

**RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**January 23, 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 7:30 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 of Allegiance and then welcomed everyone to the workshop.

**SUPERVISOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Crane explained that Bill O'Neill, Chairman of the Intermunicipal Task Force will hold the Task Force report until February 12th when the committee's and department heads will report.

Supervisor Crane announced that the St. Margaret's Committee has been working to organize and has support from individuals in the community from people with various expertise. They received a \$450,000 grant to upgrade and stabilize St. Margaret's Home. They agree that a five member committee would be a good working group. Paula Schoonmaker is working hard on it.

Supervisor Crane referred to correspondence from the New York State Association of Towns regarding the Annual Conference in February 2008. She explained it is held for Board members and Town employees.

The Board scheduled a Town Board meeting for Tuesday, January 29, 2008 as a substitution for the February 5th meeting which is Primary day in New York.

Supervisor Crane explained "Rules of Order" for meetings of the Town Board. She told the Board that Attorney Chale developed them and Supervisor Crane asked the Board to read and familiarize themselves with them in order to discuss them at the next meeting.

Supervisor Crane will attend the Association of Towns from Sunday to Wednesday to represent Red Hook.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

There were no comments.

**WINNAKEE LAND TRUST RESOLUTION REQUEST**

Supervisor Crane referred to a letter from Winnakee Land Trust dated December 12, 2007. She doesn't know if past Supervisor Blum Bump acted on it. The Executive Director of Winnakee Land Trust sent the letter requesting a Greenway grant of \$5,000 to fund the development of some printed materials related to the Red Hook Breadbasket Trail. Supervisor Crane read a copy of a draft resolution drafted by the Executive Director asking the Board to support their request. She explained that she couldn't find anything in the Supervisors files that this was acted upon.

Supervisor Crane read the draft resolution from Winnakee Land Trust approving the application of Winnakee Land Trust for a Greenway Conservancy grant for planning and acquiring trail easements for the Red Hook Heritage Breadbasket Trail. Whereas the Winnakee Land Trust is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the 2007 Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley annual grant program for a program entitled "Red Hook Heritage Breadbasket Trail" to be located in the Town of Red Hook, New York, and whereas the grant application requires the applicant's municipality or not-for-profit to obtain the "approval endorsement of the governing body of the municipality or municipalities in which the

project will be located". Now therefore be it resolved that the governing Board of the Town of Red Hook hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the 2007 Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley Annual Grant Program for a project known as the Red Hook Heritage Breadbasket Trail located within the community.

#### RESOLUTION 2008 #12

RE: APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A \$5,000 GRANT UNDER THE 2007 GREENWAY CONSERVANCY FOR THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY ANNUAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE RED HOOK HERITAGE BREADBASKET TRAIL LOCATED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman Harry Colgan, move to adopt the resolution as read.

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

#### **REORGANIZATION**

Supervisor Crane asked Town Clerk Sue McCann to continue with the review of the 2008 appointments.

Town Clerk McCann referred to the 2008 draft Town Appointment list and explained the PANDA alternate and Attorney for the Town need to be appointed. Those appointments were discussed but not officially voted on.

Councilwoman Stawinski will try to contact Zach Taras about his interest in serving as PANDA alternate.

Supervisor Crane suggested finding another alternate.

Councilman Ross would like an alternate who is available.

Susan Simon, PANDA representative, asked if she could make a recommendation and have the name to the Board at the next meeting.

Town Clerk McCann told the Board that they don't have to act on Supervisor, Town Clerk or the Highway Superintendent appointments. They moved on to the appointment of other Town Employees/Officers.

#### Other Town Employees/Officers

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint Theresa Burke as Part Time Highway Secretary, Deborah Marks Assistant Budget Officer and Business Manager/Human Resources, Katherine Fell as PT Bookkeeping Clerk, Diana Picciano as PT Assessor's Clerk, T.J. Hackett as Transfer Station Operator, Raymond P. McGrath and William Szigethny as Solid Waste Attendants, Brian Moore as Recreation Park Pavilion Coordinator, Don Whipple as Groundskeeper, John Kuhn as Recreation Park & Program Director, and Cynthia Fildes, John Wintenburg and Brian Silvernail as PT Water District Meter Readers

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

#### Contracts/Consultants

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to appoint the consultants.

Supervisor Crane withdrew the motion after a brief discussion.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint St. Francis/Northern Dutchess Hospital as Town Physician.

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

Supervisor Crane referred to Town Attorney Keane & Beane, which will be a holdover. She explained that we are truly trying to save expenses.

Councilman Ross feels we should use our contracted Attorney unless there happens to be a specific conflict or expertise needed.

Councilman Ross referred to the Water District Operator and explained it was referred to Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy.

Supervisor Crane said the water department is very pleased with his work. It was decided that Rich Cain, Water District Operator is a holdover.

Software Consulting Associates, Greenplan Inc. and Independent Auditor Ted Eglit will also go to Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy for the normal procurement procedure.

Councilman Ross suggested speaking to Purchasing Agent Kudzy.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint Pollards Cleaning Service for Custodial Services.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint Gary Beck as Building/Safety Department (consultant) for the same hourly rate as the previously year.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to appoint the Village of Red Hook Police Department, and Dutchess County Sheriff's Deputies as Police and Court Attendants.

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

Councilman Ross suggested that the wording "standard mileage rate determined by the IRS" should be eliminated and now reads Mileage: .50 per mile.

#### Town Board Liaisons to Town Departments

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski move to appoint Councilman Latimer as Dog Control Liaison.

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

#### Recycling Concerns

Councilwoman Strawinski met with TJ Hackett, Transfer Station Operator, to address concerns of the Department of Environmental Conservation regarding the Transfer Station. A major concern is that the facilities were built with state grant money and it is no longer functioning as intended. The DEC asked to set up a meeting with Supervisor Crane to address their concerns. Right now if a resident wants to use the recycle center they have to go through the Highway Garage which is a muddy mess, but because of the connector road, they can't go out in one direction, they have to turn around and causes bottleneaking. Additionally, they are presently not able to use the Goods Exchange. At the meeting they discussed the possibility of backfilling the curbing on the northwest side leading out to connector road A to keep the flow of traffic going. If we get that done, it will be a temporary solution until the whole connector road project is done.

Supervisor Crane met with Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand and discussed the recycle area and highway area with him.

Councilman Ross suggested that Councilwoman Strawinski meet with Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand and Transfer Station Operator TJ Hackett, and have Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand deal with Blacktop Maintenance Company.

Councilwoman Strawinski said the agreement with the construction company was that the Recycle Center remains open. She is concerned that the goods exchange has not remained open.

Councilman Ross said it is not the contractors fault, he told everyone from the beginning that the curbing would cause a problem. He told the Board the way the plans were drawn up with the curbing it would be an impossibility. The way they worked it out was the best they could around the curbing so the solution now is to correct it as soon as we can.

Supervisor Crane had a meeting with Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand about the entire site, highway garage and all. He felt Supervisor Crane should contact Blacktop Maintenance to see what we can do.

Councilwoman Strawinski said another concern is that there are cones at the end where it comes into Glen Pond and asked about a temporary gate there to prevent people from moving them. She is concerned about a change order from Morris Associates and we should not be charged.

Councilman Ross said the curb cuts were not included and we will have to spend some money to correct that.

#### Ag & Open Space Advisory Board

Supervisor Crane suggested that the Ag and Open Space Advisory Board become two committees in order to make them more effective.

The Board discussed the makeup of Ag & Open Space.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked when the Ag. Committee meets?

Town Clerk McCann stated they do not have a set meeting schedule.

Chair McKeon discussed the meeting schedule; he is working on setting up a meeting schedule.

Supervisor Crane explained that the committee began as just an Ag Advisory Committee inherited from Woody Klose and Jeff Ackerly. That was how the structure of the committee began. Now she feels it might be too top heavy with people some of whom can meet in the summer and some not, especially being farmers. There is a rhythm to that committee.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to appoint the Ag. & Open Space Committee as listed.

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

Councilman Ross asked what Supervisor Crane's thoughts were on the committee

Supervisor Crane said the open space plan was written by three volunteers largely with a consultant. Out of that came the notion of an agricultural advisory group which was supposed to be a group which feed into the Open Space Committee. The Open Space Committee has more responsibilities than farming with members who could work more year round. She had an idea of a group of five working on open space. The open space issue has become enormous. The committees could be related but not dependent on the same people. The smaller the committee, the more effective.

Councilman Colgan feels it's natural for the groups to be together. The members are very much engaged in all of these issues.

Councilwoman Strawinski feels the committee should stay in tact.

Councilman Ross suggested deciding what the charge of each committee would be and look at it next year.

The Board appointed Councilwoman Strawinski as liaison to the Ag & Open Space Advisory Committee.

On a motion of Councilman Latimer, seconded by Supervisor Crane, moved to reappoint Richard Biezynski, Ken Migliorelli, Larry Thetford, Miriam Latzer and Craig Vogel to the Ag and Open Space Advisory Committee terms to expire December 31, 2009.

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to reappoint Robert McKeon as Chairman of the Ag & Open Space Advisory Committee term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

Councilman Ross feels the meetings have been run with the Chairman's ideas, and the different committee member's ideas have been ignored.

Councilman Latimer feels if the Chair is bad, it is incumbent on the other members to come forward.

Councilman Ross doesn't feel the chairmanship of any committee should hold a carte blanche. These members haven't been polled to see if they agree with the chairmanship.

#### Conservation Advisory Council

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to appoint Ann Rubin to fill the vacancy on the CAC for a term of one year term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

#### Assessment Review Board

Supervisor Crane will follow up with Carl Dowden and will hopefully report next week

#### Liaison Appointments

Assessment Review Board	Sue Crane
CAC	Micki Strawinski
	Robert Latimer
Highway	Robert Latimer
Design Review/Hamlet	Harry Colgan
Disaster Preparedness	Robert Latimer

Supervisor Crane will check with the Red Hook Ministerium regarding representation.

#### Economic Development Committee

Councilwoman Strawinski read letters of interest from Carlos Gonzalez and Leo Sieverding for the vacancy on the Economic Development Committee.

Councilman Colgan also referred to a letter from Doug Moat recommending Leo Sieverding.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilman Ross, moved to appoint Leo Sieverding to the EDC term to expire December 31, 2009.

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



Liaison to the Recreation Commission

Sue Crane  
Harry Colgan

St. Margaret's Committee

Supervisor Crane explained that this committee was originally a task force to get things up and running in order to get it as a rental last year. We received a \$450,000 grant from the Department of State. Town Historian Winty Aldrich will not be able to actively involve himself in this committee because of his position in government. She believes that Amy Dubin would serve as Chair, and Paula Schoonmaker is very involved. They contacted Peter Sweeney and he is interested. This is a work in progress and she would like to wait until the Board gets more information from them. She suggested waiting until the February 12, 2008 meeting to appoint the committee.

Senior Services Committee

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to appoint Andrew Kehr as Chair of the Senior Services Committee term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

Supervisor Crane explained that there are two vacancies on the Senior Services Committee.

Liaison to Senior Services Committee

Robert Latimer

Water Board

Liaison to the Water Board

Jim Ross

Zoning Board of Appeals

Councilwoman Strawinski referred to four letters of interest for the vacancy on the ZBA.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to appoint Kris Munn to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Denied	Ayes	2	Strawinski, Colgan
	Nays	3	Crane, Ross, Latimer

Councilman Ross suggested waiting to hear from the ZBA Chair regarding the appointment.

Councilman Latimer suggested tabling the vote and getting the letters of interest to the Chair of the ZBA for input.

Supervisor Crane will try to reach the ZBA Chair and poll the committee regarding their recommendations.

Supervisor Crane announced a Dial-A-Ride advisory meeting on January 24, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Supervisor Crane referred to correspondence from Don Bramford regarding registering for veteran's tax exemption for Cold War veterans. Veterans can register at the Assessor's office and must apply by March 1, 2008 and reapply every year for the exemption.

Councilwoman Strawinski read a letter from Mr. Jim Brudwig, VP for Administration at Bard College, congratulating Sue Crane for her tenure as Town Supervisor. The letter encouraged extending an invitation to the second Dick Griffith Brunch on January 27, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Manor House on Bard Campus.

Attorney Chale told the Board that they would have to adopt a Local Law in order to opt into the veteran's tax exemption.

Supervisor Crane asked her to take care of that issue very soon.

Councilwoman Strawinski referred to a letter from Richard Hansen. She will take it up at the next meeting.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

*Linda Keeling* asked if the new Assessor Jeff Churchill attend a meeting so that residents can familiarize themselves with him.

Supervisor Crane said that he will be at the February 12, 2008 meeting.

*Linda Keeling* suggested posting the appointment list on the website so people can see who the wonderful volunteers are and how much they dedicate.

*Larry Thetford* asked what the process is about who responds to a 911 call.

Councilman Latimer answered that the call goes to E911 and they look for the closest unit available. It is always beneficial to call 911 in an emergency.

*Larry Thetford* suggested it be added to the Emergency Plan so residents all know.

*Kris Munn* asked if a violent crime is committed in the Town, could the Village Police respond.

Councilman Latimer responded, yes, they can respond.

Charlie Rubin discussed showing the meetings on the web.

On a motion of Councilman Latimer, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk