

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 6, 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, Walkkill, NY on the **6th day of June 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, Sergeant John Spinato, Planning Board Member Chairman Mark Watkins, 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 and the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 10, 2024, and the Regular Meeting held on May 16, 2024.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to discuss.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Martin & Trisha VanDyk were in attendance to address the Town Board about the Revolving Loan Program. Mr. VanDyk read a letter of appreciation and explained that the loan they were granted through the Town seven years ago helped expand their business. He further shared how helpful making interest only payments through the COVID shut down was a tremendous help. Mr. VanDyk further explained that this loan helped turn their dreams into a reality. They will forever be grateful. Their success allows them to continue to be able to contribute to the community. They acknowledged that the expertise, time and resources that John Valk and Bruce Lott provided were instrumental in helping them expand their business. They are happy to advise that they made the final payment today.

Supervisor Ronk commented that when speaking to John Valk, he often referred to Lippincott Manor as the "poster" child for the Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Ronk presented a Mortgage Satisfaction to the VanDyk's and advised it should be filed in the Office of the Ulster County Clerk.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported the following:

The hydroseeding on Stein Road has been completed by Watchtower.

The crew is working on ditching in preparation for paving. Birch Road, Calabrese Drive & Dana Drive, to name a few roads that are included.

Due to conflicts, he did not attend the Highway School in Ithaca this year.

He has learned that there are discussions ongoing that the cycle for CHIPS funding may be changed.

POLICE CHIEF

Police Chief Marlatt reported the following:

Monthly Report

Chief Marlatt distributed copies of a monthly report from May 2024 to the Town Board Members. Chief Marlatt explained the statistics and information in the report.

Chief Marlatt advised that the Town has received the Law Enforcement Technology Grant of \$185,000. Options on how to spend the award were discussed.

The Child Car Seat Safety Program was discussed. Officer Reynolds is a Safety Technician for car seats. The grant will provide for several seat checks a year along with other opportunities.

Chief Marlatt advised that he applied for \$3,500.00 for the 2025 STOP DWI Program. Officer McDermott is a Data Master for the program. The amount for the 2024 program was \$1,500.00

The Sergeants Exam was given on June 1, 2024. Three officers were eligible and all took the exam.

Chief Marlatt thanked the Highway Department for the work they did on the police station parking lot. The department is grateful.

Chief Marlatt advised that Fair Rite has opened up training for First Aid and CPR to the Police Department. Several officers attended the training.

LIASION TO HIGHWAY

Supervisor Ronk read Resolution 3-2024, regarding former unit members of CSEA. The benefits they are entitled to is set forth in Appendix A. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to adopt Resolution 3-2024.

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

LIASION TO PUBLIC SAFETY**Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Councilman LoCicero reported the he is working with Mike Madison of Ulster County and will be moving forward with the plan.

SRO Agreement

Supervisor Ronk presented a draft Inter-Municipal Agreement for School Resource Officers and Special Patrol Officers with Wallkill Central School District. Mr. Ronk explained that the agreement is basically the same as previous years. Chief Marlatt suggested the Town Board take a look at the numbers since the last contract settlement with the Police Department. Councilman Danon suggested that Ostrander Elementary be added along with the High School and Middle School in No. 1 of the agreement. Supervisor Ronk recommended adopting the agreement with these changes. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the agreement with these changes.

VOTE: Councilman Danon, aye, Councilman DeWitt, aye, Councilman LoCicero, abstain, Supervisor Ronk, aye. Councilman Amthor was absent from this vote.

WATER & SEWER

Supervisor Ronk reported that he is working out the details with the Town Attorney on the rental of the Town Hall Annex, formerly the Wallkill Firehouse. The Sewer District South Project will need the building for storage and a location to operate out of. Leasing the building will require a permissive referendum. Mr. Ronk advised that that he met with Town of Montgomery Supervisor, Steve Brescia, to discuss a Intermunicipal Agreement for the Milk Factory project. The language for the rates were discussed and will be changed. Mr. Ronk will supply the Board Members with the draft of the agreement. Mr. Ronk also reported that he met with Millennium Strategies to discuss the Water Quality Improvement Grant. There is a chance to get a grant for this project. The grant would be a 25% match and both Shawangunk and Montgomery would have to have the Intermunicipal Agreement adopted to apply. The Town of Mongomery hopes to adopt the agreement at their July 17, 2024 meeting. Supervisor Ronk advised that it looks like fall when the shovel will be in the ground.

PARKS**Playground Equipment Grant**

Councilman Danon reported that he received the prices for the playground equipment. The prices and plans need to be reviewed and decisions need to be made as to which equipment goes in each park. He will send the prices and revised renderings to the Town Board Members.

Parks Department

Supervisor Ronk reported he met with Rich Greer to discuss Verkeerderkill Park. Mr. Greer has been involved with the park since it was built. They discussed various ideas and options to improve the park. Supervisor Ronk discussed possible employees and equipment that would be needed. He discussed equipment that would be needed with Highway Superintendent Blazeski. The building at the park could be improved and renovated so the Parks Department could work out of it. Mr. Ronk suggested there may be a balance of ARPA funds that could be used. Supervisor Ronk will consult with the Ulster County Personnel Department to inquire if there is job title that would fit the responsibilities desired. Councilman Danon agreed that the Town has great parks; by making these improvements, they could be the best in the County. Councilman LoCicero noted that this park employee could assist at all locations, such as the plowing at Town Hall, Schoolhouse, and the sidewalks in the hamlet which could relieve Steve and get him back to the Transfer Station. Supervisor Ronk will inquire with Ulster County to follow through with the process of creating a position and report back to the Town Board.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING**Street Lights**

Councilman Danon suggested contacting the appropriate utility company contacts to report the street lights that need repair, as listed in the report provided by the Police Chief.

Supervisor Ronk reported that the three American Flags located at the Library, Town Hall and Town Hall Annex have been replaced.

RECREATION**Summer Camp**

Councilman DeWitt reported that he interviewed for Assistant Director and Counselor positions. He will wait to hire anyone until the number of campers registered is known. Supervisor Ronk agreed to assist with the necessary AED paperwork.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION

Councilman Danon recommended the hiring of Jadin Falk to work at the Transfer Station with Steve. He is available to start tomorrow. Steve has recommended that he work on Fridays and Saturdays. The

starting rate is \$15.40 per hour which increases to \$15.90 on July 1st. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to hire Jadin Falk to a Municipal Worker I position.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Sterling Environmental Engineering

Supervisor Ronk advised that he has received the cost estimate for the 2024 Annual Post Closure Monitoring of the Landfill. The cost estimate is \$6,200.00 which is a \$55.00 increase over last year. Following a brief discussion a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to authorize the Supervisor sign the cost estimate.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Executive Session

Supervisor Ronk advised that there will be an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss a Collective Bargaining Contract.

BUILDINGS

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that he has received a final quote for the purchase of Microsoft Office 365. The price is \$756.96 for a total of eight licenses. Each license is good for all computers in each department. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to purchase the program as quoted.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Main Street/One Way

Councilman LoCicero reported that he received the accident data which went back to 1995. He submitted it to Highway Superintendent Blazeski who will send it to the state. The Town Board will need to pass a Resolution justifying the request and send it to the state. Following a discussion Supervisor Ronk agreed to prepare the Resolution and have it ready to pass at the next meeting on June 20th.

NEW BUSINESS

Short Term Rental – Local Law #4-2023

Supervisor Ronk presented a draft law that was paired down from the original law. He stated that the main objective to passing this law is to provide for fire and safety inspections. People who come to our Town and rent these units need to be safe. Portions of the proposed law were discussed. Number of bedrooms, occupancy limits, large gatherings, violations and fines were discussed. Supervisor Ronk requested the Board Members read the proposed law and submit their comments and concerns to him.

Meeting Schedule

Supervisor Ronk inquired with the Board Members if the July 4th meeting should be held on Wednesday the 3rd or cancel the meeting and authorize him to pay the utility bills prior to the next meeting. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to cancel the July 4th meeting and authorize the Supervisor to pay the reoccurring bills to avoid any late fees.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

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 Collective Bargaining Contract.

VOTE: ALL AYE. A motion by Councilman Amthor and second by Councilman DeWitt to enter back into the Regular Meeting. The Executive Session started at 8:14 p.m. and ended at 8:47 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	11	414-465	\$ 40,784.05
HIGHWAY	11	202-232	\$ 155,503.92

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WATER	11	53-58	\$	72,096.95
SEWER	11	88-94	\$	29,260.36
TRUST & AGENCY	9	40-44	\$	2,445.00

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk