

TOWN OF RED HOOK BOARD MEETING
January 9, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Sue Crane
Councilman Harold Ramsey
Town Clerk Susan McCann

Also Present: Attorney Christine Chale, Deputy Supervisor William O'Neill and approximately 75 people in attendance.

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATE OF THE TOWN ADDRESS

Supervisor Blum Bump welcomed everyone for coming. Supervisor Blum Bump outlined the Town Board of Red Hook's Blueprint for Good Government for 2007.

1. Moderate the rate of growth in taxes
2. Keep the town fiscally sound.
3. Protect the excellent quality of our schools.
4. Encourage locally owned business, including the business of agriculture
5. Support partnership between the municipalities, our citizens and others on land use.
6. Protect our historic, cultural and environmental assets, and open space and farmlands-keeping Red Hook a rural, small town
7. Support affordable housing for seniors, young people, and workers.
8. Promote open government and cooperative leadership.

Copy of the State of the Town Address is available in the Town Clerk Office.

VACANCY ON TOWN BOARD

Due to the resignation of Councilwoman Bordewich, there was a vacant seat on the Town Board. Town Attorney Chale stated that Councilwoman Bordewich's term was four years, for the period of Jan. 2004 – December 2007. Pursuant to Section 42 of the Public Officers Law, an election to fill the seat will be held at the time of the next general election in November. The Board will appoint someone to fulfill the remainder of the term, which coincides with the next election.

Supervisor Blum Bump nominates Harry Colgan to fill the unexpired term of Councilwoman Bordewich. The Supervisor indicates that Harry is very active on the Intermunicipal Task Force and would be a valuable asset to the town board. As there is no second, the motion fails. The Supervisor then nominates Bill O'Neill to fill the unexpired term of Councilwoman Bordewich. As there is no second, the motion fails.

On motion by Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, nominates Lisa Pullaro to fill the unexpired term of Councilwoman Bordewich. Councilman Ross states that Lisa led the community group in Rokeby Gardens and would be an asset to the Board. Councilman Ramsey added that she has been involved in a number of community events and activities locally. Feels she cares much for the community, is a professional with a strong business background. Councilwoman Crane noted that Lisa fulfilled all of the requirements they were looking for in a candidate. She is acquainted with Town

issues, holds a Masters Degree and is willing to run again in November.

Adopted Ayes 3 Ross, Crane, Ramsey
 Nays 1 Blum Bump

Lisa Pullaro is then sworn in by Town Clerk McCann.

(A 15 minute break ensues. The meeting is resumed at 8:50 p.m.)

RESOLUTON AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF ARTICLE 7 PROCEEDINGS WITH THE RED HOOK GOLF CLUB, INC.

Town Assessor Frank Orlando explains that in 2005 (2005/2006 tax year) the assessed value of the golf club was \$4,125,000. In 2006 (2006/2007 tax year) would like to lower it to \$3,764,000 because of changes in some court decisions the last few years which changes the appraisals of golf course. Assessor Orlando feels the lower figure is very fair in light of those decisions.

Councilman Ramsey asks if the owners of the property are satisfied with the re-assessment, and Assessor Orlando indicates they are. He further explained that in a court ruling in the southern tier, a judge had ruled that golf courses should be appraised as a land lease, with a smaller capitalization rate on their fees. This has reduced assessed values. Councilman Ramsey notes that it is less than a 10% drop. Supervisor Blum Bump asks about the value the golf course wanted originally. The exact number was not available, but the Assessor stated it was below the number he suggested. Councilwoman Crane asks if the assessed valuation per acreage was comparable to other golf courses in the area. Based on the assessment of a golf course in Highland, Assessor Orlando stated that the assessed value proposed for the Red Hook Golf Club is favorable to the Town.

Councilman Ross stated that as a member he will recuse himself.

Town Attorney Chale stated that any board member, who has a membership interest in the Club, or whose spouse has a membership interest, should recuse themselves. Supervisor Blum Bump and Councilman Ross both recuse themselves.

RESOLUTION 2007 #29

RE: Authorizing Settlement of Article 7 Proceeding with Red Hook Golf Club, Inc.

On motion by Councilman Harold Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to agree to the settlement and to the entry of the Consent Judgment for reduction of assessments for Red Hook Golf Club, Inc., payment of the Town’s portion of the refund and authorization of the Town Attorney to execute such documents as may be necessary to effectuate this resolution.

Adopted Ayes 3 Crane, Ramsey Pullaro
 Nays 0
 Recused Blum Bump, Ross

ICLEI AND THE CCP CAMPAIGN’S FIVE MILESTONES

Brenda Cagle, Chair of the Conservation Advisory Council, came before the board to explain that membership in the ICLEI requires participation in one of their programs. The CAC is recommending participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP), and requested that the board pass a resolution allowing the town to join the ICLEI and participate in the CCP (passing of the resolution is required by ICLEI prior to program participation). Town Attorney Chale stated that the board should be aware of any financial obligation involved with passing the resolution, which includes a 5-step commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions. Brenda Cagle said that the CAC intends to carryout the steps with support from ICLEI (that support is one of the benefits of membership).

RESOLUTION 2007 #30

RE: Membership in the ICLEI and participation in it Cities for Climate Protection Campaign.

On motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, moves to be it resolved, that the Town of Red Hook, NY will join ICLEI as a Full Member and participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant, pledges to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change. Be it further resolved that the Town of Red Hook will undertake the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign’s five milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community. Be it finally resolved that the Town of Red Hook requests assistance from ICLEI’s Cities for Climate Protection Campaign as it progresses through the milestones.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

DEDICATION OF GLEN RIDGE ROAD

Town Attorney Chale reported that everything is in place and a resolution is available, but is still awaiting confirmation from the Village of Red Hook of its acceptance of the water line. Hopes this can be resolved next week. Councilwoman Crane asks exactly what is outstanding. Attorney Chale replies that the Village needs to formally agree to supply the water line that is under the road since it is not within the Town’s water district.

2007 TRAINING SCHOOL AND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS, FEB. 18th-21st.

Upon motion by Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, move to authorize attendance of those committee members who have registered to attend and authorize the Supervisor to vote as a representative of the town.

Supervisor Blum Bump indicates she will be at the meeting and will vote as a representative of Red Hook. Councilwoman Crane stated she would like to be sure that new committee members (such as recent appointments and, specifically, the Zoning Review Committee) be informed about the training so that they can participate. Councilman Ramsey noted that Committee Chairs are directed to advise their members of the training. Supervisor Blum Bump stated she supports education of all committee and board members, but indicated that this conference is expensive and sometimes similar educational opportunities are available locally (at a greatly reduced cost) and should be looked at first. Councilman Ramsey agreed, and said that if a particular class that a committee member needs to take is not offered locally, they may come to the board with a request to attend the Association of Towns Conference. The Board can then consider each request on a case-by-case basis. He also pointed out that Planning and Zoning Appeal Board members are now required by NY State law to take four hours of training annually. Councilman Ross then focused the discussion on the motion, which is to make the Town Supervisor the Town’s delegate at the conference. He also stated he would like the board to have the opportunity, at a workshop, to discuss all of the resolutions she will be voting on at the conference. Councilwoman Crane feels that Michael Carr and Sue Simon would particularly benefit.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

LETTERS OF INTEREST FROM POTENTIAL VOLUNTEERS

Supervisor Blum Bump said she would like to advertise for volunteers to fill vacancies on the various committees and boards. She has received two letters of interest from potential volunteers, but expects more once the vacancies are advertised.

PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND MEAD FARM

Town Attorney Chale reported that a meeting is scheduled in February with the county representatives and Dutchess Land Conservancy.

APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF A THIRD PARTY ENFORCEMENT RIGHT

Town Board approved and passed a number of years ago, addressed this drainage issue. Although the handling of storm water was a requirement of the plan, the town never checked to see if this requirement was met. The Supervisor said she feels that the town should pay for this drilling and solve the problem. Councilman Ramsey stated that if the test drilling shows that a drainage basin can be installed, Engineer Wheeler estimates that cost to be \$8,000 - \$10,000.

On motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Harold Ramsey, move to approve payment for test drilling up to \$3,100.

Adopted	Ayes 4	Blum Bump, Ross, Ramsey, Pullaro
	Nays 1	Crane

Highway Department

Councilman Ramsey reported he spoke with Morris Associates and will provide the board with the outcome of the geo-thermal studies, radiant heat studies, long term maintenance, etc. they did on the highway garage.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Ramsey reported the EDC will meet Jan. 25th and will be meeting with the Dutchess County Economic Development Chair in the near future.

Other issues: Councilman Ramsey reported on complaints passed on to him from the Supervisor. These included safety and road issues on River Road, light issues on Whaleback Road, and speed issues on Route 9 North. These are all being currently worked on. Also, on Kalina Drive the residents have asked the Rhinebeck Zoning Board handle a parking and traffic issue on the Rhinebeck side of that entrance-way. The Town Board has been asked by the residents to provide a letter of support to the Rhinebeck Zoning Board.

Town Website

Councilman Ramsey also indicated that the new Town website is up and running. There is a survey on the website that he urges site users to complete. Town Clerk McCann noted they are still collecting information from committees to put on the site.

Dial-A-Ride

Supervisor Blum Bump has asked Dial-A-Ride for reports on Red Hook usage rates, but has not received a response. She feels it may be a very under-used service in Red Hook; the Town pays \$5,150.16 for the service. Councilman Crane said she will get the data for the past year.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Councilman Ross reported the ZBA meets January 10th at 7:00 p.m.; one public hearing is scheduled.

Planning Board

Councilman Ross reported the Planning Board meets January 22nd at 7:30 pm with two public hearings.

The Report of the Implementation of the Work Group Recommendations

Report from Bill O'Neill was read into the record by Councilwoman Pullaro.

Water Board

Councilwoman Crane reported the Water Board meets next Wednesday.

Purchasing Department

Councilwoman Crane reported during the period Dec. 13, 2006 – January 9, 2007, 16 purchase orders were issued in the amount of \$17,131.19. The largest, \$3,000, was issued to Smith Labs for 2007 water testing for the Water District. We purchased 2 computer systems from the Dell Corp. for \$2,533.20. These will be replacement machines for the Justice Department and the ZBA department. A quote has been requested to modify the doorway of the Assessor's office to provide for more privacy for residents seeking information. The Town's fuel requirements for the year (oil, diesel and gasoline) have been forwarded to the NYS Office of General Services.

Hansen Application for Permanent Conservation Easement

Richard Hansen is an applicant before the Planning Board for a 3-lot minor subdivision containing valuable soils. He is requesting that the Town hold a permanent conservation easement, although he has been informed that the Town does not currently hold any. There was a brief discussion and Attorney Chale suggested that this be looked at on a committee level.

Assessor's Department

Councilwoman Pullaro reported for the month of December, 2006 the Assessor met with Kearney Realty & Development Group to discuss plans for the Perx property, the pilot program and the potential assessments. Also met with representative of the School District to discuss possible joint presentations, thereby giving the public an all inclusive view of the assessment/tax levy process. Discussed with Harry Girdlestone, NYS ORPS, the feasibility of Red Hook entering into a Coordinated Assessment Program with a neighboring town. Reviewed 46 deeds for accuracy and continued the review of current assessments.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the floor for public comment.

County Legislator Dave Seymour: The County is looking at a couple of resolutions that the Board should be familiar with. They are not new (date from 2005): Resolution 2063-23, Local Law Mandating Private Well Testing Performed on Public Property. This is gaining momentum on the county level and if it goes into law will be effective July, 2007. The other is Resolution 2062-11, Local Law Requesting Licensing of Master Electricians to Business with Multiple Contractors on the County Level. Will provide the board with copies of these resolutions and requests feedback within seven days. Also encouraged the Zoning and Planning boards to attend the training workshops on Jan. 31.

Linda Keeling, Red Hook: Thanked the Supervisor for providing copies of her State of the Town Address, very helpful. Also reported on an encounter she and her husband had with a dog that required reaching the dog warden. She had some difficulty tracking down the best number at which to reach him, but finally obtained it from Town Hall and suggested that number should be on the website. Attorney Chale pointed out that the police have the number, as well.

With regard to the copies of the State of the Town Address, Supervisor Blum Bump said that volunteers helped to pull them together and specifically thanked Beth Jones.

TAX COLLECTOR

RESOLUTION 2007 #31

RE: Creation of the position of Deputy Tax Collector

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey, move to create the position of Deputy Tax Collector. The Tax Collector's annual salary shall be \$7,714, payable weekly, and the Deputy Tax Collector's salary for 2007 shall be \$3,857 payable weekly.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

RESOLUTION 2007 #32

RE: Appointment of a Tax Collector and the Deputy Tax Collector.

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, appoint Margaret Doty as Tax Collector and Sue McCann as Deputy Tax Collector for a period of one year, which will be extended to two years if so required by

New York State Law.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Crane, move to go into executive session at 10:10 pm regarding the purchase of recreational lands.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro move to close the executive session.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

Upon returning from executive session the follow motion was made:

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro, move to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 p.m.

Adopted Ayes 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCann, Town Clerk