

REGULAR MEETING

June 19, 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, Walkill, NY on the **19th 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 Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present were Highway Superintendent Richard Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Sergeant John Spinato, Planning Board Chairman Richard Barnhart, Recreation Director Gillian Batchsingh, Bookkeeper Ellen Bistor, 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Ronk announced that a brief Executive Session is necessary to discuss a personnel matter. A motion was made to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session and enter back into the Regular Meeting by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

The Executive Session started at 7:01 p.m. and ended at 7:09 p.m. No action was taken.

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 June 5, 2025.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Environmental Management Commission has invited the Town Board members to their next meeting on June 25, 2025. The new state wetland regulations will be presented.

PUBLIC HEARING

Spectrum Northeast Cable Franchise Agreement

Supervisor Ronk announced that a Public Hearing was being held to allow for the renewal of the cable television franchise for fifteen years between Spectrum Northeast, LLC, a subsidiary of Charter

Communications Inc, and the Town of Shawangunk. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:10 p.m. See Public Hearing Minutes.

Mr. Andy Ghiorse inquired if anyone knew why his Spectrum service has been interrupted on and off for the past two weeks. Supervisor Ronk advised that there are field technicians installing new fiber. He will inquire with the company representative.

Supervisor Ronk advised the Public Hearing will remain open for any further comments or questions.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**PUBLIC HEARING****Introductory Local Law #2 – Short Term Rental License Law**

A Public Hearing for Local Law #2-25 Short Term Rental License Law was opened at 7:05 p.m. See Public Hearing Minutes.

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Public Hearing will remain open due to the timing of the legal advertisement.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor's Report for the month of May was submitted.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for May for \$34,834.02 was submitted.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Building Inspector's Monthly Report for May was submitted.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported the following:

Oil and chipping of Borden and St. Elmo Road will be done tomorrow.

Requesting approval for hiring Abreeanna Thomas as a part-time clerk to do the GIS Inventory and work with the Pavement Management Group Software. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and second by Councilman Danon to hire Abreeanna Thomas, effective June 25, 2025, at a rate of \$19.50 per hour.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Discussed the purchase of the Western Star. Mr. Blazeski provided a contract through Sourcewell. He explained that he would like authorization to order the truck prior to June 30th, after that date, the price increases by 7%. The proposal was reviewed and discussed. Councilman Amthor suggested payment date should be confirmed. The title comes with the chassis. Mr. Blazeski will research the ordering and purchase process. He stated the savings is about \$30,000.00. Supervisor Ronk will research bonding options when the truck and chassis are purchased separately. He stated that the truck can be ordered by the June deadline, and the financing can be determined at a later date. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the ordering of the Western Star with a letter of intent prior to June 30th.

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

A discussion was held on the present obligations and total debt of highway equipment and vehicles. It was noted that the Freightliner will be paid off by the time the Western Star comes in. Councilman Danon requested a list of updated trucks and equipment. Mr. Blazeski will provide that list. He also noted that they are doing an inventory of tools in the shop.

Mr. Blazeski advised that the St. Elmo Bridge that was hit by a bus is not covered. He will have to get the Bus Company's Insurance to pay for the damages.

Mr. Blazeski advised that both Kubota tractors are out of service. The company came out immediately to address the issues and parts have been ordered. The Hoffman salesperson will be providing a backhoe loaner next week.

Supervisor Ronk noted that many of the potholes on Strawridge Road have been patched. Mr. Blazeski advised that the road will be done next year.

Mr. Blazeski noted that the condition of any town roads that may be used as detours for the Route 52 work this year, are recorded in the PMG Program.

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Marlatt distributed copies of the May Monthly Report.
Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Submitted a letter of resignation from Officer Michael Barrese. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to accept the resignation of Michael Barrese, effective June 1, 2025, with regrets.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Advised that Officer Butor is out on FMLA until August.

Spring Firearms Training is completed.

Officer McCartney is out due to a job injury for the remainder of the school year.

Sergeant Reynolds is getting the gear issued for UCERT on June 20th.
Wallkill High School Graduation Detail has been assigned from 5 to 10 p.m.
Sergeants McDermott and Spinato have completed the NYSP CJIS Audit.
Purchase Order for ammunition will go through a state bid distributor.
Met with fire, EMS and school district to coordinate traffic for graduation.

TOWN LIASON REPORTS

HIGHWAY

Discussed under Highway Superintendent.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk reported that the one-way street from Wallkill Avenue to Church Street seems to be working well. Most of the locals are aware and no complaints have been received. Councilman LoCicero thanked the town highway department and Walden DPW for drilling and installing the signs.

WATER & SEWER

Supervisor Ronk reported that new information about the purchase of the Water Tower property has been brought to his attention. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to authorize Supervisor Ronk to negotiate an purchase price which would provide access for the Town.

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

PARKS

Councilman Danon reported that park equipment was delivered today. Fair Rite assisted with unloading the equipment into the Annex. A representative from the company will come and review a plan with him on the Community Build. Supervisor Ronk reported that it was a team effort unloading the equipment with Fair Rite providing the equipment and operator and Tyler from the Water Department assisting. He also reported that Beck's Hardware and a few other local contractors have offered to help with the Community Build.

SIDEWALK /LIGHTING

No report.

RECREATION

Councilman DeWitt reported that the camper count is up to thirty-eight today. He is proposing to hire David Haskins, Amelia Tremper, and Caitlin Ubelsky as Senior Counselors at the rate of \$18.25 per hour. Abreeanna Thomas was hired at the last meeting and is being replaced with one of these positions. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to hire these Senior Counselors as proposed. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Councilman DeWitt is proposing to hire Michael Daley and Nelson Wyatt as Junior Counselors at the rate of \$16.25 per hour. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to hire these Junior Counselors as proposed. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Councilman DeWitt is requesting authorization to hire two Junior Counselors, one Senior Counselor and one CIT in the event the camper count goes up to 48 campers. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and second by Councilman Amthor to hire these positions if needed. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

RRA/TRANSFER STATION

Councilman Danon reporting that he has received a schematic for a cover of the containers at the Transfer Station. Supervisor Ronk reported that the Transfer Station is much improved. He advised that there was an inquiry for someone who may be interested in working at the Transfer Station. Councilman Danon will reach out and provide feedback.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has been advised that our Assessor, Curt Schoeberl is up for re-appointment. His term goes from 10/1/2025 to 9/30/2031. Mr. Ronk reported that he has learned that there are three assessors not seeking re-appointment in Ulster County. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to re-appoint Curt Schoeberl for another term as the Town of Shawangunk Assessor.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUILDINGS**Town Hall**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the new directional signs inside and outside of Town Hall have been installed.

Annex

Supervisor Ronk reported that Attorney Rich Hoyt discussed deed restrictions with him for the Town Hall Annex. He will be pursuing options in getting them lifted. He also would like to have some research done with the ancestors and possibly releasing the covenants.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Ronk reported that the owners of Wallkill Commons have discussed having ribbon cutting once the project is completed. Mr. Ronk discussed outstanding site work that needs to be completed prior to the certificates of occupancy being issued. Buildings one and two are complete and Building three is expected to be completed in the middle of July.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that the bracket for the television that will be hung in the meeting room has arrived and will be installed.

Councilman Amthor reported that he has been researching Civic Plus for a new town website. He advised that there are many more specifications, settings and rules than the former website required. Mr. Amthor reported that the price has risen considerably.

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

Supervisor Ronk announced that the hearing will be continued. Changes to the proposed law must be in final form and sitting on the Town Board members' desk for seven days, excluding Sundays. The law can be adopted at the July meeting.

Food Truck Law

Supervisor Ronk reported that Attorney Rich Hoyt has added the items discussed by the Town Board members previously. He is suggesting setting a Public Hearing for July 17, 2025, at 7 p.m. Mr. Ronk reported that the Town Board will be the Lead Agency under SEQRA, and the Type I Action will be circulated to Ulster County Planning Board and the Town of Shawangunk Planning Board.

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to declare the Shawangunk Town Board Lead Agency under SEQRA, Introduce Introductory Local Law #3-2025, and set the Public Hearing for July 17, 2025.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Dumpster Law

Supervisor Ronk announced that the review of this law will be tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Certified Mailings

Supervisor Ronk reported that he had a discussion with Attorney Rich Hoyt about the matter of certified mailings for Planning Board notifications. In some cases, the expense is not included in an escrow account, and Zoning Board applications have no provision at all. In other municipalities, a radius letter is given to the applicant by the Assessor, and the applicant does the mailing. Councilman LoCicero stated that if it is the law and the notification needs to be sent by certified mail, then the applicant needs to pay, not the Town. Supervisor Ronk will research what the law says about the certified mailings.

Environmental Management Council

Supervisor Ronk reported that Mr. Ernie Davis is interested in serving on the EMC. A few months ago, Mr. Jeff Luoma was appointed. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to appoint Mr. Ernie Davis to the Environmental Council.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

July Town Board Meetings

Supervisor Ronk inquired with the board members about canceling the July 3, 2025 meeting, due to the July 4th holiday. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to cancel the Regular Town Board meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

There were no Budget Transfers.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

ACCOUNT	WARRANT	VOUCHERS	AMOUNT
GENERAL	12	393-423	\$ 36,606.94
HIGHWAY	12	224-248	\$ 174,986.93
WATER	12	44-49	\$ 7,259.31
SEWER	12	94-99	\$ 15967.75
TRUST & AGENCY	11	73-87	\$ 6,570.81
SIDEWALK	2	2	\$ 100.36

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 LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe
Town Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 19, 2025

Spectrum Northeast Cable Franchise Agreement

MINUTES of a Public Hearing held by the Town Board of the Town of Shawangunk, County of Ulster, State of New York, at the Town Office Building, 14 Central Avenue, Wallkill, NY on the 19th day of June 2025, on the matter of granting a Cable Television Franchise Agreement held by Spectrum Northeast, LLC in the Town of Shawangunk.

Supervisor Ronk explained the approval of the agreement will bring the franchise into conformity with provisions of the Federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984. The Franchise Agreement was reviewed by the Town Board Members.

There were no comments or questions from the audience about the contract renewal.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to close the Public Hearing. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:20 p.m.

Supervisor Ronk read Resolution #3-2025 confirming the acceptance of a fifteen-year renewal agreement with Spectrum Northeast LLC.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to declare this action a Type II Action under SEQRA. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the terms of the Franchise Agreement, pending approval by the New York Public Service Commission, and adopt Resolution #3-2025.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

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