

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 8, 2008

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 7:35 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Sue Crane
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Micki Strawinski
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman Robert Latimer
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

Supervisor Crane opened the meeting with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Zacharzuk congratulated the Board. He stated that we need a new Town Garage. It's been six years and he would like to see it get ironed out.

Richard Hansen is concerned about the planning process. People who come before the Planning Board are either considered developers or profiteers. He knows people who just gave up because of the planning process. Charging people before the planning board process takes away from the Planning Board. Regarding receipt of Town money by the Supervisor, it says it should be non-interest bearing. Why is that? As far as request of additional sums from the applicant, he is asking the money be itemized so that if someone is asked for more money they would know why. He got money back because there was no tracking of it. In summary by making the process more bulky and expensive so the individuals can't deal with it you are impugning the people of Red Hook because of the belief that there is a yet to be emerged mythical developer that is going to swallow this town up. Think of the people of the town first before you think of hypothetical people.

Supervisor Crane asked Mr. Hansen to provide a copy of his statement to the Town Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Crane led with the Pledge of Allegiance after the comment period. She then opened the meeting and thanked everyone who participated in the election process then explained the importance to her of community service. We would be astonished with the time volunteers spend. We need to stop wasting and be mindful of our resources and our money.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Crane recognized Business Manager Deborah Marks for her work keeping the Town on track. She recognized Rose Rider who was CFO of Northern Dutchess Hospital for 43 years who has agreed to be our Chief Financial Officer. She's also been chair of the Senior Services Committee and applauded both Business Manager Deborah Marks and Rose Rider. She presented the Budget Award to Business Manager Deborah Marks.

The Supervisor's monthly statement dated December 31, 2007 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$1698, 528.31; receipts - \$2,357,038.98; disbursed - \$2,277,619.15; balance - \$1,777,948.14.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to accept the Supervisor's December 31, 2007 report as read.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the following budget adjustment in connection with the 2007 operating budget: In the General A Fund Town Wide: Appropriate from the Unappropriated fund balance

	Brian Silvernail
<u>Receiver of Taxes:</u>	Town Clerk Sue McCann
<u>Deputy Receiver of Taxes:</u>	Deputy Town Clerk Claire Horst
<u>Water Rent Collector:</u>	Town Clerk Sue McCann
<u>Issuing Agent – Handicapped Parking Permits:</u>	Town Clerk Sue McCann
<u>Director of Purchasing:</u>	Ted Kudzy
<u>Town Physician:</u>	St. Francis Hospital Northern Dutchess Hospital
<u>Information Technology:</u>	Wayne Hildenbrand Ted Kudzy Deborah Marks Steve Cole Claire Horst
<u>Consultants & Attorney:</u>	Keane & Beane
<u>Water District Operator:</u>	Richard Cain
<u>Computer Software:</u>	Software Consulting Associates
<u>Town Planner:</u>	Greenplan, Inc.
<u>Town Engineer:</u>	DF Wheeler Ted Eglit
<u>Custodial Services:</u>	Pollards Cleaning Services
<u>Building & Safety Department:</u>	Gary Beck
<u>Standard Rate Reimbursement IRS:</u>	.505 p/mile

The Town Board meetings will be the first Tuesday of every month, which will be public comment periods, committee reports and department head reports. The second Tuesday of the month will be reserved for Town Board business. The third meeting will be the fourth Wednesday of the month for the Town Board.

The Board took a three minute break.

The meeting resumed.

Supervisor Crane said committee reports will be given at the first meeting of the month, and suggested the committee chairs attend those meetings.

Supervisor Crane recognized past Deputy Supervisor Bill O’Neill for his hard work and dedication. The second person she recognized was Brenda Cagle; Chair of the Conservation Advisory Council which she said is one of the most important committees.

Supervisor Crane explained that if we build a Highway Garage it will be “green” one hundred percent. She will not go for any changes unless they are “green” changes. She spoke to Town Hall neighbor Mrs. Bayer regarding removal of her tall evergreens in order to install solar panels. Mrs. Bayer agreed that they grew too big and is willing to remove them. Supervisor presented the Tree City, USA plaque to CAC Chairwoman Brenda Cagle. Supervisor Crane will advocate spending money for a highway garage if twenty years from now that garage can be converted to some mixed use needed by the community. We have to think ahead, we can’t build for just five years. It must be also be adaptable. We have to have the workers in a safe work environment, and if no one believes her we will hold a meeting there.

Supervisor Crane recognized Mr. Doug Strawinski for his work with St. Margaret’s Home, building the recreation park bridge and building trails. She recognized Ruth Oja, Marcy Appell and Beth Mead for writing the Open Space Plan. Out of that plan came the CAC, Ag Committee and the whole open space notion. Linda Keeling was another resident recognized for being a stickler for details and for pointing out the ethics of things. She is also a good grant writer.

Supervisor Crane moved on to the liaisons:

<u>Assessor’s Office:</u>	Supervisor Crane
<u>Bard College:</u>	Councilwoman Strawinski Supervisor Crane
<u>Bookkeeper:</u>	Supervisor Crane

Building Inspector: Councilman Ross
Dog Control: open – Supervisor will take it for now
Fire Company: Councilman Ross
 Councilman Latimer
Purchasing: Councilman Colgan
Recycling: Councilwoman Strawinski
Red Hook School District: Councilwoman Strawinski
 Councilman Colgan
Intermunicipal Task Force: Bill O’Neill, Chairman
 Councilman Colgan
 Councilman Latimer

Councilman Ross suggested committee meetings take place in evenings in order for full time workers to attend. He would like the Board do discuss the possibility. The Board continued with liaisons.

Senior Housing: Supervisor Crane
Village of Red Hook: Councilman Ross
 Councilman Colgan
Village of Tivoli: Councilman Colgan
 Councilman Latimer

After completion of liaison appointments, the Board moved on to committee vacancies.

Ag & Open Space Committee

Supervisor Crane asked the Ag & Open Space Committee to divide into two committees under CAC with five members each and get back to the board with their recommendation.

Assessment Review Board/Committee

Supervisor Crane said the Assessment Review Board has one vacancy and we will ask if the member would like to serve again.

Conservation Advisory Council

Councilman Ross asked what subcommittees members would report to CAC? He understands the Ag Committee, Open Space Committee, and Greenway & Trails to report to CAC.

Supervisor Crane sees the CAC as resource for the subcommittees and asked to have Brenda Cagle talk it over with them to better understand how they feel about the idea.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to reappoint Brenda Cagle as Chair, term to expire Dec. 31, 2008 and as a member term to expire Dec. 31, 2009. Reappoint members Laurie Husted, Mary Ann Johnson, Denise Barton and Mike Ignatowski whose terms will expire Dec. 31, 2009.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

Councilman Colgan suggested asking the committees for a mission statement.

Design Review Committee

Mr. Geoff Carter from the Design Review Committee informed the Board that all of their members are willing and able to continue to serve.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to reappoint Geoff Carter as Chair of the Design Review Committee term to expire Dec. 31, 2008 and as member term to expire Dec. 31, 2009. Reappoint members Henry Fournier and Tiffany Nogales term to expire Dec. 31, 2009.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

Disaster Preparedness Committee

John Douglas, Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair informed the Board that his committee has a new member, Vincent M. Coluccio. His committee finished their update and it will be sent to the new Board members. It includes a slight modification.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to appoint John Douglas as Chair of the Disaster Preparedness Committee term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if a letter of interest was sent by Mr. Coluccio and if any other letters of interest were received.

John Douglas told the Board that Mr. Coluccio was the only one to express interest in the last four months. Their Board met with him and they were advised to wait until 2008 to officially bring him on. He has been to all of their meetings, brings a lot of experience, would make a great member and most importantly, he has expressed an interest.

Regarding the appointment of the new member of the Disaster Preparedness Committee, the Board will consider the appointment at next week's meeting.

Economic Development Committee

Supervisor Crane explained the Economic Development Committee appointments will also be made at next week's meeting. The cut off day is January 11th for anyone who is interested in serving on any committees.

Ethics Board

Supervisor Crane moved on to the Ethics Board. Chairman Fred Cartier was out of Town and Linda Keeling said she is willing to serve again as secretary.

Attorney Chale explained that Fred Cartier is away for a couple of weeks and that the Ethics Board appoints their own Chairman.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to reappoint Susan Goodman-Goldstein and Gail Nussbaum to the Ethics Board with a 5 year appointment.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Disaster Preparedness Committee

Councilwoman Strawinski returned to the Disaster Preparedness Committee vacancy and upon clarification suggested moving on with the appointment.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to appoint Mr. Vincent Coluccio to the Disaster Preparedness Committee term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Ethics Committee

Attorney Chale suggested amending the motion regarding the Ethics Board to stagger the terms and have one member's term expire in 2012 and the other in 2010.

On a motion of Councilman Latimer, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to amend the motion and have Susan Goodman-Goldstein's term to expire Dec. 31, 2010, and Gail Nussbaum's term to expire in 2012.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Farmland Protection Committee

The Farmland Protection Committee appointments will be at the next meeting.

Greenway/Trails Committee

Supervisor Crane asked Howie Callies about the Greenway/Trails Committee and Mr. Callies questioned the number of members to serve on the Committee. He thinks that seven members are sufficient. It was decided to speak to the members and make an appointment at next week's meeting.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to appoint Howie Callies as Chairman of the Greenway/Trails Committee term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Planning Board

Supervisor Crane brought up the Planning Board vacancies and asked if the members are willing to return.

Councilman Latimer asked the Board to stagger the appointments.

Attorney Chale recommended appointing one to expire in 2014, and one to expire in 2011.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to reappoint Sam Harkins term to expire Dec. 31, 2014 and Dave Wright term to expire Dec. 31, 2011.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to reappoint Christine Kane as Chairwoman of the Planning Board term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Councilman Ross suggested polling the Planning Board to see if there are any other members who would be interested in being the Chairperson. He is the liaison and does not like the tone of the Planning Board and how it treats the public. He doesn't feel that each case that goes to the Planning Board is evaluated on its merit and he is not happy with the Chairmanship. The only say the Town Board has over the Planning Board is who they put on that Planning Board and who is picked as Chair and Planner. That's why the appointments to the Planning Board and Zoning Board are crucial.

Supervisor Crane asked Christine Kane to poll the committee regarding the Chairmanship of the Planning Board.

Councilman Colgan feels there are two schools of thought on the Planning Board. He supports the Planning Board from what he hears about them.

Supervisor Crane asked for a vote on the motion.

Adopted Ayes 4 Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 1 Ross

Recreation Commission

Supervisor Crane said that Tom Budd has resigned and Doug Strawinski Recreation Chair informed her that Bob Bowman would like to stay on. He will have a letter of interest by Friday for the vacancy.

Councilwoman Strawinski recused herself for the Recreation Commission Chair appointment.

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to reappoint Doug Strawinski as Chairman of the Recreation Committee term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 4 Crane, Ross, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0
 Recusal 1 Strawinski

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to reappoint Bob Bowman to the Recreation Commission term to expire Dec. 31, 2009.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Senior Services Committee

Supervisor Crane asked Rose Rider if she knew anyone interested in taking her place.

Mrs. Rider recommended Andrew Kehr become Chair of the Senior Services Committee. She will have information for the Board by Friday.

The appointment of Chair will be made at next week's meeting.

Water Board

Supervisor Crane asked Hank VanParys for an update and he informed her there are no vacancies.

On a motion of Councilman Latimer, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to reappoint Henry VanParys as Chairman of the Water Board term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, moved to reappoint Larry Carr, John Wintenburg and Greg Fildes to the Water Board terms to expire Dec. 31, 2009.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Zoning Board of Appeals

Supervisor Crane explained that the ZBA is designated by NY State Law. The Chairman of the ZBA is Tim Ross. There is one vacancy on the ZBA.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to reappoint Ken Anderson to remain on the ZBA term to expire Dec. 31, 2014.

Adopted Ayes 5 Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0

Councilman Ross recused himself for the appointment of the ZBA Chairmanship.

Supervisor Crane explained that Tim Ross is very knowledgeable and a strong leader.

Councilman Latimer explained that Tim Ross is a great asset to the ZBA, very capable of interpreting the code and is very knowledgeable.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Latimer, moved to reappoint Tim Ross as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals term to expire Dec. 31, 2008.

Adopted Ayes 4 Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
 Nays 0
 Recusal 1 Ross

Zoning Review Committee

Supervisor Crane recognized Michael Carr.

Mr. Carr explained that a Village representative has been added to the committee and feels it should be made official. He will get back to the Board regarding membership.

Supervisor Crane discussed having an audit done by the Comptroller's Office. It has been her experience that greater scrutiny is going to go on from NY State Comptroller's Office all the time. She wants to send a letter to the State Comptroller's Office asking for their help and make sure we close the books, and that everything is straight and improve what would do that. She asked Attorney Chale if she can just write a letter or if she needed a Board vote.

Attorney Chale answered that as Chief Fiscal Officer she can submit that request to the NY State Comptroller's Office.

Supervisor Crane said it doesn't cost us anything and she feels it's a sensible move to make before we are required to do it.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk