

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 21, 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 **21st day of November 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also, present were Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Planning Board Member Ryan Reid, Zoning Board Member Robert Wallner, 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 DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, and the minutes of the Public Hearings held on November 7, 2024.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from The Town of Montgomery on 11/18/24 regarding a Public Hearing on Battery Storage was received. A letter from the Homeschool Picnic Group on 11/19/24 regarding use of the Community Room was received.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Delaware Engineering/Water System Lead Service Line Inventory

Mary Beth Bianconi, representing Delaware Engineering, provided information on the company. Ms. Bianconi explained that the company has been in business for thirty-five years. They are civil engineers who work with institutions, municipalities, and industry. They work on public water systems, industrial projects, parks, and various projects. They have a staff of eighty engineers, scientists, planners and environmental technicians who work with their clients and communities. Ms. Bianconi introduced Mike Aiello who is a partner and runs the Goshen Office. In total they have five offices in New York State.

Ms. Bianconi explained that a new law was passed that requires a Water System Lead Service Line Inventory to be completed and submitted to the New York State Department of Health by November 16, 2024. The Town of Shawangunk was notified in 2021 and has not developed the inventory. Delaware Engineering contacted the Supervisor and offered their services to develop the inventory. She explained that the Shawangunk Water & Sewer System is operated by a private contractor who they work with. The Town has approximately five hundred and fifty water customers. The first step would be to identify where there are lead services and have them replaced with safe pipes. They would collaborate with the operator and submit the data to New York State. The timeline to finish the project would be next summer. The cost of their portion of the work would be \$51,500.00. Their company would work in coordination with the Department of Health. The second part of the plan would be to provide a Capital Plan for the water supply. A sample master plan for Monroe was distributed for the Board Members to review.

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Water Code for the Town was developed in 1982 and needs to be updated. The Supervisor and Town Board Members thanked Ms. Bianconi and Mr. Aiello for providing the presentation.

Walker Valley Schoolhouse

Town resident Katie Baxter, representing a group of Homeschoolers, inquired if the Town Board was able to find out from the Town Attorney if her group could sign a liability waiver and have use of the building. Supervisor Ronk advised that he was in contact with the Town Attorney who advised that the waiver is not sufficient. Mr. Ronk will contact the Town Insurance Agent and inquire what options that Town has for use of Town Properties.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICERS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Supervisor Ronk advised that since the Highway Superintendent is out of town, he has been in touch with the Working Supervisor. With the upcoming weather, he has been assured that the equipment is ready to go and the storm will be handled by the department.

POLICE CHIEF

Training

Chief Marlatt reported that Officer McDermott attended Defensive Tactical School. He is proposing a joint department training with interested police officers from Shawangunk and Plattekill. The Ulster County Sheriff has an instructor and will assist with the training. It may be necessary to provide liability insurance to the School District for the training. Chief Marlatt explained that multiple agencies learn to work together with this training. The techniques the officers learn from each other is beneficial when they work together. Dates for the training are scheduled for February 27th and March 1st of 2025. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to approve the training.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Promotion

A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to promote Officer Curt McDermott to the position of Sergeant.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Seargent McDermott was congratulated by the Town Board Members.

HIGHWAY

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Burn Ban continues for one month. The Executive Order must be renewed every five days. Mr. Ronk advised that the New York State Burn Ban allows for contained campfires. The Town of Shawangunk Burn Ban is more restrictive and will continue until the threat is lifted.

WATER & SEWER

Sewer South Bids TSW 231 & TSW 241

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Bid Opening for these projects was opened on November 8, 2024. The Town Engineer anticipates the job to begin in April 2025 and should be completed within a four-month time frame.

Supervisor Ronk explained that **TSW241** is for the low-pressure sanitary sewer pump stations. There was only one bidder that came in at \$184,554.00. Town Engineer Dennis Larios has reviewed the bid submission and is recommending the Town accept the bid.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to award the bid to Cummins-Wagner-Sieweret Equipment of Rochester, New York for \$184,554.00.

VOTE: ALL AYE

Supervisor Ronk advised that **TSW231** is for furnishing and installing low pressure sanitary sewer for the 208 Sewer South Sewer District. There were five bidders, one of the bidders withdrew. Town Engineer Dennis Larios reviewed the bids with the lowest responsible bid coming in at \$682,200.00. Mr. Larios is recommending the Town accept the bid.

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to award the bid to Green Meadows Enterprises, Inc. of Wallkill, New York for \$682,200.00.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Intermunicipal Municipal Agreement/Amended Order for Route 208 South Sewer District

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Final Intermunicipal Agreement was signed last night. Mr. Ronk reviewed an Amended Resolution and Order that would resend the previous Order adopted by the Town Board in December 2023. The Amended Order states that no debt will be issued and therefore, no NYS Comptroller approval is needed. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve the Amended Resolution and Order which will replace the prior Resolution that was approved on December 7, 2023, regarding the creation of the Route 208 South Sewer District.

VOTE: ALL AYE

PARKS

Bench

Supervisor Ronk advised that he has received another request for a bench to be placed along the Rail Trail. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that future requests for benches will be directed to be placed in the parks as there are many along the Rail Trail. It was also agreed that benches that need concrete poured for placement will not be ordered in the future. All future orders will be the same type through the same company for consistency.

Bucket Truck

Councilman Danon requested the Bucket Truck get moved to the Annex. He also requested that the Crawford logo be removed. Following a brief discussion, the Police Chief was requested to clear out an area to house the Bucket Truck.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

No report.

RECREATION

Holidays In The Hamlet

Supervisor Ronk reported that this event is taking place on December 7th. The wreaths will be put up and they will be decorated in time for the event. The fireworks that are planned for the event will be dependent on the Burn Ban being lifted.

RESOURCE RECOVERY/TRANSFER STATION

No report.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Ronk reported that there will be an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

BUILDINGS

Handicapped Lift

Supervisor Ronk reported that the handicapped lift is out of order. The company has been out three times and can't get it to stay in order. He explained that the previous company was bought out and it has been difficult to find another company that works on these types of lifts.

Heat

Supervisor Ronk reported that there is an on-going issue with the heat in the Town Hall building. MDS will be out to service the boilers.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

COMPUTERS

Supervisor Ronk reported that funding was included in the budget to upgrade the website next year.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

No report.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

Use of Town Properties

Supervisor Ronk advised that he will be discussing options with the Towns Insurance Agent regarding the use of town properties.

Short Term Rental Law

Supervisor Ronk reported that the outstanding issues that were discussed have been addressed and the draft law has been revised. Concern over the number of bedrooms, inspections and fees were revised. He will circulate the law with these changes to the Town Board Members for review. It is his goal to get the new law implemented early 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Board/SEQRA Circulation

Supervisor Ronk discussed the Circulation Notice from the Planning Board to Involved and Interested Agencies for the Harrier Ridge Estates Subdivision on Malloy and DuBois Roads. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero consenting the Town of Shawangunk Planning be the Lead Agency for this project.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Food Trucks

Supervisor Ronk discussed the need to address the regulation of Food Trucks. He suggested possibly issuing a seasonal or permanent permit that may need site plan review. Supervisor Ronk will do some research and return with information on what other municipalities are doing.

Walker Valley Chemical Engine Co. #1

Supervisor Ronk explained that the Fire Company is filing for 501C Status. Mr. Ronk further explained that a Certificate of Amendment is being submitted to the Attorney General of New York. The Fire Company has requested that the Town Board pass a Resolution in support of the amendment. Supervisor Ronk read a proposed Resolution. Jim Tremper, President of the fire company explained that having this status will allow them to be eligible for state and federal grants. It will also allow people to make tax deductible contributions. After a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to consent to the Certificate of Amendment.

VOTE: ALL AYE

Holiday Training

Supervisor Ronk discussed holding a Holiday Training on December 20, 2024, for all town employees. He discussed Workplace Violence and/or AED Training. The location being considered is at Third & Co. with dinner being provided. The estimate for sixty people attending would be a cost of approximately \$6500.00. Following a discussion on the training, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to hold the training as proposed.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	21	883-852	\$147,716.50
HIGHWAY	21	425-440	\$351,838.52
WATER	21	120-125	\$ 9,365.90
SEWER	21	186-192	\$ 20,389.11
TRUST & AGENCY	19	120-127	\$ 1,924.55

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to enter back into the Regular Meeting. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

The Executive Session started at 7:58 p.m. and ended at 8:19 p.m. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk