

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 7, 2026

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 **7th day of May 2026 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Alex Danon, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Mike Voss, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present were Anne Barnhart, Court Clerk Kathy Ebbrell, Police Sergeant Curt McDermott, 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 LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Voss to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 16, 2026.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from Officer Cano regarding his resignation. A summons was received from Nicky D's Towing & Recovery. A notice of Public Hearing was received from Ulster County.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Joe Lenz, Superintendent of Pine Bush School District, addressed the Town Board. He distributed a handout which gave a financial overview of the proposed budget which will be voted on May 19, 2026. Mr. Lenz reviewed the impact on the taxpayers and spoke of changes that were made. There are four residents running for two positions. Mr. Lenz answered questions. Supervisor Ronk thanked him for attending the meeting.

Mr. Thomas Gastio inquired why the agenda for the Town Board meetings is not posted in a timely manner. Supervisor Ronk explained that typically the agendas are posted on Tuesdays. Mr. Ronk further explained that there are no rules that you must post them. If the agenda is posted, all materials need to also be posted. He agreed that we can be more consistent. Mr. Gastio inquired about why the minutes are posted on the website only after they are approved at the next meeting. He stated that according to

New York State law, the minutes must be posted two weeks after the meeting. Supervisor Ronk agreed that the Town could do better. Mr. Gastio stated that people don't know what is going on.

Mr. Jesse Miller inquired about the status of the stop signs on Viola Street. Supervisor Ronk advised that the Town Board approved of the three way stop at Viola, First, and Second Street. The Highway Superintendent is responsible for putting up the signs. Supervisor Ronk explained that the Town Board recently approved a new sign shed which will enable the Highway Department to build an inventory for signs. He is aware that a sign order has recently been made.

Mr. Miller spoke of his concerns in the area of the sports fields. He stated the lack of police presence and inaction by the police officers in the neighborhood are not addressing a dangerous situation. There have not been any changes since he spoke to the Town Board. He is genuinely concerned about all the sports activities and the way people speed in the area; he is afraid that there may be a tragedy. The number of cars and the number of children that come and go for games in this area is of great concern. Mr. Miller stated that the Police Chief does not address this problem and help is needed. He discussed an example of the lack of police presence at the recent Little League Parade. The officers were not aware there was a parade with a great number of cars, parents, and children in town. Councilman Amthor advised that he and Councilman LoCicero will personally discuss this problem with the Police Chief. Supervisor Ronk explained that the Town Board has recognized that the Police Department is in need of consistent supervision and is moving in the direction of a full-time chief. He explained the slow process of civil service that needs to be complied with.

Police Officer Curt McDermott expressed his gratitude for the support and assistance he has received from the Police Chief, Town Board, Town Employees and community members during his wife's illness and recent passing. He explained that this support may not have been received if he was part of a larger department. He is appreciative to be part of this community and thanked everyone for their kindness and generosity.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Judges have recommended the hiring of Megan Morrissey for Part-Time Court Clerk. The starting salary is \$22.25 per hour and start date is May 11, 2026. A motion was made by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to hire Megan Morrissey as discussed.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

WORK SESSION

SIDEWALKS

Councilman Amthor discussed the need of a general contractor for replacement and repair work for sidewalks. He wrote up bid specifications and would like to proceed with placing an advertisement in the newspaper to solicit bids. Following a discussion on the importance of having a contractor in place for emergency repairs, versus having to go out to bid each time. All board members were in agreement,

and a motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Voss to move forward with the advertising.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS

Supervisor Ronk discussed the need for revision to this local law that was passed in 2022. The original idea of the law was to increase the housing stock. The idea was to streamline the process, but the law that was written categorized it as a Special Use Permit with application to the Planning Board. Planning Board Chairman Ryan Reid conveyed his concerns, which were discussed. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Town Board members would review the law and work on updating specific sections.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Town Board will go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

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

The Executive Session started at 7:49 p.m. and ended at 8:14 p.m. No action was taken.

TOWING POLICY

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town Board adopted a Towing Policy at the last meeting, on April 16, 2026. Since that time, there have been requests to be placed on the Town of Shawangunk Towing List from three companies. The companies who submitted the requests are Al Valk's, Nicky D's and Youngs Towing. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Voss to adopt the Town of Shawangunk Police Department Towing Policy with these three companies, with rotation to begin alphabetically within thirty days and with the companies submitting necessary paperwork as required.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

FOOD TRUCKS

Supervisor Ronk reported that when the Food Truck License Law was adopted last year, the Town Board set the fees at \$100.00 per month or \$600.00 per year. These fees did not consider special or private events. For example, the Vision of Wallkill has three main events each year and the summer concert series. The PBA has at least one event. He has proposed a \$25.00 event fee or \$100.00 for all events. The concern is that the time involved for the Building Inspector to inspect the food truck and process the application have to cover his time and expense. Mr. Ronk stated that his main concern is the health

and safety for the public. Another issue brought up was private parties at the park. After a lengthy discussion, the following fees were proposed: \$100.00 per month or \$600.00 per year, which includes the inspection fee, or, \$50.00 for the first event and \$25.00 for each additional event or, \$100.00 for all V.O.W. concerts. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to revise the fee schedule and set the fees as proposed.

VOTE: ALL AYE

VERKEERDERKILL PARK

SUMMER CAMP

Councilman Danon discussed placing an ad in the Wallkill Valley Times. They are running a Summer Camp section for the first time. The fees were reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to run a half page ad for \$425.00.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Councilman Danon reported that the Department of Health application packet was received today. The Water and Parks Departments will be on hand to test the water on April 28, 2026. Director Gillian Batchesingh will be processing the application packet.

Councilman Danon reported that the inspections by Ulster County were conducted at Verkeerderkill Park and passed. The new hot water heater was installed today. Trevor Hunt has cleaned up several areas of the park and repainted the signage. Mr. Danon reported that the Camp Director is pleased with all the progress.

GALEVILLE PARK

Councilman Danon reviewed two applications for field use at the park. One for the Lacrosse League and the other for the Soccer League. He reported that there are no conflicts with their schedules. Since this is the first time that there will be a field use fee, he will contact each league and advise them. Councilman Danon discussed the need to establish a parking pattern at Galeville Park. He has been considering the use of cones to mark the spots. He has been inquiring about prices. Supervisor Ronk advised that quotes are needed for expenditures of over \$1,000.00.

TRANSFER STATION

Supervisor Ronk discussed several complaints he has received concerning the condition of the Transfer Station. He reported that it is the responsibility of the Town Board to address these issues and resolve them. He is proposing to have a clean-up day where all the clutter is disposed of. The concrete and fencing need to be repaired. There was a lengthy discussion on solutions for cleaning up and repairs that need to be made. Mike Rizzo and Jesse Miller both volunteered to help with the task of cleaning up. Supervisor Ronk stated that charges may have to be instituted for brush and yard waste. Councilman LoCicero stated

that he is concerned with all the chips that will be sitting there after the contractor is finished with the tub grinding work. He inquired what the charge would be to have them hauled off site. Supervisor Ronk had samples of fee schedules from other towns. He compared what they charge for permits and yard waste. It was agreed that the Town may have to start monitoring who is dumping the waste and charging a fee. The intention is the yard waste is for residential users, not commercial companies. It was agreed that the trailer needs to be at the entrance to the Transfer Station. Supervisor Ronk will follow up on a plan to hold a clean-up day and thank the volunteers for stepping up to assist. Councilman Danon advised that some of the wood chips could be used for the trails at the parks.

PARK BUILD

Supervisor Ronk reported that the JPT crew came in and graded and prepped the playground area at Garrison Park. Trevor Hunt is in the process of laying the weed barrier and hauling in the chips. Following that, the swings will be hung, and that section of the park can be opened. Councilman LoCicero suggested installing temporary fencing for the unfinished portion. Mr. Ronk stated that he would like to get that portion open and move to starting the playground at Verkeerderkill Park. Councilman Danon stated that trees were cut down last year, but the stumps still need to be removed. There was a discussion on a plan to install the remainder of the equipment at both parks. Anne Barnhart advised that there is a company who has volunteered to bring in a crew to help with the park build.

250TH BIRTHDAY OF AMERICA CELEBRATION

Anne Barnhart reported that the first committee meeting to discuss this celebration will take place next Thursday. The non-profits for the town wide celebration have been invited to participate in the planning. The thought is to have the celebration take place at Popp Park on July 11th.

Anne reported that at Town Hall, there will be a decorating contest in each department honoring the celebration. An outside judge will come in and award the "best decorated office." The judging will be on June 1st.

DOG CONTROL

Supervisor Ronk advised that he has been contacted by New York State Agriculture & Markets with regard to scheduling the yearly inspection.

Supervisor Ronk reported that our former Dog Control Officer spoke to him about acquiring forms he utilized while in office with his new employer. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that this was acceptable. Supervisor Ronk will advise the Police Chief on this.

SRO AGREEMENT

Supervisor Ronk reviewed a draft agreement of the yearly contract with Wallkill School District regarding SRO'S and SPO'S at the Middle and Elementary Schools. Mr. Ronk advised that the Ulster County Sheriff's Department will be providing services to the High School. Following a discussion a motion was made by

Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon to authorize Supervisor Ronk to sign the agreement between the Town and the School District.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

A Resolution was offered by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor for the following Budget Transfer:

INCREASE	DA599	TO INCREASE	DA5142.400	\$56,000.00
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VOTE: ALL AYE.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	9	309-357	\$ 39,649.09
HIGHWAY	9	130-145	\$189,273.23
WATER	9	37-41	\$ 10,708.31
SEWER	9	53-61	\$ 49,469.75
TRUST & AGENCY	8	52-62	\$ 4,890.46
DRAINAGE	2	2	\$ 605.00

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk