

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 15, 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 **15th day of August 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon, Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk & ZBA Secretary Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Member Rich Barnhart, 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 August 1, 2024.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Ronk acknowledged letters from a resident regarding summer camp dated 8/5/24 and a letter and petition from Rich Regino regarding Strawridge Road dated 8/13/24.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Route 208

County Legislator and resident Rich Walls spoke to the Town Board about Robinson Drive and Route 208. Mr. Walls explained that eight years ago he went to the School District and the Town to advocate for a crosswalk and to have the speed limit lowered from 45 mph to 35 mph. In the end, the State Department of Transportation reviewed and denied the request. He feels it is a safety issue with the students walking to the strip mall across Route 208 and feels it's time to pursue the issue again. He went to Kevin Castle, Superintendent of Wallkill Schools who is in favor of the concept. Mr. Walls is inquiring if the Town Board would also be in support. He stated that the area between Robinson and Chase Road is 1/5 of a mile. He also stated that the Town Master Plan considers the hamlet to run up to Robinson Drive. Mr. Walls requested input from Chief Marlatt on the matter. Supervisor Ronk

volunteered to write a letter if the Town Board was in favor. Mr. Walls advised he would like to put a package together and present it to New York State at the same time. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero authorizing Supervisor Ronk to prepare a letter in support of the request.

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

Strawridge Road

Highway Superintendent Blazeski explained the 284 Agreement process and how the CHIPS money can be used. He explained the 2% tax cap and how the Town is making strides in making progress with the roads. Mr. Blazeski stated that with the current funding, he can only do four miles per year. He explained the surface treatments used. Supervisor Ronk explained that Mr. Blazeski brings in professionals to determine what roads they can work on. Mr. Blazeski explained that the base of roads are not built to today's standards and this needs to be considered to determine the treatment and equipment for the roads.

Mr. Blazeski explained his goal of applying the correct treatment to each road. He explained that drainage work including culverts and ditching needs to be done prior to the road treatment.

Councilman Danon explained that Mr. Blazeski is working on getting a company to come out and analyze every road and create a plan for each road. Mr. Blazeski explained that they have created a capital plan for equipment, and he wants to do the same for the roads. Supervisor Ronk explained the bonding rates and the possibility of putting a proposal on the ballot.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor's Report for July 2024 was submitted.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for July 2024 for \$67,719.64 was submitted.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Pavement Management

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported that he would like to invite two pavement management companies to a meeting to make a presentation to the Town Board. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to invite both companies to attend a meeting.

Paving Quotes

Highway Superintendent Blazeski reported that after receiving several paving quotes, the lowest quote was from Ron DeGroot Paving Inc. This quote will pave and finish the Stein Road project. The quote is \$17,500.00. The Town Highway Department will be supplying the blacktop at a cost of \$43,000.00.

POLICE CHIEF**Monthly Report**

Police Chief Marlatt distributed copies of the July Monthly Report to the Town Board. He explained that he added Aline statistics to the report. Supervisor Ronk inquired if medical calls could be added. Councilman Danon inquired if there could be a breakdown of traffic stops. Following a brief discussion Chief Marlatt agreed to add these items to the next report.

Training

Chief Marlatt discussed the upcoming Defensive Tactics Training Course in Broome County. He explained that currently Officer Roy Snyder is the only certified instructor in the department. Anticipating there will be an upcoming need for the department, he is requesting approval for Officer Curt McDermott to attend this training. Estimated cost would be lodging at \$1391.00 and meals at \$240.00. Following a discussion, it was agreed to support sending Officer McDermott to the training. It was also agreed that he should use a town vehicle for transportation. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve Officer McDermott to attend the training as discussed.

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

Fund Raiser Motorcycle Rides

Chief Marlatt advised that he will contact the two groups that are planning rides through the Town of Shawangunk. He will offer the department's assistance with whatever they need.

Vehicles

Supervisor Ronk inquired if Officer Reynolds has obtained quotes for the vehicle lighting upgrades as previously discussed. Chief Marlatt will check with Officer Reynolds but he believes that he has received one quote, two other companies have declined to submit a bid. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to approve the work, contingent on a \$19,000.00 quote and obtaining letters from each company that have declined to bid on the work.

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

LIASION TO HIGHWAY

Supervisor Ronk reported that he received quotes for the bond resolution for the Tandem Highway Truck for a five-year term. The quotes were from Greene County Bank and M & T Bank; Key Bank refused to submit a quote. Greene County Bank was the low bidder at 4.49% with an annual payment of \$78,056.11. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve the Greene County Bank quote.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY**National Night Out**

Supervisor Ronk reported that NNA was successful. Attendance was good considering the weather and the fact that every other town around canceled their event. Officer Brooks moved forward with holding ours and it worked out well. He will be sending a letter thanking her for all of her hard work.

Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Ronk reported that he reached out to the applicants who previously applied for the position. There are three applicants that are still interested in the position. It was agreed that the Police Liaison Committee will conduct the interviews and report back to the Town Board.

WATER & SEWER**Route 208 Sewer South**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Intermunicipal Agreement is still being worked out. There were some issues about who the owner of the pipe would be, the Town of Montgomery or the Milk Factory. Our Town Attorney and the Attorney for the Milk Factory are resolving this. Mr. Ronk will be meeting with Supervisor Brescia and hopes to have the IMA ready to adopt at the next Town Board meeting. Ulster County needs this adopted resolution prior to the end of the year.

PARKS**Park Grant Equipment**

Councilman Danon reported that he has received the price for Garrison Park at \$172,895.25 and for Verkeerderkill Park at \$238,122.65. These prices are on state bid and include the equipment, mulch and padding. The plan is to repurpose existing equipment and relocate to Galeville and Popp Park. The theme for Garrison Park is a firetruck theme. The theme for Verkeerderkill Park is American Ninja Warrior. Councilman Danon explained that these plans are community builds. The company sends a

representative to lead the group in the build. Councilman Danon will send the renderings to the Town Board members for review prior to approving the plan.

Pickleball Courts

Councilman LoCicero reported that the chipping has been done. One more day is needed to go to the road at the bottom by the fields. It was agreed that when all the chipping is complete, next year the area will get landscaped and grass will be planted. Councilman Danon reported that he visited the park, and the area looks great. He agreed that the chipping should go down to the road and finished by putting the pipe in and building a walkway with a handrail. Councilman LoCicero reported that he has two prices for the courts. It may wait until next spring to get them built.

Ice Rink

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Lions Club is still interested in building the skating rink at Popp Park. The Lion's Club is investigating a \$50,000.00 grant through Assemblyman Maher's office. The club will also be applying through the Lions Club International next year for funding assistance.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING**Sidewalks**

Councilman Amthor reported that he has compiled a list of sidewalk repairs that need to be done. He will be getting quotes and report back to the Town Board.

RECREATION**Summer Camp Wrap Up**

Councilman DeWitt reported that there was only one minor issue that surfaced this year. He has received positive feedback. Camp had to close for only one day due to the weather. Councilman Danon reported that his children attended camp and loved every day. He and his wife chaperoned on the day the camp went to the Ulster County Fair. They were impressed with the way everything was organized.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION**Electronics**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the electronics company dropped off supplies to Steve and will pick up when he is done. Councilman Danon reported that ten pallets were dropped off and five are ready to be picked up. Councilman Danon reported that he has been researching other companies. He has discovered that there are not many out there, the ones that are, have the same process. The existing company has not had a contract in fifteen years. The rates are always changing. They do not charge for the bins.

Councilman LoCicero suggested providing some type of jacket or sweatshirts with the town logo for Steve to wear at the Transfer Station. Councilman Danon will include this in the upcoming budget.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Planning/Zoning

Supervisor Ronk advised that on Monday interviews are scheduled for the Planning/Zoning Board secretary position.

Building Department

Supervisor Ronk reported that he spoke to Ulster County Personnel Department on creating a position for Municipal Code Assistant. This position is a competitive Civil Service position which currently has an active list. Following a discussion a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to create the position of Municipal Code Assistant for the Town of Shawangunk.

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

Supervisor Ronk will start the process with Ulster County.

BUILDINGS

Walker Valley Schoolhouse

Supervisor Ronk reported that a resident fell in the back parking lot of the Schoolhouse. The Insurance Company has been contacted. Mr. Ronk advised that the area needs Item Four brought in.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Amthor reported that he has had several calls from people who are interested in starting businesses in the Town.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that the computers for the Town Clerk's office have been received.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Transfer Station

Councilman Danon expressed his interest in getting credit cards approved at the Transfer Station. Supervisor Ronk explained that he needs to schedule a time to speak with the current software company in the Town Clerk's office. He also noted that the Wi-Fi at the Transfer Station needs to be upgraded. Mr. Ronk will pursue research on this issue.

Monthly Reports

Councilman LoCicero expressed an interest in receiving monthly reports from all departments in the Town, similar to the Monthly Police Chief Report. He feels this would be beneficial and suggests possibly starting in the year 2025.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Town Board would go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to enter into Executive Session.

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

The Executive Session started at 9:03 p.m.

A motion was made to come out of the Executive Session by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor and resume the Regular Meeting.

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

The Executive Session ended at 10:02 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED**Police Department**

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to adopt a Resolution to have the Police Liaison Committee have oversight of the day-to-day activities of the Police Chief.

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

Resolution #9-2014 is attached.

Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Ronk reported that he spoke to the applicants who applied for the Dog Control position. Three of those applicants are still interested. It was agreed that Councilman Amthor and Councilman LoCicero will conduct those interviews and make a recommendation.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

ACCOUNT	WARRANT	VOUCHERS	AMOUNT
GENERAL	15	608-650	\$ 53,442.30
HIGHWAY	15	303-321	\$415,486.29
WATER	15	74-85	\$ 25,294.36
SEWER	15	129-139	\$ 25,306.06
TRUST & AGENCY	13	69-85	\$ 6320.00
LIGHT	8	8	\$ 1758.45

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

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

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD
9-2024**

**Town of Shawangunk
Ulster County, New York
August 15, 2024**

At a regular duly noticed meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Shawangunk held at the Town Hall, 14 Central Avenue, Wallkill, NY on August 15, 2024, the following Resolution was adopted:

A motion was made by Councilman Alex Danon and seconded by Councilman Adrian DeWitt that the Police Liaisons will have oversight of the day-to-day activities of the Town Police Chief.

	Yes	No
Kenneth Ronk, Jr. Supervisor	_X_	___
Brian Amthor, Councilperson	_X_	___
Joseph LoCicero, Councilperson	_X_	___
Adrian DeWitt, Councilperson	_X_	___
Alex Danon, Councilperson	_X_	___

Dated: August 15, 2024,

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SHAWANGUNK**

JANE P. RASCOE, TOWN CLERK