

Minutes of a Regular Meeting and Budget Work Session held by the Town of Shawangunk Town Board, County of Ulster, State of New York, at the Walker Valley Schoolhouse Community Center 6 Marl Road, Walker Valley, New York on the **9th day of October 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Ken Ronk, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Adrian DeWitt, Councilman Alex Danon. Also present were Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski 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.

Supervisor Ronk explained that the budget for the Walker Valley Fire Protection District and the budget for the Highway Department will be reviewed and discussed tonight.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Walker Valley Fire Company

Present from the fire company were Chief James Greer, Arthur Rose, Jimmy Greer, and Mike Bergen.

Supervisor Ronk explained that the budget amount submitted was \$558,043.00. He further explained that the amount in the budget last year for the retention program was under by \$4,000.00. Chief Greer discussed the fact that the retention program was not earning enough. Art Rose explained that one of the issues is that they are a fire company and are responsible for paying their own cancer fund payments. Chief Greer shared that their attorney is still working on the 501C which is necessary prior to them forming a district. The possibility of the Town Board adopting a local law with regard to excavator expenses was discussed.

The Fire Company thanked the Town Board for their time and consideration.

Highway Department

Supervisor Ronk explained that he and Highway Superintendent Blazeski have met and discussed the numbers in the budget. Mr. Ronk reviewed each line in the Highway Budget. Following discussions on various expenses, Supervisor Ronk stated if the budget was left as is, it would represent an 11% increase. For a medium price of a \$450,000.00 home in

Shawangunk, based upon a \$50,000.00 assessment, the amount of increase would be \$78.85 per household. Together with the increase in the General Fund, the total amount of the increase per household would be \$165.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Ronk reported that it is necessary to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to enter into Executive Session. VOTE: ALL AYE. The Executive Session started at 8:17 p.m. A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting. VOTE: ALL AYE. The Executive Session ended at 8:35 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to authorize Supervisor Ronk to offer the Planning/Zoning Board Secretary position to Janice Stryker. The offer can include up to \$23.00 per hour, up to two weeks vacation with personal time credited in January. Start date would depend on her availability.

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman DeWitt and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk