

TOWN OF RED HOOK WORKSHOP MEETING
January 16, 2007

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 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Marirsoe Blum Bump
Councilman Jim Ross
Councilwoman Sue Crane
Councilman Harold Ramsey
Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro
Also Present: Town Clerk Sue McCann
Attorney for the Town, Christine Chale

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, then a Public Comment period.

PRIVELEGE OF THE FLOOR

John Douglas has three issues to bring up.

The first concern is the Dutchess County Legislature's Electrician Law. He has spoken against it. Mr. Clearwater who is no longer a Legislator was pushing this to benefit the Unions. Electrical inspections that we have now are very good. He sees no reason to have this law. It's all about money. Mr. Douglas would like a letter opposing this law from the Town Board to the new County Legislature, the County Executive Steinhaus and the Chairman from Pine Plains.

Mr. Douglas' next concern is regarding Conservation Easements. The Town should have a map showing the different parcels and when they became open space for farming, golf course or otherwise. The Planning Board, Town Board, ZBA would have an up to date map showing what parcels have what easements. He feels that Bill O'Neill should put together a map and written information about what the easement is on which parcels. He feels the records are not up to date because we don't have a working map.

His next concern is the MTA. The Mass Transit Authority Chairman stated that they are looking into the possibility of expanding their service north of Poughkeepsie. In the 90's they stated that they had to stop in Tivoli because of the way the railroad laws were written. If they did go north, they'd have to build a depot for their cars. The present Mayor and the past Mayor worked as hard as possible to build a park on the Hudson. If the railroad comes north it would create problems for Red Hook. Mr. Douglas would like a letter from the town opposing the MTA's move north of Poughkeepsie.

Linda Keeling commented on the new Town web site. She feels it is a great improvement. However, she feels the agenda should be on the web site earlier.

Supervisor Blum Bump responded that the Business Meeting agendas will be out in advance, but the Workshop agenda's are developed up until the last minute, so they are out as soon as they can be.

Councilwoman Crane stated that it would help the citizens if the agenda's were out the Friday before the Tuesday meetings, even if they had to be fine tuned a little. If it had to be revised at the last minute, it would help everyone have an idea of what was going on.

Richard Hansen said that having endured the Planning process he feels the Planning Board does a good job. They are fair and try to be accurate in everything they do. However, the job is really tough and the interference of the outside planner creates a lot of inconsistencies in their interpretation of what the law is. We brought lawyers and outside planners were arguing with the lawyers and he thinks some of their assessments were ludicrous. He does not feel that they should be reappointed. If they are, they should be very closely monitored as to what their job and function is to the Planning Board.

Tom Crisci asks when the LOSAP will be on the agenda. He said that it's been too long, it keeps getting pushed off. It really needs to be brought up.

Councilman Ross stated that we promised the firemen that we would have it in early January.

Supervisor Blum Bump said she'd like the discussion be when PANDA is here so that the public can be informed, so it gets the broadest viewpoint.

Councilwoman Crane asked if we can assure that it will be on the February 13th agenda.

Supervisor Blum Bump agreed.

Councilman Ross asked if it could be put on the February 6th meeting agenda.

Supervisor Blum Bump... if PANDA will come, she will put it on the agenda.

Councilman Ross suggests calling PANDA. He also stated that as a Board, this issue needs to be discussed. He suggested discussing it at the February 6th meeting, and voting on the next meeting, February 13th.

Supervisor Blum Bump...I'm not saying that we will vote on it...we will discuss it at the two February meetings.

Councilman Ross stated that the Villages depend on what we decide.

Supervisor Blum Bump wants people in the Town to know and understand that they don't get to vote on it, that's why she wants PANDA to be present.

Brad Mitchell asks about the status of the Fairweather project.

Supervisor Blum Bump stated that Bill O'Neill is not here and they will hear from him on Friday morning at the Intermunicipal Task Force meeting. She believes that its close and they are in the last stages.

Councilman Ramsey asks what the status is. He would like the Board to reappoint a liaison to take former Councilwoman Bordewich's spot to keep up on where Fairweather Consulting is in the process so that we don't get lost on this. One of the members on the committee is Kevin Zulch from the EDC who said he has been left out of the loop and does not know what the status is.

Supervisor Blum Bump...the Task Force designed the project and we will hear from Bill O'Neill at the next meeting.

Councilman Ramsey hasn't heard any information about this. He hears they are working on a study, but no more information is available, this information should be available to the Town Board members. Not all of us can go to a Task Force meeting on a Friday morning.

Supervisor Blum Bump said that the Task Force is tweaking it and Bill will report to us at the February meeting.

Councilman Ross questions why the Task Force hasn't met with the EDC if they are almost done with their report.

Councilman Ramsey said that we are at a loss. This study was put together for the whole Town not just the Task Force and he wants information before the final report comes in here.

Councilwoman Crane...I think it is a good idea for a Town Board member be a liaison to the Fairweather group and I suggest that Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro be the Town Board

liaison. She oversees a two million dollar budget on an annual basis, so she is more than qualified.

Councilwoman Pullaro will gather more information for the Town Board after I speak to Bill O'Neill.

Brad Mitchell...Supervisor, you mention that the Fiscal Analysis study was suppose to be interconnected with the Task Force but in the first meeting I attended my understanding was that this was an independent analysis tool to allow us to take different variables and see what the results were from that variable. So I'm hoping that's the case because it is key that this tool be something that the Town can use beyond the Intermunicipal Task Force.

DEDICATION OF GLEN RIDGE ROAD

Attorney Chale heard from the Village attorney last week. He doesn't see any problems, but it hasn't been formally accepted by the Village Board yet. We'll be looking to them to take that action soon then he will let us know, then we'll put it on our agenda.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Attorney Chale presented a draft handout of a proposed resolution. Attorney Chale wants the Board to review it as well as the negative declaration and EAF. There is a 126 acre parcel in for subdivision approval based on a cluster plan, based on a Conservation Easement which was given to Winnakee Land Trust. We worked out the language that we thought protected the interest of the Town, a third party enforcement right from 7 Pines LLC. Refer to page 10 -Third Party enforcement rights which gives the Town a conditional right if the easement is not being enforced by Winnakee to go in and take enforcement action after giving notice to Winnakee and the grantor about what the issues are. It's not the enforcer in the first instance it's only a back stop, only if Winnakee were to go out of business would you want to do that. Councilwoman Crane asks if it can be reassigned to another land trust. Attorney Chale responds that their interests can be transferred to another entity, we don't own their interests. It's their responsibility to transfer it over to another non-profit. She would like the Town Board to take its own actions on the Negative Declaration and the Conservation Easement.

RESOLUTION 2007 #33

RE: Authorizing Filing of Negative Declaration Regarding Acceptance of Conservation Easement, Third Party Enforcement Right from 7 Pines LLC

On a motion of Councilman Harold Ramsey, seconded by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, move that the Town Board adopts the findings and conclusions relating to the environmental effects contained in the attached EAF and Negative Declaration, and authorize the Supervisor to file the Negative Declaration in accordance with the provisions of the law.

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

Copy Attached

RESOLUTION 2007 #34

RE: Approving a Conservation Easement between 7 Pines LLC, Winnakee Land Trust and the Town of Red Hook.

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey move to approve a Conservation Easement between Seven Pines LLC, Winnakee Land Trust and the Town of Red Hook.

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

Copy attached

WINNAKEE TRAIL EASEMENTS

Attorney Chale distributed a draft form of trail easements. Winnakee asked us to partner in the potential acquisition of various parcels that the Town had identified as wanting an interest in. We talked about the concepts in the draft to understand the potential relationship between the parties. This is a little different than the Fathers Trail regarding the maintenance responsibilities.

Councilman Ross...This is the first I've seen this document and it doesn't make sense to me. This is for trails we don't even have yet. This was added to the agenda tonight but yet we can't talk about the LOSAP program.

Councilman Ramsey questioned what is the purpose for a generic easement? As each trail comes up we will look at it individually.

Supervisor Blum Bump...this is for residents who may considering a trail easement. It gives them something to look at and for us to discuss it.

Councilman Ramsey...I have a concern for the taxpayers of the Town if we come up with an agreement that is locked in if we vote on it and not know what the trail is.

Supervisor Blum Bump said we are not asking you to vote on it, it is for discussion.

Councilman Ramsey...discussion with anticipation of approving this.

Attorney Chale stated that it's a fair question. In looking to work through the issues we don't want the Board to be the last to be part of that discussion.

Councilman Ross...last week we did not have this document, this week we do. If someone comes to us for a trail easement, we call our Attorney to draft a trail easement on that property. Obviously it only takes 2-3 days to draw it up, so why are we discussing when we don't even have trails yet.

Supervisor Blum Bump...we are not discussing we just want you to look at it.

TREE COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Attorney Chale understands that Brenda Cagle is looking for an authorization from the Board to make application for a grant for tree planting for this year. It is a program from NY State that will plant trees along state highways.

Supervisor Blum Bump read a letter from CAC Chair, Brenda Cagle regarding a tree planting program through the State which will plant trees along state highways. She is asking that a letter come from the Board requesting inclusion in the program if the Board agrees to apply.

The Board would like Brenda to submit information on the program. They'd like to look at the application and the requirements the State may have.

Attorney Chale brought up the proposed Tree Ordinance for Town Board review. She met with Brenda Cagle and came up with a form of Local Law. She would like it to be on the February agenda in order to set a public hearing on the proposed Local Law. The Committee would like to get the Tree City Designation as soon as possible.

Supervisor Blum Bump read the Town Board approved budget adjustments to the General A Fund, General B Fund, and Highway DB Fund, made prior to the closing of 2006.

General A Fund- Total increase revenues, debit \$9,652.00, total reduce appropriations, debit \$49,827.00, Total increase appropriations, credit \$8,716.00, Offset to the Appropriated Fund Balance: reduce (credit) \$50,763.00. Reduce the Appropriated Fund Balance: debits \$59,479.00, credits \$59,479.00

General B Fund- Total reduce revenues, credit \$11,500.00, Total increase revenues, debit \$4,091.00, Total Increase Appropriations, credit \$7,518.00, Offset to the Appropriated Fund Balance, increase (debit) \$14,927.00, Increase the Appropriated Fund Balance, debit \$19,018.00, credits \$19,018.00.

Highway DB Fund- Total Increase Revenues- \$1,775.00, Total Increase Appropriations, credit \$350.00, Offset to the Appropriated Fund Balance: reduce (credit) \$1,425.00, Reduce the Appropriated Fund Balance, debits \$1,775.00, credits \$1,775.00

ICS (Incident Command System Training) - The American Red Cross is offering the training. Supervisor Blum Bump, Deputy Supervisor O'Neill, Councilman Ross, and Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand are required to have this training.

PDCTC (Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council) – Supervisor Blum Bump discusses the PDCTC. She asked Councilman Ramsey what it would take for Red Hook to become a voting member of the Council so that we could have a say in what projects are undertaken and what projects we really don't want to undertake. She asked Councilman Ramsey to look into the matter.

REORGANIZATION 2007- CONTINUED

Councilwoman Crane brought the Zoning Review Committee to the Board's attention. She has names of some people who are willing to serve on the committee. She asks for the Board's approval of the committee so that they can set up regular meeting dates. The Planning Board has recommended Sam Phelan who she will contact. If he does not have the time, she will contact Paul Telesca. The Zoning Board recommends John Douglas who has accepted, the CAC, Brenda Cagle who has accepted. The Economic Development Committee recommends Linda Page, she is willing. Ag & Open Space has Robert McKeon unless there is someone else who is willing to serve. Steve Cole will represent the ZEO. At large members are Michael Carr, Chuck Simmons and Susan Simon. Carl Dowden is off.

Town Clerk McCann asked what the length of term is.

Councilman Ross answered the term is 2 years.

On a motion of Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint the ZRC nominations EDC member-Linda Page, AOS member-Robert McKeon, CAC member-Brenda Cagle, ZEO member-Steve Cole, ZBA member-John Douglas, Planning-Sam Phelan needs to be contacted, and if he can't serve, that Paul Telesca be appointed. At-large members are Susan Simon, Chuck Simmons and Michael Carr. Also an alternate from the ZBA, CAC, Ag & Open Space, and EDC be appointed.

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

On a motion of Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Crane move to ratify and accept the Planning Board membership as Christine Kane-2008, John Hardeman-2013, Jennifer Fier-2007, Charles Laing-2009, Sam Phelan-2010, Paul Telesca-2008, David Wright-2007

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

On a motion of Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Crane, move to ratify and accept the Zoning Board of Appeals membership as Tim Ross-2008, Kenneth Anderson-2007, Gordon Denegar-2012, John Douglas-2008, Robert Latimer-2009, Michael Mosher-2008, Corinne Weber-2009.

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

Councilman Ross asked about filling the vacancy on the CAC.

Councilwoman Crane brought up the liaison issues for more discussion.

Town Clerk McCann informed the Board that we need a CAC liaison, and asked if we need one for the Attorney for the Town. Attorney Chale responded the Supervisor is the liaison to the Attorney for the Town.

Councilwoman Pullaro will be the liaison to the IT Working Group and the CAC.

Councilwoman Crane would like to relinquish her job as liaison to the Water Board.

Councilwoman Pullaro will take over the Water Board as liaison, as well as the Recycle Center.

Town Clerk Sue McCann questioned the position of secretary for the Attorney. Attorney Chale instructed her to eliminate that position.

Councilman Ramsey addressed issues that came up in the Public Comment period that night. One issue was the electrical licensing. He asked if the Board wanted to pursue that.

Supervisor Blum Bump decided that they would take no action on this matter.

Councilman Ross said that we should respond.

Councilman Ramsey stated that the County has two issues before them: A law mandating that electricians are licensed, another on well testing.

Councilwoman Crane said that she would vote for a letter opposing both, and Councilman Ramsey agreed.

Supervisor Blum Bump is not willing to write the letter, but if one of the members wanted to bring the letter, she would propose to send the letters

Councilman Ramsey will draft letters of opposition to both proposed laws, with the help of Councilwoman Pullaro for the Board to look at.

The other issue Councilman Ramsey addressed was the map issue showing all the easements in the Town. He would like Supervisor Blum Bump to talk to Bill O'Neill to see if that's feasible. Robert McKeon said the map is almost complete.

Regarding the letter to the Chairman of the MTA, Councilman Ross feels the Town Board should weigh in on it.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey move to go into Executive Session at 9:24 p.m. to discuss recreation land acquisition.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane move to close the Executive Session.

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

On a motion of Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro move to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCann, Town Clerk