

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 18, 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 **18th day of April 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joseph LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Planning Board Members Mark Watkins and Ryan Reid, Zoning Board Chairman Dennis Arluck, Court Clerk & ZBA Secretary 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 in memory of resident and Lions Club member Chris Keller, and the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 4, 2024.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to discuss.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Wallkill Ambulance Corps

Mr. Doug Foster, Board of Director, and Past Chief, explained that the Town Board had requested an update on the additional revenue they received this year, and a report on the paid staff. Mr. Foster discussed the billing process which they began in 2021. They have not adjusted the rates and all residents are assured that an ambulance will show up when needed. With the Town Board support they have paid staff during the weekday hours. Thanks to the staff, they have been able to cover 100% of the calls for service. He reported that they have been able to grow 17% since 2023, which is the largest increase in the past five years. The Town Board had no further questions and thanked Mr. Foster and the volunteers for all they do.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported the following:

Main Street – One Way

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that he spoke to Mr. Corrigan of the Department of Transportation who advised that the Town needs to compile a list of accidents at Wallkill Avenue and Main Street. When that is completed, they would come out and review the data with the Town. Councilman LoCicero will contact Ulster County and acquire the statistics. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to move forward with converting Main Street up to Church Street to a one-way street as discussed.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Quannacut Road

Highway Superintendent Blazeski advised that he also has been speaking to Mr. Corrigan about the on-going issue of fire trucks having adequate access on to Quannacut Road.

Stein Road

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that the project is going very well and the work continues.

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Monthly Report

Chief Marlatt distributed copies of a monthly report to the Town Board Members. He reported that the system is up and running. Chief Marlatt explained that these are general statistics that can be expanded to include other areas. The report shows statistics for traffic stops, accidents and tickets. The report was reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that arrests and incident statistics will be added to the report.

Vehicles

Car 584 was taken to Wallkill Automotive to be evaluated for needed repairs. They were advised that the vehicle needed to be taken to Strictly Ford for an estimate of the items that need to be addressed. The outcome is that the water pump needs to be replaced, which requires a full engine removal to get to it. Brakes, timing chain and other miscellaneous items were included on the estimate, which totals \$5400.00. Chief Marlatt advised that the Town of Plattekill has offered the donation of a Crown Victoria which could be used for school detail. The options were discussed. A motion was made to accept the

generous offer of the Crown Victoria from Plattekill, list Car 584 on the Auctions International site by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero. Chief Marlatt will send a thank you letter to the Town Board of Plattekill after the donation is complete.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Traffic Control

Chief Marlatt discussed the traffic sign which is on loan from Ulster County. He spoke to the Sheriff and advised that he would like to keep the sign so it can be relocated. Additional locations were discussed.

Various

Chief Marlatt advised that the Wallkill Little League Parade was canceled, it has not been rescheduled.

There was an incident at an Air B & B on Upper Mountain Road this past weekend. There were shots fired. The State Police were called in and are investigating. At this time, there is no report of anyone being hurt. There was some property damage.

Chief Marlatt shared a training announcement for the Officer Resiliency Program. He explained that they are looking for additional officers. The goal is to get ten percent of the police departments trained.

The Sergeants Exam is being given on June 1, 2024. Every officer that is eligible was notified of the exam date.

The DARE Graduation is being held on April 30, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Ostrander Elementary School. Officer Dunn has extended the invitation to all town officials.

Following a discussion of the Flatbed that did not sell on Auctions International recently, it was agreed to re-list the truck and list the old 584.

LIASION TO HIGHWAY

Supervisor Ronk reported that on the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent, Mr. Robert McMann's classification has changed from 20301120 HMEO to 20301022 HMEO/Mechanic. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve the change of classification.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

LIASION TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town Audit Report was received and submitted to the New York State Comptroller. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor

that the Dockets and Records of the Justice Court have been presented and duly examined and audited. The audit will be forwarded to the Office of Court Administration.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Pine Bush Ambulance

Sgt. John Spinato advised the Town Board that as their representative on the Ambulance Board, he will attend the meeting at the end of the month and report back at the next meeting.

WATER & SEWER

No report.

PARKS

Verkeerderkill Park

Councilman DeWitt reported that thirty ton of stone was delivered at Verkeerderkill Park for the lower parking lot. Volunteers from Pine Bush Lacrosse had a work party and spread the stone. Volunteers have offered to do some improvements to the walking trails. They are retired and are willing to donate their time. Some materials may need to be purchased.

Walker Valley Schoolhouse & Popp Park

Councilman DeWitt reported that he has received a price of \$2700.00 for labor and material from Advance Fence & Iron Works to replace the damaged sections of fence at the Schoolhouse and Popp Park. This company is the same company that originally installed the fence many years ago. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the price submitted for the replacement of damaged fencing at both locations.

VOTE: ALL AYE

Park Grant

Councilman Danon discussed the renderings of park equipment that were sent to the Town Board Members. He contacted three companies. One of the companies did not respond. One price was submitted; he is still waiting for the other company to submit the pricing.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

Councilman Amthor reported that he is working on a list of sidewalk repairs that need to be done this year. He will have it ready for the next meeting.

RECREATION**Summer Camp**

Councilman DeWitt reported that the Park Inspection for Summer Camp was scheduled for tomorrow. He will follow up on any items that are identified in the report. Supervisor Ronk reported that it will be necessary this year to have an AED at the camp. He will be doing the training for this. Police Chief Marlatt inquired if the radios that were donated last year were adequate. Councilman DeWitt will check with the Director.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION

Supervisor Ronk reported that he attended a breakfast meeting of the RRA. There is interest in pursuing Organic Recycling for food waste collection. The RRA will provide the containers. He is inquiring if the Board Members are interested in moving forward with entertaining this. Councilman Danon reported that last year this was discussed at the EMC meetings. The barrier was that a trailer was needed for the containers. Supervisor Ronk said that this has changed and the RRA would not impose any pull charges for the containers. He stated that this would be good for the users and the environment. He requested the Board Members to think about this proposal.

Councilman Danon reported that Steve is getting ready to pack up the electronics. Supervisor Ronk advised that he is working with vendors to get credit cards accepted at the Transfer Station.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES**Executive Session**

Supervisor Ronk advised that there will be an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss contract negotiations for the highway department.

Board Appointments

Supervisor Ronk announced that interviews for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals were completed. One Planning Board seat needs to be filled, four ZBA seats need to be filled, and one Board of Assessment Review needs to be filled. Supervisor Ronk explained that ZBA member John Russo is resigning prior to his term expiring. A motion to accept Mr. Russo's resignation was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Planning Board

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to appoint John Leonette to fill a three-year term on the Planning Board. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Zoning Board of Appeals

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to reappoint Sue Wiand to a five-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to appoint Chris Budney Sr. to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Russo for the term of one year. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to appoint Sandy Damon to a two-year term, and Robert Wallner to a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Board of Assessment Review

Supervisor Ronk advised that although interviews were not held for the Assessment Board, there is a vacancy that needs to be filled. Grievance Day is May 28th and the member has to attend training. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to appoint Gary MacEntee to a five-year term on the Board of Assessment Review. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

Supervisor Ronk offered congratulations to the new board members and advised that the EMC is always looking for new members.

Planning Board Chairman Mark Watkins inquired if a joint meeting could be scheduled with all three boards. Supervisor Ronk stated now that all the boards have been filled, the meeting could be scheduled. The Town Attorney and Town Planner will also be included.

BUILDINGS

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has been working with Eric Drozenski on ordering Microsoft 365. After researching the purchase, it was recommended that a total of eight licenses should be purchased. One license for each department at the Town Hall and two licenses for the Police Department. The total cost will be \$700.00 +/- . A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to move forward with the purchase of eight licenses.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into the Executive Session to discuss a Highway Department personnel issue.

VOTE: ALL AYE. A motion by Councilman Amthor and second by Councilman LoCicero to enter back into the Regular Meeting. The Executive Session started at 7:44 p.m. and ended at 8:20 p.m. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

No action was taken.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	8	306-336	\$ 58,315.34
HIGHWAY	8	153-175	\$ 49,038.57
WATER	8	40-43	\$ 5,463.43
SEWER	8	62-69	\$ 20,385.57
LIGHT	3	3	\$ 1,818.87

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk