

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 4, 2025

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 4th day of December 2025 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 Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski, Police Chief Gerry Marlatt, Sergeant John Spinato, Planning Board Chairman Rich Barnhart, Planning Board Member Ryan Reid, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Anne Barnhart, and Mike Voss.

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 Amthor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 9, 2025.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

A draft contract from Walden Humane Society was received on 12/1/25.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There was no one present that brought any issues before the Town Board.

TOWN LIASION REPORTS

Police Chief

Walden Humane Society Contract

Chief Marlatt discussed his concern with the Intake Procedure proposed in the Walden Humane Society Contract. Chief Marlatt explained that the Police Department has no place to house the dogs if they only accept them during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. He advised that alternatives need to be discussed with the Humane Society, or the Town needs to get an inter-municipal agreement with another town. Councilman LoCicero discussed the need to designate a veterinarian or animal hospital. Chief Marlatt

agreed to check quotes and fees from three agencies. Supervisor Ronk will follow up with the information the Chief obtains.

Holidays In The Hamlet

Chief Marlatt reported that the Police Department will block off Central Avenue as requested by the Vision of Wallkill. They do not have barricades but can place cruisers at each end. The Police will also post "no parking" signs along Central Avenue.

Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Ronk inquired if the current Dog Control Officer is available to fulfill her duties. Chief Marlatt stated that when she has been contacted, she has not been available. Councilman LoCicero stated that after the holidays, the Town Board needs to seek new applicants.

Vacancies

Chief Marlatt discussed the need to fill positions. He would like to post both full and part-time vacancies when the Town posts the Dog Control Officer position. He agreed to prepare descriptions that can be used to advertise these positions.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent Rich Blazeski reported that a few issues came up during the first snowstorm of the season. Overall, everything went okay. He discussed the need to refurbish the chassis of Truck #9. He explained that the current sander is not sufficient. He will work on getting quotes to refurbish the Tenco body.

WORK SESSION

Boiler Replacement

Supervisor Ronk reported that three bids were submitted with two of them being very close. CR Wolfe Heating Corp came in at \$63,540.00, MDS HVAC came in at \$65,348.00, and TM Brennan came in at \$84,000.00. Mr. Ronk further explained that Lyle Shute of Shute Consulting and Engineering reviewed the bids and is recommending the bid be awarded to CR Wolfe Heating Corp. Supervisor Ronk reported that CR Wolfe is prepared to complete the project within the 30-day time frame. They have welders on staff and have plumbers and electricians that are licensed in Ulster County. Following a discussion on the recommendation, a motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to accept the bid and award the project to CR Wolfe.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to enter into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

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

The Executive Session started at 7:19 p.m. and ended at 7:33 p.m. No action was taken.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Councilman LoCicero reported that a meeting was held last week where mitigation was reviewed. He is obtaining plans from other towns which can be re-written by Mike Madison. When that is complete, a work session will be held. Chief Marlatt requested to be present for the work session. Councilman LoCicero tentatively scheduled a work session on December 12th at 9 a.m. at the Town Hall.

PLUMBING/HEATING BIDS

Supervisor Ronk reported that he received two quotes back. He is seeking authorization to put the plumbing and heating out to bid. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon authorizing Supervisor Danon to put these services out to bid.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

INVASIVE SPECIES GRANT

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town EMC is interested in applying for a 2025 Invasive Species Grant which involves a 25% match. Mr. Ronk discussed the areas in town that are included on the list of invasive species. He feels it would be beneficial to work with the EMC on this program. Following a discussion, Supervisor Ronk read proposed Resolution for consideration. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to adopt Resolution #7-2025 in support of the application for a \$15,000.00 DEC Invasive Species Grant.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

DOG LAW UPDATE

Supervisor Ronk distributed copies of the current Town Law pertaining to dogs which was adopted in 1976 and amended in 1983. Supervisor Ronk explained that the laws are governed

by New York State Agriculture & Markets. Currently there is a dangerous dog situation on CE Penney Drive. The Judge has imposed restrictions on the dog owner. He is of the opinion that it would be worthwhile updating the local law. Supervisor Ronk requested the board members review the law and get back to him with any comments and suggestions.

SNOW LAW UPDATE

Supervisor Ronk discussed updating the Local Law that was adopted in 1995. The enforcement by the Police Department and or the Highway Superintendent was debated. The amount of time to clear the snow as well as the fines were areas that the board members felt needed to be updated. Supervisor Ronk will take these concerns and follow up with the Town Attorney.

TOW TRUCK LAW

Supervisor Ronk reported that in response to the request of Nicky D's Towing to be added to the rotation on the town's towing list, he has been discussing options with our Town Attorney. Mr. Ronk explained that the Town currently does not have a tow list but has an informal understanding that calls that occur on the west end of town go to Youngs Towing, and calls on the east end of town, go to Valk's Towing. Our Town Attorney proposed to Nicky D's attorney that the towing be divided up by fire districts. Nicky D's Towing is located in the middle of the town and across from the Shawangunk Valley Firehouse. This proposal was not satisfactory to him. Supervisor Ronk reviewed sections of another municipal local law which could be useful in adopting a local law for our town. The board members will review this law and submit comments to Mr. Ronk who will be following up with our Town Attorney.

RRA/TRANSFER STATION

Supervisor Ronk reported that he received the new contract today from the Resource Recovery Agency. The Town Attorney is reviewing the contract. Mr. Ronk reported that that the contract did not include any increase in tipping fees. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that the fees at the Transfer Station would remain the same for 2026.

END OF YEAR MEETING

Following a discussion on scheduling the End of Year Meeting, the board members agreed to hold it on Wednesday, December 31st at 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Ronk advised that Donna Daley resigned her position with the Town to work full time as an Account Clerk in the Town of Gardiner. Her last day was Wednesday, November 26, 2025. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman DeWitt to accept the resignation of Donna Daley, with regrets.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Supervisor Ronk explained that the position of Confidential Secretary serves the pleasure of the Supervisor. He has appointed Anne Barnhart, who has accepted the position, effective December 2, 2025. The rate of pay is \$21.50 per hour, scheduled to increase in January to a rate of \$22.25. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Anthor to approve the hiring of Anne Barnhart as Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Ronk reported that CEO Ed Diller has been working on the updating and transitioning of Planning Board software with the CivicGov Program and the GIS mapping system. He has been able to put in place for the Planning/Zoning Boards the program that will run a radius. This is a procedure that the Assessor's Office has done in the past. The applicants will get the list from the Town and do the certified mailing which will save the Town time and money.

PINE BUSH AREA CHAMBER

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town has been invited to join the Pine Bush Area Chamber. The cost is \$50.00 per year. Board Members were in agreement that the Town should join.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Supervisor Ronk announced that the Holidays In The Hamlet will be held on Saturday from 3 to 6:30 P.M. Santa will visit, the tree will be lit, and the evening will be followed by fireworks. The final decorations were put up this week, and the wreaths will be hung in the morning.

The Lions Club will be holding a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Skating Rink at Popp Park noon to 2 p.m.

Councilman LoCicero noted that the skating rink was approved by the Town Board. He stressed the need to set up hours of operation and rules for the season. Mr. LoCicero suggested that a meeting take place with the Lions Club to set rules and hours the ice of skating rink will be open.

Supervisor Ronk explained that by error the voucher was omitted from tonight’s vouchers for the fireworks display for Saturday. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to approve the \$5,000.00 expense ahead of the audit.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	22	811-851	\$ 44,767.88
HIGHWAY	22	448-476	\$ 77,988.40
WATER	22	89-94	\$ 13,172.61
SEWER	22	160-164	\$ 6,524.11
TRUST & AGENCY	20	144-137	\$ 3,245.85

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk