

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 21, 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 **21st day of August 2025 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Councilman Brian Amthor was absent. Also present were Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Chairman Richard Barnhart, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Recreation Director Gillian Batchsingh, 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 DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 7, 2025.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received on 8/21/25 from Mr. Noteboom who is requesting a refund for the rental of the Walker Valley Schoolhouse. It was necessary to cancel their plans due to a medical issue. Following a discussion, it was agreed to issue a refund.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Bob Garrison – Wallkill Water Supply

Mr. Garrison spoke to the Town Board about his concern with the quality of water in Wallkill. He specifically has concerns with the stream on Reservoir Road that is blocked up. His opinion is that the springs in that location could be used for a back up to the water supply. He is hoping the Town Board will form a committee and explore options.

Kathy Ebbrell – Red Barn Road

Mrs. Ebbrell expressed her appreciation for the progress of road work being done on Red Barn Road.

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERSSUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor's Report for the month of July was submitted and on file.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for July for \$40,377.25 was submitted and on file.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Building Inspector's Monthly Report for July was submitted and reviewed.

POLICE CHIEF**Resignations**

Chief Marlatt reported that he expects to receive a letter of resignation from Officer Edwards when he turns in his gear tomorrow.

A letter of resignation was submitted from Officer Melissa Parziale, effective August 31, 2025.

A motion to accept Officer Edwards and Officer Parziale's resignations, with regrets, was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon.

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

Chief Marlatt reported that the background checks have been conducted on two officers being considered for positions. Mr. Marlatt is recommending hiring David Leandro as a part-time officer and Joseph Asprea as a full-time reinstatement. The start date is yet to be determined. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Sanon to hire these two officers as discussed.

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

Equipment

Chief Marlatt reported that our IT person met with Sergeant McDermott regarding upgrades needed for the server at the police station. He has received a proposal for a three-part server for \$2,000.00. This server will take the needs of the department well into the future. Supervisor Ronk advised that quotes would need to be put together. Chief Marlatt advised that two cameras are included, and the annual fee would be \$100.00-200.00. The installation will take an IT person eight hours.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent supplied the following report:

Quannacut and Sinsabaugh Roads will be paved the first week in September. Three quotes from pavement companies are currently under review for the paving of lower Quannacut Road and Red Barn Road.

PARKS

Supervisor Ronk reported that Trevor Hunt has started at the parks and will be supplying a monthly report in the near future.

TOWN LIASON REPORTS

HIGHWAY

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Three-Way Intersection

Supervisor Ronk reported that it was previously discussed and agreed that a three-way stop should be created at the intersection of Viola and First and Second Street. Mr. Ronk advised that the Town Board must pass a resolution to create the three-way stop. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve this three-way stop and request the Highway Superintendent to mark it out and order the signs.

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

Parking Signs

Supervisor Ronk advised that the newly installed "No Parking" signs have been effective. There have been no incidents of parked cars when the DMV Bus is scheduled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero. **VOTE: Councilman Danon, aye, Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman LoCicero, aye, Supervisor Ronk, aye. Councilman Amthor was absent.**

The Executive Session started at 7:24 p.m.

A motion was made to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting at 7:33 p.m. by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero. **VOTE: Councilman Danon, aye, Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman LoCicero, aye, Supervisor Ronk, aye. Councilman Amthor was absent.**

No action was taken.

WATER & SEWER

Supervisor Ronk reported that the water issue at the curb at 55 Bona Ventura has been repaired. The leaking valve on Church Street has been repaired.

There is a major issue at the Pump Station. Presently a by-pass has been set up and the Transfer Station has been closed. They will be re-routing the by-pass so the Transfer Station can be opened for Saturday. Supervisor Ronk explained that the spare pump that was ordered last year does not fit. He will be speaking with the Town Engineer tomorrow to discuss options and prices. Mr. Ronk further explained that the Town is on the verge of an emergency with only one pump in operation. There was a discussion on how to proceed, fix what is there now, which may cost \$150,000 to \$200,000.00 or replace with new equipment which may cost \$500,000.00. It would take time to create a bid package. Councilman LoCicero stated that there is no choice but to move forward at this time. Supervisor Ronk is concerned that the project would have to be completely bid. Councilman Danon suggested that quotes be obtained for the repair and possibly the state would be lenient since it is an emergency. Councilman LoCicero state that the Town Attorney be consulted. All members present were in agreement that the Town must move forward.

