

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 17, 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 **17th day of October 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 Chairman Mark Watkins, Highway Clerk MaryAnn Longano, 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 Public Hearing held on October 3, 2024.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the minutes of the Budget Work Session held on October 10, 2024.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Beta Group

Mr. Joe McGuire, Project Manager, for the company introduced himself to the Town Board. He explained that he met Rich Blazeski at an Ulster County Highway Association meeting. The Beta Group covers over one hundred municipalities across New England, offering cost-effective pavement management solutions. He further explained that the work they do with Peckham Industries led them to the New York Region. Mr. McGuire reviewed the five tasks and costs involved in the approach the

company has developed for the Town. Tasks 1-4 - the Pavement Management Program \$18,600.00, Task 5 – Support Services Program (Optional) \$5,000.00. The total cost would be \$23,600.00. This cost covers the Town for three to five years. Mr. McGuire answered questions and thanked the Town Board for their time.

Vision of Wallkill

Donna Barczak and Julie Craner, representing the Vision of Wallkill, discussed upcoming events the group is sponsoring. Mrs. Craner is seeking approval to hold the Pumpkin Smash on November 2, 2024, from 1-2 p.m. at the Transfer Station. She reported that she has spoken with Steve at the Transfer Station and is coordinating with the Environmental Management Council. Mrs. Craner explained that a tent will be set up and they will be distributing information on the Transfer Station and literature on composting. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the Pumpkin Smash as described.

VOTE: ALL AYE

Ms. Barczak thanked the Town Board for their support during the last Weekend of Wallkill event. She explained that she is here to discuss the Holidays in the Hamlet event to be held on December 7, 2024, The event will again be held on the Library and Town Hall lawn. There will be vendors, food trucks, school coral groups, tree lighting, a firetruck and Santa. Ms. Barczak requested the event be covered by the Town’s insurance. Ms. Barczak requested assistance with the tree lights and wreaths. She will be contacting the Lions Club to organize the wreaths. Supervisor Ronk stated that as long as the Town was listed as a co-sponsor, there is no issue with the insurance. Ms. Barczak advised that Vision of Wallkill received a grant from Ulster County Tourism and will be using the balance of that for advertising the event. Supervisor Ronk advised that the vendor will be delivering the fireworks, the logistics on the location is being determined. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to sponsor the event and provide the insurance.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

The Supervisor’s Report for September 2024 was received.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

The Town Clerk’s Report for \$28,375.05 for September 2025 was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Roads

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported that the paving is complete. Stein Road is paved with a good outcome. They are waiting on the guardrails before the road can be re-opened. He is hoping to have a road re-opening ceremony. Mr. Blazeski reported that between the Town Engineer and the highway crew, a significant amount of money was saved with this project.

POLICE CHIEF

Monthly Report

Police Chief Marlatt distributed copies of the September Monthly Report. He explained the statistics and answered questions.

Dog Control Officer

Reported that interviews were held for a Dog Control Officer. Councilman Amthor and LoCicero were present. Of the four people interested in the job, he is requesting the Town Board hire Katy Judson. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to hire Katy Judson for a rate of \$20.00 per hour, starting on Monday, October 21, 2024.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Police Chief Marlatt advised that he will be meeting with Ms. Judson on Monday to review the job requirements and procedures.

DARE Officer

Chief Marlatt reported that Officer Ireland has backed out of attending the DARE Officer Training School. His spot was reserved at a cost of \$700.00. Chief Marlatt advised that someone can be substituted for that spot. He is currently looking for an officer to agree to attend. The training starts next week. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to authorize Chief Marlatt to request Officer Butor to attend. It was verified that Chief Marlatt is certified to be a DARE Officer.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Various

Chief Marlatt advised that Night Range Qualifications will be held on the next two Saturdays. The department is assisting with the escort for the Honor Flight with the Town of Crawford. The resident is from the Town of Shawangunk. Supervisor Ronk suggested that Shawangunk Valley Fire Chief be contacted to participate.

He had a meeting with the Police Liaisons to discuss the Law Enforcement Grant. He compiled a list, with input from the Sergeants and has requested the Town Board to submit their ideas.

On October 2, 2024, Wallkill held their "Walk To School Day", and they participated. The heat at the Police Station was out. The company came and got it to work. Supervisor Ronk reported that he has received several complaints from motorists on Second and Third Street. He requested that the area be patrolled when the children are walking to school.

HIGHWAY

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

One-Way Street/Main Street

Supervisor Ronk reported that he spoke to the Commissioner of Ulster County Department of Public Works who had no objections to the one-way street. He offered his assistance with whatever the Town needed. Mr. Ronk and the Town Board reviewed Resolution #11, designating a portion of Main Street for one-way traffic. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to adopt Resolution #11.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

WATER & SEWER

Supervisor Ronk discussed several issues with customers' water bills. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to authorize Supervisor Ronk to work out agreements with the customers.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

PARKS

No report.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

No report.

RECREATION

Halloween Trunk or Treat

Councilman DeWitt reported that Trunk or Treat will be held at Verkeerderkill Park on October 27, 2024. The set up time is 2 p.m. with festivities starting at 4:30. Fireworks will be held at 7:30 p.m.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION

Councilman Danon reported that Steve is ready for another electronic pick up. He will call to schedule.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Ronk reported that there will be an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss an employee issue.

BUILDINGS**Town Hall**

Supervisor Ronk reported that he will be soliciting quotes to have the windows washed in Town Hall.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

COMPUTERS

No report.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS**Monthly Reports**

Supervisor Ronk reviewed a sample of a Monthly Report from the Building Department. He explained that this is a report through the "CivicGov" Program. The Board Members reviewed the report and expressed this is the information they would like to get on a monthly basis. The Building Department will be supplying the report starting in January 2025.

NEW BUSINESS**Leaf Pick Up**

Supervisor Ronk reviewed a flyer from the Highway Department regarding town wide leaf pick up. This year pick-up dates are Monday, November 4th, Tuesday, November 12th, Monday, November 18th and Tuesday, November 25th. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to approve the flyer for posting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. **VOTE: ALL AYE.** A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to enter back into the Regular Meeting. **VOTE ALL AYE.** The Executive Session started at 8:08 p.m. and ended at 8:40 p.m. No action was taken.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

ACCOUNT	WARRANT	VOUCHERS	AMOUNT
GENERAL	19	754-777	\$ 33,525.43
HIGHWAY	19	388-402	\$ 27,160.13
WATER	19	100-106	\$ 54,809.57
SEWER	19	172-179	\$ 22,871.27
TRUST & AGENCY	17	108-112	\$ 2,188.20

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Supervisor Ronk reviewed the Water and Sewer Budget line by line. He reminded everyone that the water and sewer is based on user fees and does not affect the tax rate. Bonding is paid for by taxes. It was agreed that the water rates will have to be increased for 2025.

Discussion was held on additional work sessions and the scheduling of the Preliminary Public Hearing. It was agreed to cancel the previously scheduled date of the Public Hearing and hold it on November 7, 2024. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to cancel the original Public Hearing date previously scheduled for October 24, 2024.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to adopt the Tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget and set a Public Hearing on November 7, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk