

## RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 19, 2007

A workshop meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session in the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, at 7:30 p.m.

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

Also Present: Deputy Supervisor William O'Neill  
Attorney for the Town Christine Chale  
Michelle Greig, Greenplan

Supervisor Blum Bump announced a public hearing to consider the establishment of a proposed extension of the consolidated lighting district in the Town of Red Hook. The public hearing is set for July 10, 2007 at 7:25 p.m.

### **DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE TOWN BOARD, VILLAGE BOARDS, GREENPLAN AND THE INTERMUNICIPAL TASK FORCE REGARDING THE PROPOSED ZONING LEGISLATION (LOCAL LAW #3 2007)**

Michelle Greig of Greenplan continued the discussion of the Centers and Greenspace Plan. She researched the setback issue regarding the office/industrial area. She looked at the approved site plan for Hannaford and measured the building setback as 230 feet from the property line to the building. In the office/industrial area, light industrial buildings are exempt from the architectural standards and that's because they tend to be less expensive type buildings. In that case you would want more of a buffer in the gateway from the road. She suggested looking at a topography map. Michelle told the Board to bear in mind that our parking standards in our zoning are out of date. They should be updated to reflect the National Association of Parking Recommendations. Unlike residential districts, there are not limitations. Having many concerns, the Board wants further discussion about lodging with a maximum of 80 bedrooms. Michelle Greig and the Board went on to discuss civic spaces; civic, meaning what's available to the public. The question arose about maintenance of those civic spaces. Would it be the community, town, or homeowners association? Harry Colgan questioned the 50% street frontage for parks which will be addressed. Attorney Chale and Michelle will discuss item #8 on page 41. Streetscape Design – Michelle Greig presented a copy of "Greenway Guide" of new street standards. They talk about mainly residential neighborhoods calling for slower, safer streets. Michelle did make the amendment to the subdivision regulation requiring that the Planning Board consult with the Highway Superintendent in deciding the road types. She has the specs ready to go. Michelle explained pedestrian passages. Based on studies, Michelle explained that shorter blocks allow people to walk around easily. If you have to have a long block, a pedestrian path would be recommended. Michelle presented the Board with an article regarding malls and town centers written by the second largest developer of malls in America.

Deputy Supervisor Bill O'Neill will have John Clark at the next meeting. He presented a list of items proposed before the Planning Board. One is from the Town of Red Hook, one from the Village of Red Hook. Deputy Supervisor O'Neill referred to a letter from Water Department Chairman, Hank VanParys. He explained a water resource map for the Town of Red Hook. The County put the map together at a cost of \$417.00, based on input from Water Department Chairman VanParys and the work from Russell Urban Mead. The map is not to replace on site inspection, it's to be used as a reference tool.

### **MILAN ARCHER MINE (RED WING PROPERTIES, INC.) – DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT REVIEW**

On a motion of Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Supervisor Blum Bump, authorize Attorney for the Town, Christine Chale to submit comments regarding the Draft Environmental Review to the DEC regarding the Milan Archer Mine.

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

## **WATER MAPS**

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, move to authorize payment of water maps to the County.

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

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Michelle Greig, Greenplan, asked the Town Board if they are planning to add the trails to the official Town map. Where we left off at the last meeting was that the Trails Committee was going to review the trails feasibility study. If the Board would be inclined to approve the trails she will proceed with the environmental review.

Councilman Ross stated that we haven't heard from the Trails Committee yet.

Michelle Greig told the Board that if she knows they plan on showing the existing trails and streams and potential ones that are determined to be feasible, she can finish up the environmental assessment review.

## **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ross, moved to go into executive session at 8:50 p.m. regarding contract negotiations.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Blum bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro, move to end the executive session at 9:22 p.m.

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

## **414 BUDGET PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS BY LIBRARY BOARD PRESIDENTS THERESA BUSO OF TIVOLI AND BARRY RAMAGE OF RED HOOK**

Supervisor Blum Bump welcomed the Library Board representatives from the Village of Tivoli, Theresa Buso, and the Village of Red Hook, Barry Ramage.

Theresa Buso of the Village of Tivoli introduced some members of their Board of Trustees. She explained their purpose is to present information about a proposal that they are pursuing to put on the ballot in November.

Barry Ramage introduced himself and several members of the Village of Red Hook's Library Board of Trustees. He told the Board that the two libraries got together to get on the ballot for a Chapter 414. This stems from a 1995 New York State law that enables the Association of Municipal Libraries, which are mainly the smaller libraries, to have their budgets voted on directly by the public. It's done along municipal lines and would be voted on in the November elections. If it passes there will be a line item in the Town budget for the next fiscal year. The benefits to the Town in passing this funding are that the taxpayers decide. If they feel they are getting a good value, it's worth it to them. This will free up the current library allocations for other priorities.

Theresa Buso told the Board that they recently conducted a community wide survey of their current library services and the needs for the community they wanted addressed. This proposition will benefit the community because the taxpayers decide how much they want to tax themselves. It creates accountability to the service they are asking for. It also helps libraries plan for the future. We'll know what our tax allotment will be. Hopefully overall it will increase the community sense of ownership of their libraries. The process includes informing the Board that they are going to circulate petitions throughout the Town and will present 600 signatures to the Board in early fall for review by the Town Attorney and the Town Board in order to put the proposition on the ballot in November. The Town Clerk would then send the signatures to the County Board of Elections.

Barry Ramage referred to an overhead presentation with the ballot resolution worded almost exactly as it would be and the projected tax impact which would be .23 cents per thousand of

assessed value. The average property is about \$300,000 which would be about a \$69.00 tax increase per year. We projected for four to five years. This is not something we would be coming back for year after year. This is to get our growth going and maintained. We want to expand in several areas, specifically children's services and programs for the elderly. We are hoping to move to the upstairs floors in our Red Hook building. We'd like to expand the children's area in the basement. Theresa Buso has plans for expansion also in Tivoli, as well as plans to expand services, collection, and hours. Mr. Ramage thanked the Board for the support they've given in the past. We are advocates of libraries and services they provide the community.

Councilman Ramsey asked if taxpayers would see a line item on their tax bill about the library fund. It is essentially taken out of the hands of the Town Board and put directly to the public? He's been to both libraries and over the last five years has seen tremendous improvements. He thinks bringing this to the public is a good idea.

Councilwoman Crane asked if this money reflects any physical improvements in the libraries.

Theresa Buso answered in Tivoli they are very limited in what they can do in the Village Hall.

Councilwoman Crane...Tivoli is handicapped accessible but Red Hook is not. How do we plan to handle the issue where using the second floor would be concerned?

Barry Ramage answered the upstairs handicapped accessibility is an issue. The Mid-Hudson Library system had two individuals representing them who evaluate libraries and their layout. They indicated two options: 1) we are grandfathered because of the age of the building for that third floor in terms of the requirement. We looked at a seat that goes up the stair railing, but unfortunately, we have an ell turn in the stairway. The other possibility is an outside elevator, but it would be costly and change the structure and architecture. We are looking at the issue but don't have an answer. 2) In terms of expansion of the basement area, we decided that would be a children/young adult area. We won't be doing any major structural changes, but will be adding computers, separate room for young adults. We have an apartment on the top floor which will be vacant in several weeks and hope to use it for the library office and may put in a reading area. Both libraries are looking into a joint purchase of computers.

Councilwoman Crane asked what would happen if the vote went down. Would it revert back to the Board determining the budget?

Mr. Ramage answered yes, and he hopes they'd keep them where we were.

Councilwoman Pullaro asked what portion of the operating cost the funding represents.

Theresa Buso said it does take into account the amount collected from the school district too. Over the years, we've had to spend most of our time doing fundraising with various successes. It's hard to direct the future when you are trying to raise funds. This will stabilize the funding for us. Ten out of the sixteen libraries that are eligible in the County passed this proposition.

Councilwoman Crane asked what Mrs. Buso meant by offset by the school district.

Mrs. Buso explained that they currently do a similar proposition with the school district.

Mr. Ramage said they also get a small amount of money from the Mid-Hudson Library System which is about \$1500.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked about the staffing of the library.

Mrs. Buso answered they have a part time paid staff member and a small handful of volunteers. They would like to maintain two staff members at all times. They'd like to increase the hours from 28 hours a week to 44 hours a week.

Mr. Ramage said Red Hook has a director who is part time. They are hoping to expand to a position of youth director. They'd like to have both entrances staffed. They have three additional part time staff as well as volunteers. They'd like to have their hours expanded to

10:00 – 8:00. Our usage continues to increase substantially. He's not sure how much more to staff yet.

Mrs. Buso said that the community would like to have expanded weekend hours. They are concerned about responding to the need for use by the school district.

Linda Keeling reminded them, in regard to the Red Hook building, that any time you renovate it has to be ADA compliant. She would find a grant and write it for them.

Mr. Ramage answered they would look into the ADA requirements.

Attorney Chale told the Board that she's done work for the Tivoli Library in the past. She doesn't think there are any issues but she wanted it noted.

Councilwoman Crane and Councilman Ramsey have also volunteered for the libraries.

### **REGARDING AGRA-GATE**

Attorney Chale said that she is waiting for an update from Scenic Hudson. She will defer this until the first July meeting.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Attorney Chale explained that we approved the bid schedule last week. They are due July 10, 2007. The schedule is to award the on July 17, 2007. We filed a request for extension for the grant deadline on Pete Setaro's recommendation.

### **ST. MARGARET'S UPDATE**

Supervisor Blum Bump told the Board that Doug Strawinski spoke to her and told her the roof was repaired at no cost. The cleanup has begun.

Paula Schoonmaker of the St. Margaret's Committee explained the grounds were weed whacked and the poison ivy was sprayed. They are going to get mulch from the Town. Things are coming along and the grant seems to be coming along on time. The electric is hooked up. There was no well pump, so we are getting a reconditioned one.

Supervisor Blum Bump said that Doug Strawinski has an account with Labor Ready which is an organization that provides labor. The basement will be cleaned up and we have a contract with Welsh so he is getting dumpsters through them. They've discussed how they will modify the front step. The entrance is wide enough so we won't need railings.

Attorney Chale said they spoke about removing the step and grading the area

Supervisor Blum Bump said Doug Strawinski is confident that we will be done by July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Pullaro asked about parking.

Paula Schoonmaker will be looking into the parking issue.

Attorney Chale told the Board that we should pen an agreement with Mill Street Loft. We could do either a lease or a use agreement for the specific space.

Councilwoman Pullaro feels a use agreement would be more applicable since we are talking about such a short period.

Attorney Chale said a use agreement means we have a little more responsibility about what goes on there.

Councilman Ross prefers a use agreement because we might want to do something with the building. We might not want to be tied down to a lease at this point.

Attorney Chale will come up with a use agreement.

Councilwoman Crane wants to know how many hours a month they will use the building. She feels the Town is responsible and would like to know how many hours a week the Mill Street Loft is proposing.

Councilman Ross would like to know what their hours are and how they intend to use the building since it is a temporary use agreement.

Attorney Chale said the Town will be responsible for insurance for the space and we will look to Mill Street Loft for their own liability insurance. They say they won't insure the paintings, but the owners will sign a waiver.

Councilman Ramsey asked if the insurance we had on the building was adequate.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered it is. We checked into it at the very beginning. It was the first question we asked Business Manager Deb Marks and she said it was fine.

Attorney Chale will ask Mill Street Loft to have their own liability policy for their members. She asked about maintenance of the property outside.

Paula Schoonmaker will look into it.

Attorney Chale said we are going to ask them to deal with their own garbage pickup.

Attorney Chale asked the Board to enter into the minutes that they received the report of their CPA audit regarding the Justice Court statements of cash receipts and also the annual reports provided by the Justice Courts. It was brought the attention of Business Manager Deb Marks that Court Administration wants us to file these and make sure as a Board that the fact that we have this done is entered into our records.

#### RESOLUTION 2007 # 89

RE: THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE REQUIRED AUDIT OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK JUSTICE COURT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006 WAS CONDUCTED. BY THE TOWN'S AUDITOR, THEODORE J. EGLIT, JR., C.P.A.

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move to accept the resolution as read.

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

Councilwoman Pullaro read a letter on behalf of the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency thanking the Town for hosting the annual June Household Hazardous Waste & Electronic Collection event. They look forward to next year's collection day in Red Hook

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro move to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCann, Town Clerk