYE.

SRO Municipal Agreement

Police Chief Marlatt explained that he has reviewed the Agreement with Wallkill Central School District. He recommends changing the language from **SPO to SRO**. The reason for his recommendation is the **SPO** cannot do the same things as an **SRO**. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to replace "Peace Officer" with "Police Officer" in the description of the agreement and approve the Agreement with these changes to the Wallkill Central School District Municipal Agreement effective September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

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

Town Hall Annex

A discussion was held on the Town Hall Annex and the best solution for use of the building. Supervisor Ronk explained that when the property was deeded by the Borden family it came with restrictions. The property that was conveyed to the town contains two parcels with a road dividing them. It has been questioned as to whether there could be a clear title without the heirs of the Borden family signing off. It is possible that if the property is leased, the town could be sued. The cost of repairing the building was discussed. Presently there is no heat or air conditioning and the roof leaks. There is asbestos in the building. The water and gas lines are under the road. A suggestion was made to demolish the building and extend the park. The Supervisor will pursue estimates for demolition. The Town Board members agreed that true costs would be needed to make a decision. Estimates may be obtained from Watchtower, as they provided them for a new police station. Solar could be placed on the building. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to get three price quotes on fixing the building. Supervisor Ronk will follow up with getting these estimates.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Electrical Contract

Supervisor Ronk advised that he has received two proposals after soliciting price quotes for electrical services for town properties. Of the two received, MC Electric has lower rates and Nickel Electric has lower rates for parts. Mr. Ronk recommended accepting the quote from MC Electric for the reason he is familiar with the town buildings. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to enter into a three-year contract for electrical services with MC Electric.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

PARKS**Playground Equipment**

Councilman Danon reported that the playground equipment is ready to be shipped. He inquired if the Highway Department would assist with the unloading.

Summer Camp

Councilman DeWitt is recommending the hiring of counselors at this time, pending the enrollment increases. His recommendations are as follows:

Assistant Leader Jessica Bedell at \$19.50 per hour

Lead Counselor Abreeanna Thomas and Reilly Benson at \$18.54 per hour

Junior Counselor Marc Cancelliere at \$16.25 per hour

A motion was made by Supervisor Ronk and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve these hires as described.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor. **VOTE: ALL AYE.** The Executive Session started at 8:55 p.m.

A motion was made to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting at 9:30 p.m. by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

No action was taken.

PUBLIC HEARING – Local Law #2-2025 – Short Term Rentals

A motion was made to close the Public Hearing and continue the discussion at the next Town Board Meeting by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that the CHIPS Funding was increased to \$17,000.00.

The Highway School he attended was beneficial.

The new Mower has arrived. The highway crew will be attending training at Marshall Machinery on Friday, June 6, 2025.

A school bus hit the bridge on St. Elmo Road. It is hopeful the bus company insurance will pay for the repairs.

May apply for a NY BRIDGE Grant.

Requesting permission to surplus the New Holland Tractor and Mower. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to surplus the equipment. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Requesting permission to go out to bid for a new truck. Financing of the new truck was discussed. Mr. Blazeski would like to go out to bid by June 30, 2025 prior to price increases. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to move forward with the bid. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	11	354-392	\$ 45,193.04
HIGHWAY	11	206-2234	\$ 120,133.17
WATER	11	39-43	\$ 6,191.49
SEWER	11	86-93	\$ 33,812.57
TRUST & AGENCY	10	65-72	\$ 5,656.25
LIGHT	6	6	\$ 1,879.05
FIRE PROTECTION	3	3	\$ 4,012.00

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Dale M. Weed, Deputy Town Clerk