PARKS

Councilman Danon reported that he has met with Trevor Hunt and they toured different town properties. They discussed the new playground equipment. Mr. Danon reported that Trevor has already done a lot of work at Verkeerderkill Park. He has identified electrical issues and will be requesting MC Electric to check them out. In addition, they got prices for a weed whacker, pruner and other items needed. He received the code to the gas today at the Highway Garage. He will be getting prices for insulation for the building at Verkeerderkill Park and has identified tree work that needs to be done. There was a discussion on contracts with dumpsters, a phone, and a truck.

Supervisor Ronk reported that he was advised of destruction to some of the picnic tables at Popp Park.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

Supervisor Ronk reported that there is a section of sidewalk at Lavoletta and Park Avenue that needs to be re-done. It needs to be ADA complaint. There is also a repair necessary on Pleasant Avenue Extension. Mr. Ronk advised that the Town is holding \$80,000.00 in escrow.

RECREATION**Camp**

Councilman DeWitt reported that summer camp is over. It was a good year with no incidents. The staff was good and everything went smoothly.

RRA/TRANSFER STATION

Councilman Danon did not have any updates to report. He advised that he reviewed future plans on the layout at the Transfer Station with the Municipal Parks Supervisor.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES**Resignation**

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has received a resignation letter from Julie Pawson from the Planning/Zoning position she currently holds. A motion was made to accept the resignation letter, with regrets, effective October 10, 2025, by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon.

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

Supervisor Ronk advised he would post the job listing as soon as possible.

Training

Supervisor Ronk reported that Emilia Lisieck, the Municipal Code Assistant in the Building Department has requested to take Department of State Training through Web-Ex during the day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mr. Ronk explained that he spoke with the Building Inspector who has no issues with the training. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve Emilia to take the training.

Supervisor Ronk advised he will be scheduling Sexual Harassment Training for town employees in September.

BUILDINGS**Boiler Inspection**

Councilman Danon reported that there was an annual boiler inspection at Town Hall today. The inspection identified two issues that will be followed up on with MDS once the Town receives the report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING**Town Hall Annex**

Supervisor Ronk advised that the deed covenants have been researched by a title company. It was determined that the sale to a private entity would not be prohibited. A discussion took place on options to dispose of the building. It was agreed that the Town Attorney would have to make a determination on a possible sale.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that the new portable printer for the Building Department has arrived and is being set up with the tablets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**STR Law & Food Truck Application & Fees**

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has drafted up applications and submitted them to the Building Inspector for his review.

Harrier Ridge

Supervisor Ronk reported that the updated bond was received today. It will be reviewed with Planning Board Chairman Rich Barnhart.

Shawangunk Correctional

Supervisor Ronk reported that the rsvp date to attend the 40th Anniversary celebration on September 5th was tomorrow. He will be attending.

DUMPSTER LAW

Supervisor Ronk advised that this proposed law will be tabled.

NEW BUSINESS**IT Department**

Councilman LoCicero discussed the need for a full-time IT Department. He feels the time has come where it is necessary for all the departments. He would like an analysis done of the needs and come up with a budget. Supervisor Ronk will follow up on recommendations from other municipalities and options.

Introductory Local Law #4 of 2025

Supervisor Ronk discussed introducing the local law which authorizes override of the tax cap. The Public Hearing can be scheduled for September 18th. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to hold the Public Hearing on September 18th. A legal notice will be placed in the newspaper.

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

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	15	548-575	\$ 358,802.29
HIGHWAY	15	307-326	\$ 76,782.16
WATER	15	62-64	\$ 5,45.78
SEWER	15	123-127	\$ 21,380.62
TRUST & AGENCY	14	106-107	\$ 1,055.00

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk