

TOWN OF RED HOOK BOARD MEETING

March 13, 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 7:55 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump

Councilman James Ross

Councilwoman Sue Crane

Councilman Harold Ramsey

Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro

Town Clerk Susan McCann

Also present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

Supervisor Blum Bump welcomed everyone to the meeting.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Town Clerk McCann read the Town Clerk's monthly report for February 2007: Total local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$1,976.94; total non-local revenues - \$241.56; total revenues - \$2,218.50

Town Clerk McCann read the Red Hook Water District #1, Fourth Quarter Report for 2006. The total warrant - \$25,301.99

On a motion by Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross move to accept the Clerks Report and the Water Report as read.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Paul Fredericks... urges the Board not forget that when they enact laws and pass resolutions what the impact is on the people in the Town. We were a community of neighbors and that seems to be disintegrating into a Town of antagonists and that's upsetting.

Linda Keeling... during any of the referendums or votes she suggests remembering to consider people with disabilities.

Robert McKeon... encouraged the people of Red Hook to support the Community Preservation Fund, the vote of which will be held on May 1st between the hours of noon and 9:00 p.m. Mr. McKeon stated that the one time fee payable by purchasers will help protect us from overdevelopment and will support and raise the value of our real estate investments in the Town without raising property taxes. Regarding property taxes, until such time as the burden of funding schools is removed from property taxes we will have to carefully consider ways to limit their growth here in Red Hook. Suburbanization has only raised the cost of communities and property taxes beyond what some can afford. Lastly, Mr. McKeon encouraged residents to urge their State Senator to support expanding the bottle bill to include water bottles.

Attorney Andy Howard... represents Richard and LeeAnn Hansen. He reminded the Board that in July of 2006, the Hansen's went before the Board to request relief from the moratorium. After hearing the proof and getting an idea of what the Hansen's intended to do with their land, the Board granted them relief and sent them back to the Planning Board to begin the process looking at their land and of feasible subdivision opportunities. Since then, they've been working with the Planning Board. They developed a plan that has been approved. Essentially they are looking at a three lot subdivision. In connection with that, the Hansen's have a proposal to dedicate over half of their land in a conservation easement to the Town of Red Hook. We are here to respectfully request that the Board accept that application. The Board has passed legislation which recognizes this particular area of Red Hook as important farmland. In connection with that designation, the Board also enacted legislation that requires those looking into subdividing their land to use smart growth principles and to essentially dedicate a portion

of their land to open space. The land in question is not commercial land. It's in an area of this Town that the Town Board has designated as significant. In connection with that, the Hansen's are prepared to offer the Town an easement so that their land, which is over 14 acres, will permanently stay as agricultural land. It is their hope that the Board grant their request.

Douglas Moat...as he's pointed out to the Board, the Community Preservation Act has numerous exceptions to it in respect to properties and parcels which would be exempt and even transferees who would be exempt from making a payment. Your agenda deals with easements. He respectfully asked that the Board be very specific in telling us whether or not any part of any of these parcels that are proposed tonight to have easements or development rights attached to them are exempt under the act as proposed.

Dick Franklin...the only problem he has with the proposed tax on the sale of real estate is that there are too many exemptions. He thinks it's an issue where everybody pays. We have over 2,000 senior citizens representing almost 1,000 households in Red Hook. They are the ones who are going to bear the most unfair portion of this burden. If we are going to have a fair tax system, then everybody pays. It's not just one small group of people on the lower side of this situation. He'd like to see the law restructured to reflect that. He does not object to having this kind of law in place, he objects to its exclusionary features.

John Douglas...finds it interesting that some of the largest landowners in Red Hook who promoted and helped the laws get passed such as PDR's, tax easements, etc.; their lands have never been protected. They've developed a new plan and their lands are exempt from this new tax if it is passed by the voters of Red Hook. He also agrees that we should support the bottle law. Another issue that concerns Mr. Douglas is the election fiasco. Red Hook bought and owns the voting machines. The County has confiscated every voting machine and they are warehousing them somewhere in Dutchess County. Now we have to pay to have those machines brought back to Red Hook. Our Town Board should stand up and declare to the County Legislature that the County Board of Elections should return the machines until we have to purchase new ones.

With no further comments, Supervisor Blum Bump closed the public comment period, and thanked everyone for their input.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL AWARDS

Supervisor Blum Bump introduced Denise Barton from the Conservation Advisory Committee who awarded two of our students the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Scholarship. This year's student winners are Declun Dwyer-McNulty and Amber Edler Zollner, both sixth grade students at Linden Avenue Middle School. They were chosen on the basis of a written application they submitted. The funds for these scholarships were provided by the Town of Red Hook V.F.W. She thanked them for providing this funding. It is greatly appreciated.

Supervisor Blum Bump thanked and congratulated the students and their families on behalf of the Town Board. She also thanked the CAC and the VFW.

RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE PLAN OF THE TRAIL COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE THE PORTION OF THE STATE GREENWAY TRAIL THROUGH RED HOOK IN PREPARATION FOR A QUADCENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

Supervisor Blum Bump read a letter from Winnakee Land Trust dated March 12, 2007, asking that Red Hook pass a resolution supporting Winnakee Land Trust's request for Greenway designation of the Rhinebeck/Red Hook Historic Bike & Walk Tour as an official link in the Greenway Trail System.

RESOLUTION 2007 #54

RE: REQUESTING DESIGNATION OF RIVER/ANNANDALE ROAD AS A PORTION OF THE STATE GREENWAY TRAIL SYSTEM

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey, move that the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook requests

designation of River/Annandale Road as part of the Hudson River Greenway Trail System.

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

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump commented that we try to have the trails be as off road as possible. Part of this Greenway Trail in our Town is off road and is through woodlands and forests. She supports this goal of the Greenway Trail.

DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION THAT THE TOWN BOARD APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK AND THE VILLAGE OF TIVOLI, AND THE TOWN OF RED HOOK AND THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK FOR 2007 AND 2008

Attorney Chale explained the updated resolution in the packet she handed out.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 55

RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT REGARDING LOSAP PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EXECUTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE VILLAGE OF TIVOLI, AND EXECUTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move that the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook approve the resolution.

Adopted Ayes 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Pullaro
 Nays 0
 Recuse 1 Ramsey

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Attorney Chale let the Board know that they will get a copy of the Village's resolutions.

Councilman Ramsey thanked the Supervisor and the Board for the small gesture toward the many emergency volunteers that serve the Town, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

TO ACCEPT THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT BETWEEN RICHARD AND LEE ANN HANSEN AND THE TOWN OF RED HOOK CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 14.47 ACRES IN AN R3A ZONE, DESCRIBED AS PARCEL 3 OF THE PROPOSED HANSEN SUBDIVISION BEING A PORTION OF THE PARCEL DESCRIBED AS, TAX I.D. NUMBER 953737

Supervisor Blum Bump read the resolution regarding the conservation easement.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 56

RE: ACCEPTANCE OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT BETWEEN RICHARD HANSEN, LEE ANN HANSEN, AND THE TOWN OF RED HOOK

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move that the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook accept the conservation easement between Richard Hansen, Lee Ann Hansen and the Town of Red Hook.

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

Copy Attached

TO ACCEPT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT BETWEEN CANTINI, MAJD AND THE TOWN OF RED HOOK CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 22.5 ACRES IN AN R3A ZONE, DESCRIBED AS TAX I.D. NUMBER 292219

Supervisor Blum Bump read the resolution regarding the conservation easement.

Councilwoman Crane clarified that this is to be a term conservation easement as contrasted with the last conservation easement.

Attorney Chale answered that she is correct the easement itself is the standard 15 year term easement under that program to be contrasted with the one previous in connection with the Farmland Protection Program.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 57

RE: ACCEPTANCE OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT BETWEEN CANTINI, MAJD AND THE TOWN OF RED HOOK

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey, move that the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook accept the conservation easement between Gerald Scott Cantini, Pouran Jinchi Majd and the Town of Red Hook.

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

Copy Attached

Councilman Ramsey wanted to follow up with Robert McKeon or Attorney Chale as to what would be covered and what would be exempt under the Community Preservation Act on both of the parcels. His understanding is that only the land portion is and he would like confirmation of that.

Attorney Chale answered that only a portion has an exemption.

Robert McKeon said that in regard to the Hansen application the residential lot would be subject to fees. The part that is permanently protected from future development would be exempt from the fees. It is just a transfer fee paid by the purchaser of the property. The property exemptions are for land conservation easements, lands that are ongoing as agriculture restrictions, and it's just for the land portions. For a term easement there needs to be a minimum contractual obligation of 8 years. The architects of this law envisioned that the property owners who were farming that perhaps did not intend to continue to farm, once it's sold, the individual coming in would have to have an agreement for 8 years restrictive from residential development. A portion of the land is conserved and is exempt because it is restricted for a period of at least 8 years. In the Cantini/Majd easement there is a home and an underlying lot. All of that is subject to a transfer fee when a purchaser acquires it. The only thing not subject the fee is that additional field that has been permanently protected. A portion of the transaction is very small and just that little portion is going to be subject to the fee.

Councilman Ramsey confirms that the tax is based on the median cost of a house in Dutchess County. Councilman Ramsey asks if that number includes the land covered in the easement or does it include only the house portion.

Robert McKeon clarified that a transfer tax can not be levied without authorization. The transfer fee is levied on everything but the portion of the transaction that has at least an 8 year commitment to restrictions from development. An example is if property is valued at \$650,000 less \$50,000 for deed restricted land, it reduces to \$600,000 levied on the amount above median sales price. If the median sales price in Dutchess County is \$350,000 then \$600,000 less \$350,000 is what the purchaser pays the 2% fee on. These numbers are approximate and only used as an example.

TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOWN FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF UP TO 50 % OF THE COST OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ON THE WIL-HI FARM. DUTCHESS COUNTY IS THE PARTNER PROVIDING MATCHING FUNDS

Attorney Chale... the applicant requested we set a public hearing then a preliminary approval similar to the approvals we granted last Fall so that they can finalize the matching funds.

Councilman Ramsey...once a property is under PDR easement, the development rights have been purchased, how does this fall under the Community Preservation Act?

Robert McKeon responded just for clarification the conservation easement is the legal mechanism. The portion of the property, the home and underlying lot would be subject to the fee. The only portion of the farm that would not be subject now is the protected land.

Councilman Ross...on this particular piece if it were to sell, \$131,500 based on the appraised cost that we are paying for development rights would be exempt, under the proposed CPA law.

Robert McKeon...the figure you quoted which is the subject of negotiation; still a matter of private negotiations between the Town and the landowner. That is not the correct figure.

Councilman Ross responded that this is the figure we are paying for development rights so if contested they can say this is what I was told the development rights were worth and therefore that is the amount that should be deducted from the sale.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 58

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN WIL-HI FARM UNDER THE TOWN'S PDR PROGRAM

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey move to set a Public Hearing date for April 10, 2007 at 7:35 p.m. in the Town Hall in the Town of Red Hook.

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

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AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING A SPECIAL ELECTION HELD AT REGULAR POLLING PLACES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN ON MAY 1, 2007 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 12:00 P.M. AND 9:00 P.M. FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING A PROPOSITION IMPOSING A 2% REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX ON THE CONVEYANCE OF INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWN WITH REVENUES DERIVED FROM THIS TAX TO BE DEPOSITIED IN THE RED HOOK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING OPEN SPACE, AGRICULTURAL AND HISTORIC PLACES WITHIN THE TOWN

Supervisor Blum Bump read the Special Election Report prepared by Town Clerk Sue McCann. Admiral Moving & Storage - \$636.00, Election Inspectors @ \$11.49 per Hour = \$114.90 each, Custodian rate per machine \$41.01 = \$328.08, Voter registration list \$.05 per page – approximate cost \$11.85. Cost for 8 Districts - 16 inspectors = \$1,838.40, Transportation = \$636.00, 1 Custodian = \$328.08, Voter List (approx.) = \$94.80 for a TOTAL of \$2,897.28.

Supervisor Blum Bump read the resolution concerning the special election.

Attorney Chale stated that Exhibit "B" is the list of possible election inspectors prepared by Town Clerk McCann.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 59

RE: A RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING A PROPOSITION IMPOSING A TWO PERCENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX ON THE CONVEYANCE OF INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWN, WITH THE REVENUES DERIVED FROM THIS TAX TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING OPEN SPACE, AGRICULTURAL AND HISTORIC PLACES WITHIN THE TOWN, ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 21, 2007 BY THE RED HOOK TOWN BOARD.

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane move to accept the resolution calling for a special election.

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

Copy Attached

TOWN PROCEDURES GOVERNING PROCUREMENT BY THE TOWN OF RED HOOK

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to the memo from Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy. He recommends changes to the policy that he recently sent.

Councilman Ross said that he spoke to Purchasing Agent Kudzy about this at length. It's relaxing a little bit but it is still more stringent than what the State requires as the minimum procurement policy. Our present policy is 16 years old. It gives a little more flexibility but still gives Purchasing Agent Kudzy control.

Councilwoman Pullaro referred to Section 2 under "ALL PURCHASES UNDER \$5,000" from "OVER \$3,000 to \$4,999 Written/Fax – three vendor minimum" The word "quote" is missing and it should be after Written/Fax. On the next page where it is a continuation of the section determination of which process to be used, bid or quote, in the last paragraph of that section it talks about cumulative totals "this must be a written quote" should say "this must be a written bid". The wording should be changed to be consistent.

Attorney Chale asked the Board if they'd like to recommend that the document be revised so that it can be approved formally at the next opportunity.

Councilman Ross...we'll ask Attorney Chale to put the changes in with Purchasing Agent Kudzy and amend the document for the next agenda.

REORGANIZATION CONTINUED

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to a letter about PANDA alternate.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 60

RE: APPOINTMENT OF PANDA ALTERNATE

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross move to appoint Mark Durand as PANDA alternate.

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

Town Clerk McCann asked about the appointment of Charlie Callejo as PANDA representative.

Councilwoman Crane thinks there is a potential conflict that is minor in nature, but she thinks it should be considered. You have two municipalities, two taxing entities, you have someone who has potential to influence the public by way of programming, it's not a big deal, but it should be thought of it. Councilwoman Crane will speak to Charlie Callejo to see if he is interested in serving.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 61

RE: APPOINTMENT OF GREENPLAN, INC.

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane move to reappoint Greenplan, Inc. as Town Planners.

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

Councilwoman Pullaro ... we need a mechanism for feedback so that we can have open dialogue between the Planning Board and the Town Board.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 62

RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE DESIGN REVIEW/HAMLET COMMITTEE

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to reappoint Geoffrey Carter as Chair, term to expire December 31, 2007 and Chris Gilbert and George Michael to the Design Review/Hamlet Committee, terms to expire December 31, 2008.

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

Supervisor Blum Bump announced a letter of resignation from Tara Sullivan from the Ethics Committee. We will be looking for a replacement.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 63

RE: APPOINTMENT TO THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

On a motion by Councilwoman Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey move to appoint Richard Franklin to the Disaster Preparedness Committee term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

RESOLUTION 2007 # 64

RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE FARMLAND PROTECTION COMMITTEE

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane move to reappoint Mary Ann Johnson as Chair, term to expire December 31, 2007 and as a member, Hank VanParys and Karen Schneller MacDonald to the Farmland Protection Committee term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

Supervisor Blum Bump will contact John Hardeman to see if he is still interested in serving. I am still waiting to hear back from the Greenway/Trails Committee for their appointments and will check with the Water Board for their appointments.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 65

RE: APPOINTMENT TO RECREATION COMMITTEE

On a motion by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Harold Ramsey move to reappoint Doug Strawinski as Chair of the Recreation Committee term to expire December 31, 2007.

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

RESOLUTION 2007 # 66

RE: APPOINTMENT TO ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

On a motion by Councilman James Ross, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to appoint Jim Hegstetter to the ZBA to fill the vacancy left by the death of Gordon Denegar term to expire December 31, 2012.

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

RESOLUTION 2007 # 67

RE: APPOINTMENT TO THE ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE

On a motion by Councilwoman Sue Crane, seconded by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, move to appoint Linda Stoddard as Clerk of the Zoning Review Committee.

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

ROAD AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Crane asked if the Road and Traffic Committee was an active committee and who the liaison is to that committee.

Councilman Ramsey answered that they haven't been in place for the last three years. The Town Board has been handling the road issues and he recommended disbanding the committee. Dutchess County Public Works does not want to deal with committee members. Councilman Ramsey recommends speaking to Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand. We've been taking issues to Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand for any road problems.

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to a letter from Mill Road School Primary Principal Caswell about how dangerous Rockefeller Lane is at dismissal time. The Town would have to pass a local ordinance to put up no parking signs on Rockefeller Lane. Supervisor Blum Bump also referred to another complaint from a resident on Blue Echo Road.

Councilman Ramsey spoke to Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand about the issues. Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand is working with the Village and the homeowners from the Blue Echo Road property.

ST. MARGARET'S HOME

Councilwoman Crane stated that she feels the St. Margaret's Committee is floundering, they may need additional members.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered that she's going to speak to Winty Aldrich and Amy Dubin.

Councilwoman Crane asked if they can be on the agenda for the March 20th meeting. If they need additional help on that committee she can come up with more names.

FISCAL IMPACT TASK FORCE

Councilwoman Crane asked about the Fiscal Impact report. She would appreciate someone pressing the organization that took on that responsibility. They have had it since July 11, 2006. It didn't look like it would be a big deal to come up with the fiscal impact. It's March and we haven't seen anything.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered that it will be part of the report of the Intermunicipal Task Force.

Councilwoman Crane stated that the Board contracted with the Fairweather Group to do a fiscal impact study and we haven't heard anything. Why hasn't the Town Board had some feedback on the Fairweather report?

Councilwoman Pullaro said that Peter Fairweather anticipated being able to present to the Board in March.

Councilman Ramsey ... part of Councilwoman Crane's concern is that we contracted for a fiscal analysis to be done for the Town Board. The Fairweather Group appears to have been taken over by the Intermunicipal Task Force and we never told them to.

Supervisor Blum Bump agreed and said that we discussed that the Task Force has replaced this committee that Jean Bordewich used to head.

Councilman Ross said this is a Board decision and we should know about these things. He does not recall discussing this.

Supervisor Blum Bump told Councilwoman Crane to ask Deputy Supervisor Bill O'Neill if she has questions.

Councilwoman Crane stated that she would like the Fairweather Group to report to the Board. She does not want to hold the Task Force responsible. She wants to hold the Fairweather Group responsible. The Board hired them, the Board deserves an answer.

Supervisor Blum Bump scheduled the meetings for March, but she was scheduling the Intermunicipal Task Force to report the sewer study, the fiscal impact analysis study and the water studies done by Chazen. The Task Force is still trying to determine the presentation dates and they want to have the meeting in April when all three of those studies could be presented together. Supervisor Blum Bump wanted the presentations in March, but they decided that they needed until April. Nothing is being withheld, it's just being worked on. The public and Board members are welcome to attend the Intermunicipal Task Force meetings.

Councilwoman Crane ... when we contracted with the Fairweather Group, it was not to be a piece of the overall picture it was to do a fiscal impact study and report to the Board. It was not meant to be a piece of a quilt, it was meant to be a stand alone document that we would be presented with and have a chance to review. She thinks it's important enough to stand alone. That is what Peter Fairweather is being paid to do. She asked that it not be part of an overall presentation, but a presentation on its own. That's what she feels the Board expected when they voted for it.

Supervisor Blum Bump... in order for his report to be accurate he needs certain numbers from Zoning, what the laws say, how many units are being proposed for commercial, how many units proposed or projected as residential, how much land is being protected. He needed those numbers in order to do his work. The information that he needed to complete his project came from others. It will in the end be a stand alone document.

Resident Marcy Appell...the point of the study was for it to be presented to the Town Board and you are to look at it and make some sort of decision.

Councilwoman Crane...the Board never voted to have the Intermunicipal Task force take over that role, maybe the Supervisor made that decision but the Board never made that decision.

Councilman Ross...what we are simply asking is that Peter Fairweather please gives us a report and let us know where we stand right now.

Supervisor Blum Bump will ask Peter Fairweather to present to the Board.

LETTERS

Supervisor Blum Bump read a letter from Councilwomen Crane and Councilwoman Pullaro concerning an audit of the Supervisors books done on March 12, 2007. They found the information to be consistent and in order.

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to another letter from Kathrine Stewart to Town Clerk Sue McCann.

Councilman Ross read Mrs. Stewart's letter aloud. He said the letter is in reference to him. Councilman Ross said that he's never been in on a discussion talking about Central Hudson land for recreation. In many of those discussions the Board had, he recused himself from because he happens to own a lot next to some Central Hudson land north of the Town just south of Devereaux that had been talked about. He never sat in any meetings concerning that land. He never made decisions or had discussions on that land. The writer asked that the letter be made part of the official Town records.

Councilman Ramsey... the letter is exactly what Mr. Fredricks pointed out tonight. Unfortunately we have divisiveness in this Town. We have people that seem to want to cause conflict. He knows that Councilman Ross has always recused himself every time there has been voting on Central Hudson land. He sees no conflict and does not understand the letter.

Councilman Ross had no intention of recusing himself from discussion concerning other recreation land.

Supervisor Blum Bump stated that the Board has a choice about what to do with the letter.

Councilman Ross... our ethics code and law is written to be used as a guide for Town employees and Town officials based on the recommendation of this Board.

Councilman Ramsey sees no action needed regarding that letter whatsoever.

Councilwoman Crane feels no action needed.

Councilwoman Pullaro doesn't believe that Councilman Ross has had a conflict of interest in any of the conversations had since she's been on the Board.

Supervisor Blum Bump read a letter from Linda Keeling to the Board. The letter is regarding accessibility for voting. Mrs. Keeling stated in her letter that St. John's Church in Upper Red Hook has been identified as inaccessible to the disabled. She suggests using Ballot Voting to accommodate the disabled voter.

Councilwoman Pullaro found reference regarding ballot programming having to do with the actual programming of the information via optical scan or DRE. She found nothing in relationship to the type of election that we are intending to hold.

Supervisor Blum Bump understands Mrs. Keeling's concerns.

Councilman Ramsey said if we can't accomplish it this time that we should make every effort to make our elections accessible to everyone.

COMMITTEE /DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Senior Services:

Councilwoman Crane reported that there will be an informational meeting regarding the affordable Senior Housing Project on Friday, March 16, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. The snow date will be Friday, March 23, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be at the Red Hook Firehouse and developer, Ken Kearney, will be available to answer any questions and explain the application process.

Highway Department:

Councilman Ramsey reported on the Mill Road School issue. A letter was received from Elementary Principal Linda Caswell about the danger of the road in front of the school during dismissal. She is asking for No Parking signs to be placed on either side of the road in front of the school. The highway is in need of gas tank and pumps replacement and would like to go out for bid.

Supervisor Blum Bump wants a written proposal from the Highway Department.

Councilman Ramsey wants to go out to bid and informed the Board the all tanks must be above ground.

Attorney Chale stated that temporary tanks were installed last fall.

On a motion by Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilman Ross move to out to bid on tanks and pumps.

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

Economic Development Committee:

Councilman Ramsey reported that the EDC will meet on March 22, 2007 (the third Thursday of the month) at 7:30 pm. They will be looking at property & school taxes, land use issues, internet marketing, community database and increasing community awareness. They received and discussed a copy of the criteria for the Ag. Reserve from Mr. McKeon.

Recreation Committee:

Recreation Chairman Doug Strawinski reported they are going about their general business getting the park up and running. On March 26, 2007 the restrooms will be open.

Disaster Preparedness Committee:

Councilman Ramsey reported that the next meeting will be on March 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Ramsey also reported that Attorney Chale, Central Hudson and he are still working on street light issues on Whalesback. The Red Church will have its annual fundraiser on March 25th.

Conservation Advisory Council:

Councilwoman Pullaro reported that the CAC are working with Sustainable Hudson Valley, possibly another conference call to discuss implementing the goals of ICLEI. They have been working with the kindergarten classes regarding Arbor Day celebration. They have also contacted the Trails Committee about planting along the rec. park trail. They also want to organize a workshop on the energy star building guidelines. The Barry Gurland property has been added to the historic structure survey.

Recycling Center:

Councilwoman Pullaro reported that the Hazardous Waste Disposal Day in Red Hook will be Saturday, June 2, 2007. It is sponsored by the Dutchess County Resource Recovery agency and is for Dutchess County Residents only. There is a \$5.00 registration fee and pre-registration is required. T.J. Hackett made minor updates on the website.

Water Department:

Councilwoman Pullaro reported that chlorine was ordered and received. The empty containers were not picked up by Duso, so Carole Little of the Water Department will make arrangements to have them picked up. The new transmitter is working fine. There are no changes in the water quality. Hydrant flushing will occur from May 14 to the 21st. Customers will be notified via the Spring 2007 newsletter. The next Water Board meeting will be on Wednesday, March 21, 2007.

Planning Board:

Councilman Ross reported that the Planning Board met on the 5th of March. They had a special permit discussion, 2 site plan discussions and a lot line alteration discussion. No public hearings

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Councilman Ross reported that there will be two public hearings and they are working on interpretation of the Farm Law.

Building:

Councilman Ross reported 3 renovation permits, 1 addition permit, 2 pool permits and 1 fence permit. No new single family dwelling permits.

Zoning Review Committee:

Councilwoman Crane reported that the ZRC met twice already. Their meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. The Committee is looking at the zoning law and making corrections. This is a huge task. They will look into the controversy with expanding the tax base and commercial development. They are looking at adult use zoning law in particular. John Douglas reported on issues from the former ZRC that have not been resolved.

Assessor's Report:

Supervisor Blum Bump reported that the assessor met with Paul Finch, Superintendent of Schools, to discuss the assessment process and how that relates to the tax levy. The Assessor attended the Association of Towns Annual Meeting where a topic of significant information was Assessment of Condominiums, and he also attended a seminar on the Dutchess County Agriculture District. The Assessor's office assisted over 1,000 property owners with exemption applications.

Police Report:

Supervisor Blum Bump read police report for the month of February. 26 registered complaints, 27 uniform traffic tickets, 3 accidents investigated, 1 arrest and 6 EMS/aided calls.

Purchasing Department Report:

Supervisor Blum Bump reported that during the period from February 14 to March 13, 2007, 24 Purchase Orders were issued in the amount of \$33,030.39. The largest to International Salt Company for road salt in the amount of \$15,476.39. We are paying \$50.10 per ton for salt which is purchased under state contract. The appraisal on the Wil-Hi farm property has been received, BT Builders will be modifying the Assessor's office and Purchasing Agent Kudzy will be obtaining quotes for replacing the vinyl tile floors in the restrooms.

Trails Committee:

Supervisor Blum Bump reported that they meet the first Thursday of the month and their next meeting will be on April 5th at 7:30 p.m.

County Legislator David Seymour informed the Board that the Dutchess County Legislator broadcast the session live and handed out info on how to access the website. He also spoke about the water bottle bill, which is on the way to the Governor to sign so we may see this enacted within the next 30 to 60 days. The mandatory well testing was

voted down, but David feels this will be addressed again. Mr. Steinhaus feels this is a local issue not a county level issue.

On a motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro move to go into Executive Session at 10:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations for the purchase of Recreation Land.

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

On a motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro, move to close Executive Session at 10:36 p.m.

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

On a motion by Councilwoman Pullaro, seconded by Councilwoman Crane move to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCann, Town Clerk