

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 20, 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 **20th day of August 2026, at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT were Supervisor Kenneth Ronk, Councilman Alex Danon, Councilman Brian Amthor, Councilman Joe LoCicero, Councilman Michael Voss, and Town Clerk Jane Rascoe. Also present were Kathy Ebbrell, Sergeant John Spinato, 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 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 August 6, 2026.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

CORRESPONDENCE

Park Use

Supervisor Ronk acknowledged correspondence on 8/17/26 from Vienna Polanco, representing Wander Valley Homeschoolers. Ms. Polanco is a resident of Plattekill and explained that their group represents families in Ulster and Orange Counties. The group is requesting the use of Verkeerderkill and Galeville Park. Following a discussion, the Town Board agreed that the group could use the pavilions at the parks with the conditions that they provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance and pay the appropriate out-of-resident fees.

Support Event

Supervisor Ronk distributed a copy of an Appreciation Barbecue flyer to be held at the Cobblestone Deli on September 5, 2026. Mr. Abraham Warner is requesting the Town Board promote this event on the Town Website. Following a discussion, the Town Board agreed to post on the Town Website.

Legislative Conference

Supervisor Ronk discussed the upcoming New York Association of Towns Legislative Conference to be held on September 22-23, 2026, in Albany. Mr. Ronk stated he could not attend and requested any interested Town Board member to contact him if they could attend.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

No one was present to address the Town Board.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICES

TOWN SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor's Report for the month of July 2026 was submitted and on file.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for the month of July 2026 for \$32,142.74 was submitted and on file.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Building Inspector's Report for July 2026 was submitted and on file.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Supervisor Ronk advised that Highway Superintendent Blazeski was not present to give a report.

POLICE CHIEF

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Police Chief was not present to give a report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Ronk advised that it would be necessary to hold an Executive Session regarding the Police Department and the Highway Department. A motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss a specific member of the Police Department, and in addition, discuss Collective Bargaining negotiations for the Highway Department. **VOTE: ALL AYE.** A motion was by Councilman Amthor and seconded by Councilman Danon to enter back into the Regular Meeting. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

The Executive Session started at 7:13 p.m. and ended at 8:06 p.m. No action was taken.

HIGHWAY

Councilman Amthor reported that a resident inquired if the Town Board would consider posting a family name under a road sign on Kosteczko Drive, honoring a deceased family. Councilman Danon reported that he was approached some time ago with the same request and requested that family submit a sample. There was a discussion on setting a precedent.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervisor Ronk discussed the Police Chief "A" Exam with the board members. He advised that a request needs to be made to Ulster County Civil Service for the official list. There is both a Promotional List and an Open Competitive List. There are four members from our Police Department that are on the list and will be interviewed. Mr. Ronk discussed the salary range that will be stated in the canvas letter. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the range will be \$80-120,000.00. A motion was made by

Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Amthor to authorize Supervisor Ronk to request the official list and canvas the candidates.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

WATER & SEWER

Sewer South

Supervisor Ronk discussed the status of the Sewer South project. He explained that three of the buildings are on a four-inch line and need to be moved to an eight-inch line. The open trenching is completed. Central Hudson shut down the project to investigate a gas line past Beck's entrance on Route 208. The basement at Sunoco needs to be pumped out so the water line can be identified where it leaves the building. The Building Inspector will need to be on site Monday.

Pump Station

Supervisor Ronk reported that there was a meeting with the Town Engineer to discuss options for a plan for a sewer connection for the Blue Chip project.

Water Leak

Supervisor Ronk reported that repair work was necessary for a water leak at Church and Main Street. He explained that when six-inch mains were installed in the 1990's, the old four-inch lines were never unhooked or removed.

PARKS/REC

Popp Park

Supervisor Ronk reported that he accompanied an electrician to Popp Park to look at reported issue of outlets not working. It was determined at that time that all the outlets were working. It was agreed that Mr. Ronk will contact the Lions Club to meet down at the park to load up the electricity and test the outlets. Supervisor Ronk stated that the issue needs to be identified so a solution can be addressed.

Garrison Park

Supervisor Ronk discussed the need to complete the ninja warrior equipment. Following a discussion, it was agreed that he and Councilman LoCicero would meet and come up with a plan.

Verkeerderkill Park

Supervisor Ronk reported that he met with Richard Greer to discuss plans at the park. Mr. Greer is recommending the dedication of a spot where two trails meet for a scout camp. He thinks that if a specific spot was cleaned up and dedicated for that use, it would be a positive thing for the park. Councilman Danon reported that permission has been granted in the past for the scouts to camp at the park. He will reach out to see if there is any interest.

Councilman Voss reported that he and Rich Blazeski have met and will be starting the site work. After the stumps are dug out, soil will need to be brought in and compacted. Supervisor Ronk advised that this work needs to be completed by November or the \$15,000.00 grant from Ulster County will be forfeited. Mr. Ronk reported that Walker Valley Fire Company may be interested in the wooden firetruck that was

built by Warren Moore. If the decision is they do not take the firetruck, it will be refurbished and relocated to another location in the park in memory of Mr. Moore.

SIDEWALK/LIGHTING

Supervisor Ronk advised that Councilman Amthor and Councilman Danon should meet to select the locations that need to be repaired. When the list is completed, Algarin has agreed to charge the same rate as he charges for highway work. This agreement is for repair work only.

TRANSFER STATION

Supervisor Ronk reported that Dan Davis is working out. He is trying to clean up the area on the days he has the Transfer Station open. For the time being, he is calling for the boxes to be pulled. Steve is not expected back to work until the end of the month. When he returns he and Dan will work as a team. Councilman Danon and Supervisor Ronk will be working on a fee schedule for next year. The location, size and type of the new office shed were discussed. It was agreed that there may be a charge for brush in the future.

PERSONNEL/PROCEDURES

Supervisor Ronk discussed the importance of developing an annual employee review sheet. He requested Councilman LoCicero and Councilmen Amthor develop this by November/December for all non-union staff.

BUILDINGS**Town Hall**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the bid was awarded to MDS for the Roof Top unit. They have ordered the equipment and work should begin soon.

Walker Valley Schoolhouse

Supervisor Ronk reported that he investigated a reported leak at the schoolhouse. After inspection, the gutters were not full. The source of some water in the corner of the kitchen will continue to be monitored.

INSURANCE/PURCHASING

Supervisor Ronk reported that he will be budgeting for a 10-15% increase in the cost of insurance for next year. He stated that that has been trend.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING**Chamber of Commerce**

Councilman Amthor reported that he has been working on coordinating meeting schedules and will report back to the board.

COMPUTERS**Computers**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Bookkeeper has been working on cleaning out old files from the back conference room. It is now almost all cleaned out and can be a workspace for the Town Board members. Electronic devices and options with the new phone system were discussed. Councilman Danon stated that printing is an issue and would be useful to have equipment in this conference room.

Supervisor Ronk reported that the existing phone lines for alarms and the elevator cannot be part of the new phone platform.

IT Assistance

Supervisor Ronk will be working on an RFP for IT Services. He is concerned that it may not be affordable at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**Public Hearing – LL Law #1 Zoning Changes**

Supervisor Ronk reported that the Town Board had the zoning changes on their desk for at least seven days. The Introductory Public Hearing was opened on April 16, 2026. The changes were reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman LoCicero to close the Public Hearing. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to declare this Type I Action under SEQRA, has no negative impacts on the environment. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Amthor to adopt Local Law #1-2026, Amending Provisions of the Zoning Law, Code Section 177. **VOTE: ALL AYE.**

NEW BUSINESS

Employee Matters

Supervisor Ronk discussed the hiring of Daniel Kopec pending a background check on June 4, 2026. Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Voss to rescind the offer.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

Councilman LoCicero discussed the hiring of Fire Inspector Ronald Svrcek. He reported that after the interview was held, an offer was made and accepted. He was not aware that Mr. Svrcek had a full-time job that made him unavailable before 4:00 p.m. Councilman LoCicero will contact him tomorrow.

Supervisor Ronk discussed a request from the Building Department for the Assistant Building Inspector to increase her days off from one to two days for the next semester of school. Following a discussion, it was agreed that working three days a week would be considered a part-time position.

Bonding Resolution for Highway Truck

Supervisor Ronk advised that the Western Star Tandem Dump Truck that was ordered needs to be financed at this time. He read Resolution No. 9-2026 which authorizes the issuance of \$366,276 in bonds. The bond is for a five-year period at 3.75% with the Bank of Greene County. A motion was made by Councilman Danon and seconded by Councilman Voss to adopt Resolution No. 9-2026.

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

Supervisor Ronk explained that a Legal Notice of Estoppel will be published in the Wallkill Valley Times next week.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were audited.

ACCOUNT	WARRANT	VOUCHERS	AMOUNT
GENERAL	15	729-765	\$ 44,891.98
HIGHWAY	15	266-273	\$ 99,386.41
WATER	15	64-68	\$ 6,035.50
SEWER	15	107-113	\$ 17,938.31
TRUST & AGENCY	14	115-121	\$ 997.50

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

VOTE: ALL AYE.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

Resolutions were offered by Councilman LoCicero and seconded by Councilman Danon for the following Budget Transfers:

INCREASE	A8090.400	TO DECREASE	A8030.400	\$ 400.00
INCREASE	A9788.600	TO DECREASE	A3120.400	\$18,036.00
INCREASE	A7270.400	TO DECREASE	A7550.400	\$ 100.00
INCREASE	A14400.400	TO DECREASE	A1990.400	\$ 9,000.00

VOTE: ALL AYE.

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 9:16 p.m.

Jane P. Rascoe, Town Clerk