

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 10, 2007

A special 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: Attorney for the Town, Christine Chale
Deputy Supervisor William O'Neill

Supervisor Blum Bump welcomed everyone to the workshop then announced the Public Hearing for December 11th at 7:00 p.m. on the proposed Local Law entitled "Trees" of the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy asked the Board for a decision as to how he should move regarding the energy saving project including the photovoltaic panel system. He explained that an energy audit was done in 2005. The audit determined that Town Hall can achieve lower energy costs through the use of modern light fixtures and bulbs. He and Laurie Husted have been working on it. Purchasing Agent Kudzy suggested (Phase I) replacing fixtures in the old section of the building and replacing the bulbs at a cost of approximately \$6,600 with a \$400 rebate. Phase II would include photovoltaic panels costing approximately \$35,000 but NYSERDA will refund \$25,000. Ray Jarkowski from Morris Associates will do the engineering to determine the exact needs, design the system, write the bid specs, review the bids and oversee the construction for a total cost of \$6,000.

On a motion of Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Supervisor Blum Bump for discussion, moved to go ahead. (The motion was tabled for tomorrow night's discussion.)

The Board discussed the proposed energy saving project.

Councilwoman Crane will check with the neighbors to see who owns the evergreen trees that could possibly block the sun from the solar panels planned for the roof of Town Hall.

Linda Keeling asked the Board to please take a look at and address the ADA accessibility at the Rec Park trail.

Tom Mansfield, Dutchess County Legislature elect, presented a petition signed by 262 people asking that the Board not make an early appointment of a new member to fill the seat vacated by Councilwoman Sue Crane. Councilwoman Crane asked about the petition and was told it was written by Red Hook Democratic Chairman, John Schmitz. The petition was circulated on-line at a public website.

There were no further comments.

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW REGARDING THE CENTERS AND GREENSPACE PLAN

Michelle Grieg handed out information regarding inclusionary housing/affordable housing. She spoke with Mary Linge of Hudson River Housing regarding administration costs per unit. They don't know the cost at this time but there will be no cost to the municipality. Michelle presented an outline of courses and services from Hudson River Housing. Michelle Grieg and the Board continued the discussion regarding the affordable housing component of the Centers and Greenspace Plan.

Supervisor Blum Bump moves to let Attorney Chale look at the Centers and Greenspace document. The motion was not seconded.

Councilman Ross wants to look over the documents before we give it to the Attorney. He suggested reading and discussing it at tomorrow night's meeting.

The Board determined that giving the document to Attorney Chale is premature.

REGARDING ESCROW LAW

Attorney Chale circulated a draft of the escrow deposit law at the previous meeting for review. The law is intended to clarify and regularize the process of collecting escrows for development projects to ensure that we can collect escrows where it's appropriate for specific project related costs. It's very important that those costs be borne by the particular developer at hand. It makes the process more efficient. The developers can see what is being spent and can get copies monthly.

Councilwoman Crane suggested calling for an audit from the Comptroller's Office to see if there were any problems this past year. They would know if there were problems with Planning Board escrow. She asked that the Town request, before the end of this year, an audit from the NYS Comptroller's Office of our escrow accounts and finances.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked the Board to review the escrow issue and be prepared to vote at tomorrow night's meeting.

REGARDING TREE LAW

Attorney Chale suggested the Board review the Tree Law package in anticipation of consideration of that law after the Public Hearing tomorrow night.

Supervisor Blum Bump announced the Public Hearing regarding the Tree Law at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow night, December 11, 2007. After the Public Hearing is closed they will have a motion to vote on the law.

GRANT APPLICATION FOR SHARED SERVICES – REC. PARK JOINT APPLICATION WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Attorney Chale explained that there are two grant applications for shared services. The first is for the proposed intermunicipal recreation park project with Red Hook Central School. The application will be submitted in the amount of \$400,000 total; \$200,000 is for the school and \$200,000 for the Town. There is a 10% required local match. Since the application is still being developed she does not have a copy at this time.

Councilman Ramsey explained the expenses the grant will hopefully cover. He will have the numbers in the next day or so and will get them to Victor Cornelius as soon as he gets them.

GRANT APPLICATION FOR SHARED SERVICES – STUDIES AND PLANS FOR CENTRAL SEWER WITH THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK

Attorney Chale explained the shared municipal services grant for the joint municipal sewer program being proposed by the Village of Red Hook stemming from the Task Force's work. She referred to a handout from the Village attorney indicating the Village's approval of their part of the application. The application is for a total amount of \$70,000, with a 10% match. The Village authorized its \$3500 share and is asking the Town to authorize \$3500 local match for the grant application. The grant would be used to complete the facilities plan which is the next step of completing the feasibility study. They were advised to create the plan and at that point seek funding for that particular program.

Councilwoman Crane reminded everyone that we did have an application process to Community Development Block Grants of Dutchess County for \$150,000 to the Town of Red Hook and \$150,000 to the Village of Red Hook for just this kind of situation. It was ready to go by the deadline, with no cost, and it was viewed as premature by the Village. We lost an opportunity. She wants to make it clear that it was a strong application that was signed off on and was pulled because it was viewed by someone as premature.

Supervisor Blum Bump will look into what happened to clarify it. You have to keep applying because the money is there. You win some, you lose some.

Councilwoman Crane excused herself from the meeting at approximately 9:30 p.m.

REGARDING OFFICIAL MAP

Attorney Chale explained that there was a draft official map prepared by Morris Associates. She asked that Town Clerk Sue McCann have a copy for her office.

Supervisor Blum Bump said this is being paid for by the Community Development Block Grant.

Councilman Ross asked what it is an official map of.

The Board looked over the latest revised map provided by Morris Associates.

Councilman Ross questioned who asked Morris Associates to work on the map. He said we as a Board never discussed exactly what was going to be on it. There was a road not included on the preliminary map and it was never changed. The Board never reviewed or had the chance to comment on the map that somehow got to Morris Associates to get turned into an official map. Now we're being asked to approve a map we never had comment on.

Attorney Chale explained the Planning Board will eventually review the map before adoption.

Councilman Ross understands but the Board never approved having it sent to Morris Associates to put it in official Town map format so that we could review it and send it to our Planning Board.

Supervisor Blum Bump disagreed with Councilman Ross and stated that she has been trying to get this on the agenda but has been unable to. We've been working on this for three years. She told Councilman Ross that we've discussed the map and we have to decide what we want on it.

The Board continued discussion regarding the official Town map. Questions arose regarding scenic roads, trails, and what the Board would want on the map.

Attorney Chale told the Board that the next step is to refer to the Planning Board for their review.

Councilmen Ramsey and Ross, and Councilwoman Pullaro agreed that existing trails should be on the official map. The board will discuss and take action at tomorrow night's meeting.

AUTHORIZING SITE ACCESS FOR OMNIPOINT REGARDING THE TOWN'S CELL TOWER

The resolution will be voted on at the December 11, 2007 meeting.

REGARDING A LOCAL LAW GOVERNING PARKING

The Board will review parking on Rockefeller Lane as well as Recreation Park parking.

Linda Keeling questioned the grant writer's fee for St. Margaret's. She understood that the Supervisor stated there would be no charge for Victor Cornelius to reapply.

Richard Hansen referenced the official map. He brought up conservation easements in lieu of recreation park fees and asked why he had to pay a \$6,000 fee.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ross, moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk