

TOWN OF RED HOOK BOARD MEETING

August 14, 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 7:30 p.m.

Present: Deputy Supervisor William O'Neill
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Sue Crane
Councilman Harold Ramsey
Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro
Town Clerk Sue McCann
Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump arrived at 9:31 pm

Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale
John Clarke, Dutchess County Planning
Michelle Greig, Greenplan

Deputy Supervisor O'Neill called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor's monthly statement dated July 31, 2007 was read as follows: Opening Balance - \$2,392,460.56; Receipts - \$196,643.11; Disbursed - \$298,740.20; Balance \$2,290,363.47. Town Board Budget Adjustments General A Fund - \$7,244.00 credit; General B Fund - \$46,329.00 credit; Highway DB Fund - \$750.00 credit.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilwoman Crane, move to accept the Supervisor's monthly report as read.

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

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report for the period of July 1 – July 31, 2007 was read as follows: Total Local Shares Remitted to the Supervisor - \$2,289.38; amount paid to County Treasurer for dog licenses – \$102.22; amount paid to NYS Ag & Markets - \$21.00; amount paid to NYS Department of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$270.00; amount paid to NYS Environmental Conservation - \$206.90 for a total of State, County and Local Revenues of \$2,889.50.

Town Clerk McCann reminded residents that the 2007-2008 Sporting Licenses and Deer Management Permits are available for purchase on August 13, 2007. Applicants have from August 13 until October 1, 2007 to apply for their Deer Management Permit.

On a motion of Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, move to accept the Town Clerk's report as read.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Linda Keeling noticed that there was nothing on the agenda about St. Margaret's Home and asked for an update.

Paula Schoonmaker from the St. Margaret's Task Force told the Board that Mill Street Loft had their opening. They did not offer classes and they haven't heard anything about the grant yet.

Marcy Appell said there should be more press about St. Margaret's and the Mill Street Loft. She had no idea about the opening and didn't know that anything was going on.

Councilwoman Crane explained that Paula Schoonmaker did a lot of work and helped make the opening a wonderful event. She thanked Mrs. Schoonmaker for her work.

With no more comments, Deputy Supervisor O'Neill declared the Public Comment period over.

Deputy Supervisor O'Neill made the following announcements:

- The DEC Notice of Legislative Public Hearing and Issues Conference-Applicant: Red Wing Properties hearing is being held tonight at 7:00 p.m. in the Milan Town Hall.
- The DEC is holding a pre-adjudicatory hearing issues conference at the Milan Town Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m. on August 15, 2007 and continuing the next day if necessary.
- The Dutchess County Dept. of Planning and Development will hold an informational session on August 15, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at their offices at 27 High Street. The session will be regarding the new Consolidated Plan and its strategies and priorities, and the new application review process prior to submitting the Community Development Block Grant 2008 application.

NYSERDA: ENERGY STAR PROGRAM PRESENTATION- presented by Jack Christman.

Brenda Cagle, Chairwoman of the Conservation Advisory Council, introduced Jack Christman who spoke at one of their meetings. Among other things, Mr. Christman is a civil engineer, an Energy Star home builder, auditor, and NYSERDA coordinator.

Jack Christman of NYSERDA explained the Energy Star program. An Energy Star home requires an energy efficient heating system, light fixtures, and windows. The other difference between an Energy Star home and a conventionally built home is air infiltration. They test to make sure it conforms to the Energy Star label. Insulation is important, Energy Star appliances, as well as things as florescent bulbs for energy savings. Energy Star labeled homes differentiates them as quality buildings. He encouraged the Board to look into Energy Star requirements. There are incentives from NYSERDA for Energy Star labeled homes which amount to about \$3,000 with about a \$2,000 tax credit. The incentives are from \$750 to \$3,000 depending on the size of the home. For a first time builder there is a \$500 incentive. This is a standard for quality assurance. There is a program for older homes that can save up to 60% of their energy costs and also a program for people on limited incomes to make their homes energy efficient.

John Clarke of Dutchess County Planning explained that NYSERDA should factor in location to cut back vehicle usage. NYSERDA has an outreach program and offers energy audits.

MEETING DATES

Deputy Supervisor O'Neill asked if the Board can meet next Tuesday, August 21 or Thursday, August 23, 2007 to go over the Greenspace Plan. Councilwomen Crane and Pullaro won't be available, Councilman Ross not available on the 21st, but will be on the 23rd, and Councilman Ramsey is available on the 23rd. Councilman Ramsey questioned going over the plan without 40% of the Board in attendance. No specific date was set.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2007

Michelle Greig of Greenplan reviewed the Town of Red Hook Amendments Timeline. After the Board reviews it, the document gets forwarded to the Planning Board who will review it, then to Dutchess County Planning for review. The next step in the process is to put a SEQR document together which will analyze all the potentially significant adverse environmental impacts of the proposed amendment. There will then be a Public Hearing for residents to comment on the document and there is a public comment period for written comments to the Board. At any time during this process the document can still be amended. She would like to move forward with it. She then went through some of the major changes to the Conservation Subdivision regulations. She and the Board started going over amendments starting on page 5 of the plan.

Councilwoman Crane asked where exactly the Ag Business District is.

Councilman Ross requested current maps of the Agricultural Business District.

Michelle Greig said the Intermunicipal Task Force is considering another zoning designation for some of the lands along the Hudson River which is why they were excluded from the map of the proposed zoning change.

Michelle Greig and John Clarke will produce an actual zoning map with the property lines.

Councilman Ross would like to see what is proposed for the Agricultural Business District. He is concerned that there are too many loose ends.

Michelle emphasized that this document provides design standards for a conservation subdivision. A conservation subdivision is a form of clustering except this outlines a method.

Development potential (page 8) and open space standards (page 14) were discussed.

Michelle will bring maps showing Red Hook's agricultural soil to the next meeting. She will begin discussion of the Ag District at Thursday night's meeting beginning with page 20 of the Centers and Greenspace Plan.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ON THE NORTHERN RED HOOK FARMLAND ASSEMBLAGE

Deputy Supervisor O'Neill announced that four Public Hearings had to be set. The Board discussed possible dates.

RESOLUTION 2007 #103

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN HAPEMAN AND BLUM, MCGIVER AND BLUM, SCHACHAT FARM AND AGRA-GATE FARM UNDER THE TOWN'S PDR PROGRAM

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross move to establish September 4, 2007 for Public Hearings for the PDR's as follows: 7:30 p.m. Agra-Gate Farm, 7:40 p.m. Anne Hapeman and Charles Blum Farm, 7:50 p.m. Cornelia McGiver and Greg Blum Farm, and 8:00 p.m. Schachat Farm.

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

ROAD ISSUE DISCUSSION

Councilman Ramsey spoke to the County Department of Public Works regarding Linden Avenue, Rockefeller Lane and Whalesback Road. Some months back we had a Resolution requesting the lowering of the speed limit on Budds Corners Road from Whalesback north to Route 9G. During their investigation they found that the speed limit was already set to 35 mph up to Pitcher Lane, so they moved signs for us to the intersection of Whalesback and Linden Avenue set at 35 mph and are continuing to look at the speed limit from Pitcher Lane to Route 9G. They have our Resolution and are sending a document to Councilman Ramsey to continue that progress. Regarding the intersection of Whalesback Road and Linden Avenue, the DCDPW looked at that intersection as a whole and are doing studies on it. They are studying putting four way stop signs, enhancement of the current stop signs and looking into whether or not there is a visibility issue because of fencing on one corner. Councilman Ramsey explained to them the urgency of this based on the fatal accident this past weekend. There is a process they have to go through before they act on it.

Councilwoman Pullaro referred to two e-mails she received from Mr. Eli Krupnik. She gave copies of them to the Board. He wrote on Wednesday, before the fatal accident on Saturday, regarding the fence on the Steiner Farm that was destroyed by a speeding vehicle and the constant speed that he witnesses. Councilman Ramsey and Councilwoman Pullaro responded to Mr. Krupnik that they would bring the e-mail up at tonight's meeting and gave him an update on Councilman Ramsey's discussions with Dutchess County Department of Public Works. He too suggests a four way stop sign. He did give permission to share his e-mail with DCDPW. Mr. Krupnik lives on the corner across from Steiner Farm and has had cars damage his own property.

Councilman Ross spoke with citizens with the same concerns regarding that intersection. His own concern is that it has always been a tricky intersection. It's a long straight away and people speed. Most accidents there are due to excessive speed. Stop signs would be helpful.

Councilwoman Crane doesn't understand the County's reluctance to put in a four way stop. We should go ahead with a Resolution regarding the intersection to put the DCDPW on notice that we want some action.

Supervisor Blum Bump thinks the Board should consider it in context with Linden Avenue going north out of the Village especially since we are going to increase traffic and population there with the new recreation park. We should consider from the corner of Park Avenue to the corner of Linden Avenue and Pitcher Lane taking traffic teaming steps so that we might increase awareness.

Councilman Ross suggests taking little steps. Once past Linden Acres there are fewer homes and open fields and that is where the speed issue comes in.

Supervisor Blum Bump feels we should let DOT know we are building a new recreation park and more people will be using that road.

Councilman Ross is concerned that we should not complicate our request for this particular intersection. We can put in another request two months from now if need to mitigate other problems on this road. We should move ahead with this particular intersection right now.

Councilman Ramsey has already spoken to DCDPW and the DOT about a number of issues on Linden Avenue. First and foremost is that the shoulder is too narrow for people to walk and ride bikes and secondly he has spoken to them about the new recreation park going in. The process has already started. They are doing a traffic study.

RESOLUTION 2007 # 104

RE: REQUESTING A SAFETY REVIEW OF LINDEN AVENUE/WHALESBACK ROAD INTERSECTION

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to accept the Resolution as read.

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

Councilman Ross would like to see warning signs for the new stop signs when they are installed. He would like Supervisor Blum Bump to send a cover letter with a copy of the Resolution as passed to the County Highway Department and the County Executive.

REGARDING REQUEST FROM RED HOOK TOWN JUSTICE ROLAND R. PAGE FOR A PROSECUTOR FOR CRIMINAL LAW VIOLATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF RED HOOK COURT

Attorney Chale reviewed the letter and plans to look to the District Attorney for guidance.

REGARDING CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR JAMS

Attorney Chale distributed a draft to the Board for consideration. The applicant is looking for approval so they can move ahead with the planning process. The Board will talk about this at the next Town Board workshop on August 23, 2007.

Councilman Ramsey expressed his concerns that Supervisor Blum Bump sets the meetings so that the Task Force and Villages can be here, yet doesn't seem to care if our own Board is here.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered that some of the Board can really profit from it and the Village can be here on the 23rd. We'll discuss the conservation easement on September 4 which is the first workshop meeting. She'd like a special meeting on the 23rd because she thinks it will be worthwhile.

Town Clerk Sue McCann will announce the August 23, 2007 meeting which will start at 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Pullaro told the Board that Marina Schmid, the Supervisor's Confidential Secretary, called to ask if she and Councilwoman Crane would be available to interview four of

the applicants for the Planning Board position on Thursday prior to the 7:00 meeting. Neither of them could be there at that time. We have to look for another time.

Supervisor Blum Bump will have her secretary call Councilwoman Pullaro to try to work out a good time to interview the applicants.

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to a memo from Business Manager Deborah Marks dated August 13, 2007, regarding authorizing to electronically pay NYS withholding tax from the Town's payroll account.

Attorney Chale will review the memo regarding that issue.

Supervisor Blum Bump, in regard to Business Manager Marks' memo, referred to the authorization to increase the hourly rate of pay for members of the Assessment Review Board. She also wanted to discuss the estimated cost of law enforcement for the second half of the year. She suggested the Board read the memo and on Thursday discuss it and take the required action.

Supervisor Blum Bump noted that she received the information from Peter Fairweather they requested and will discuss that on Thursday.

Councilman Ramsey told the Board that Dutchess County Emergency Response wants to hold a tabletop exercise to walk through the plan put together by this Town. If we want to wait until after the budget discussions let him know. The training will be an assimilated emergency and will be here. A date of September 29 was decided on. If that date isn't good for the County we'll work with them to come up with another date.

DISCUSSION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSOR

Supervisor Blum Bump asked what the Board wanted to do regarding the process of appointing the Assessor.

Councilman Ross understood that Attorney Chale was going to check on some things, and then we were going to go to Executive Session to discuss it.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, move to go into executive session at 10:38 p.m. regarding a personnel matter of a particular person.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Crane, move to end the executive session at 11:10 p.m.

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

RESOLUTION 2007 # 105

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO ADVERTISE FOR THE SIX YEAR TERM OF ASSESSOR TO COMMENCE SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2007 WITH JOB QUALIFICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATION

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to accept the resolution as read.

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

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board: Councilman Ross reported that the Planning Board met on August 6, 2007 and discussed Anderson Commons and Voskey Partners. New business before them was Bruce Cuttler for a lot line alteration on the lands off of Starbarrack Road.

Zoning Board: Councilman Ross reported they met last week. They had a couple of minor things and they had one where the applicant asked to be put off to vote on until next month when there were more than just 4 members. There is an issue over a fence between two neighbors in Barrytown.

Tree Work: Councilwoman Crane reported that Brenda Cagle, CAC Chair, along with a landscape architect from NYSDOT did an inventory of all the trees on South Broadway and some of North Broadway. He identified trees that should come down, spaces where trees should be and made recommendations about what types of trees should be planted. He is part of a program that will provide us with substantial sized trees. It is through the State Tree Grant Program.

Senior Services Committee: Councilwoman Crane reported that they met and agreed to participate in Hardscrabble Day. They are going to hand out materials pertaining to seniors, such as literature from the Office for the Aging, Dial a Ride, DC Action Agency, etc. There will not be an Expo until the Spring. The Senior Picnic is scheduled for September 19, 2007 at noon at the Red Hook Recreation Park.

Purchasing: Councilwoman Crane gave the purchasing activity report prepared by Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy for July 11 – August 13, 2007. During that period 28 Purchase Orders were issued in the amount of \$19,375.25, the largest order being to ANDLYNN Construction for \$2983 to erect a bridge at the north end of the Recreation Park for the trail to connect to Apple Ring trail. Purchasing Agent Kudzy had Frontier reconnect the telephone line at St. Margaret's to be used for the fire alarm system and he had a "jack" installed on the main floor for a future hand set. He is presently in the process of obtaining quotes for a fire alarm system. Ted and Doug Strawinski have had three vendors in for a visit.

Zoning Review Committee: Councilwoman Crane will give a full report next month.

Dog Control Report: Councilwoman Crane reported that the Dog Control Officer continues to work on dog licenses, and is patrolling the Town of Red Hook and Village of Tivoli. He handled four complaints from four different areas on barking dogs, two on loose dogs, one in Linden Acres and one in upper Red Hook, he found four dogs and returned them to owners. He is asking the Board to consider purchasing a 1988 Dodge with 2,400 miles on it which used to be an ambulance. The Rhinecliff Rescue Squad is selling it and the cost is \$2,000. Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand said it will cost far too much to repair the vehicle he was using.

Recycling: Councilwoman Pullaro reported that they have been checking for recycling permits and had about 25 vehicles without stickers who were directed to Town Hall to get the appropriate permit. There is a worker who will be leaving for college so there will be an opening. He has only had one application and has been unsuccessful contacting the individual. When he finds a suitable replacement he will submit the information to the Board for their approval.

Water Board: Councilwoman Pullaro reported that Northern Dutchess Landscaping will plant shrubs in the area on Aspinwall Road where illegal dumping has been occurring. Hopefully it will deter the dumping. Water Department Chairman Hank VanParys prepared a draft update of the Rules and Regulations for the Town Water District and asked that it be reviewed for changes before it goes before the Board for approval. Attorney Chale will review it.

CAC: Councilwoman Pullaro thanked CAC Chair, Brenda Cagle for her work regarding the tree planting, and for setting up tonight's NYSERDA Energy Star presentation.

Village Police: Supervisor Blum Bump reported that for the month of July there were 20 registered complaints, 37 uniform traffic tickets, no parking tickets, 4 accidents, one arrest was made and there were no EMS aided calls.

Assessor's Report: Supervisor Blum Bump reported that during the month of July the Assessor's Office received 33 small claims assessment review petitions, 7 Article VII petitions. The Assessor completed a week long course on Exemption Administration, and the breakdown of the 591 grievances was: 275 stipulations, 141 reductions and 175 unchanged.

Highway Report: Councilman Ramsey reported that blacktopping will start soon on Feller Newmark Road, Crestwood Drive and Starbarrack Roads. Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand and Councilman Ramsey will meet with Morris Associates on August 15, 2007 at 7:30 a.m.

Economic Development Committee: Councilman Ramsey reported they are continuing to work with Mr. Sandy Zimmerman on the proposed conference center. They are setting up meetings with the Village, the Task Force and with Bard College. They are also meeting with DC Economic Development Council to see how they can help with the proposed zoning changes.

Supervisor Blum Bump told Councilman Ramsey that another developer has approached the Village and the Intermunicipal Task Force with the idea of building a hotel.

Councilman Ramsey hasn't heard anything about it.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked if the Board should hear presentations from developers as they come in.

Councilmen Ross and Ramsey agree that the Board should hear legitimate proposals.

Trails Committee: Councilman Ramsey reported there was no meeting this month.

Recreation Committee: Councilman Ramsey reported they met yesterday but he was unable to attend. He hasn't read the report from John Kuhn.

Road Report: Councilman Ramsey reported that in regard to Glen View Road, Supervisor Blum Bump was supposed to check with Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand about when the road was to be blacktopped.

Supervisor Blum Bump is putting it back in Councilman Ramsey's hands to get the information so that she can get back to Mrs. Ferris.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Keeling asked when Pitcher Lane extension was paved over.

Councilman Ramsey said a drainage problem was fixed and they repaved part of that road about a year ago.

Linda Keeling questioned the need for paving aprons which she feels cause more erosion.

Councilman Ramsey thinks State regulations require going into any openings in the roadway. He will check with Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand.

Linda Keeling suggested the Town purchase life sized posters of children to put up to calm traffic. They also have a trooper poster that look like real life.

On a motion of supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Pullaro move to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCann, Town Clerk