

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 20, 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 (9:20 pm)

Supervisor Crane welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Denise Barton of the CAC explained the DEC Environmental School scholarship for a one week sleep away camp where students learn about the environment in the Hudson Valley Area. She thanked the local VFW for providing funds for this scholarship. This year's winners are Jaime Elena Kent and Ryan Hicks.

RESOLUTION 2008 #13

RE: AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF ROAD DEDICATION OF GLEN RIDGE ROAD SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

On a motion of Councilwoman Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move to approve the resolution as read.

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

Copy Attached

RESOLUTION 2008 #14

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO MAKE APPLICATION OF THE NY STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (OCFS) FOR APPROVAL OF THE EXPENDITURE OF \$3,721 FOR A SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski move to approve the resolution as read.

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

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RESOLUTION 2008 #15

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO MAKE APPLICATION OF THE NY STATE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (OCFS) FOR APPROVAL OF THE EXPENDITURE OF \$3298.00 FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION/PEER MEDIATION

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

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

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RESOLUTION 2008 #16

RE: ESTABLISHING A NEW DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF LOCAL LAW NO. 4 (PROPOSED) OF 2008, AMENDING CHAPTER 60, "DISASTER AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS" OF THE RED HOOK TOWN CODE.

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move to approve the resolution as read and set the Public Hearing date for Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 7:15 p.m. at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, New York, to hear all interested parties on said proposed local law.

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

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Keep Farming Committee - MaryAnn Johnson and Larry Thetford gave a presentation on the Keep Farming Red Hook partnership with the Glynwood organization in Cold Spring, NY. Glynwood is a not for profit organization devoted to supporting agriculture. Red Hook made a proposal to them to become part of their Keep Farming Program where they provide technical assistance, a little bit of money and a lot of support. She presented surveys, one a farmer's survey, the other a resident's survey. The proposal to Glynwood was to help promote agricultural business development in Red Hook, to link agriculture and tourism, and create a better relationship with the local community. Larry Thetford went on to explain the surveys mailed to registered farms. Mary Ann Johnson expanded on some of the responses to the survey. She explained that the next step for the committee is to have an agricultural economic development specialist work with them. There is an option to either work together with Germantown, Livingston and Clermont, or the committee can work with the specialist on their own.

Supervisor Crane asked if Mary Ann Johnson had a sense of what the committee would like to do regarding working with the agricultural economic development specialist.

Mary Ann responded that she thinks they'd like to work with the other towns.

Supervisor Crane thanked them for their presentation.

DEPARTMENT/BOARD REPORTS:

Assessor – will report in March

Business Manager's Report – will report in March

Building Inspector – no report

Dog Control – will report in March

Grant Application – no report

Highway – will report in March

Purchasing – no report

Recycling – Councilwoman Strawinski read the following report from TJ Hackett of the January yearly totals dated February 5, 2008: Cardboard – 44 tons, Newspaper – 91 tons, High Grade paper – 90 tons, Metal – 44 tons, Comingle – 30 tons. Mr. Hackett explained they are still waiting for the temporary fix so they can resume operation of the goods building. He asked that the Board expedite the improvement and when the improvements are made he'd like the town to sell recycling permits on a Saturday. Selling on a Saturday in the Recycling Center's current state would just add to the traffic flow troubles. Councilwoman Strawinski informed the Board that she is not sure about the temporary fixes at this point, but she has a call in to Morris Associates and is waiting for a return call. Supervisor Crane explained that the inclement weather has set the work back and asked that the public understand. It will be fixed shortly.

Water Department – Water Department Chairman Hank VanParys reported that we pumped about 100,000 gallons a day during the month of January. The normal would be high to mid 80's. There may have been some Bard usage and he suspects there may be a leak which will be checked. The well levels are 54 feet for Well #1 and 42 feet for Well #2. They are both in the same well fields the water table is the same for both wells. Well #1 pump is deeper. The statistical report shows that the chloroform level is non-detected. Turbidity average was .096 which was a little high. It was measured because we put in a new filter system 3 or 4 years ago. That measurement is required by the Health Department to verify the proper operation of the filter system. We require less than 1.0 and we are always less than .1. We replaced five of the five micron cartridges which is unusual because they are only 7 months old. The previous sets lasted about 20 months or more. There is a retaining band around the cartridge that was deteriorated so he sent an e-mail to the company explaining that was unusual. There are plans to do hydrant flushing in College Park in February/March. Mr. VanParys would like to schedule an annual report for sometime in April.

Police Report – Councilman Latimer gave a combined report for the months of December and January. Registered complaints including alarms and lockouts – 45, Uniform Traffic Tickets – 36, Parking Tickets – 0, Accidents Investigated – 11, Arrests – 6, EMS Calls – 5.

Supervisor Crane announced that the Business Meeting has been moved to February 27, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Planning Board – Patrick Kelly reported there was one meeting in January and one in February. In January there were four subdivisions applications and one lot line alteration. Three of those subdivisions and the lot line alteration were continued at the February Public Hearing. The fourth subdivision was found not to be in compliance with the Zoning Code, specifically the flag lot regulations. In February three conditional approvals were given and one Public Hearing which was continued to March 3rd. Additionally, there were presentations of applications for site plan review. On March 3rd. they have one site plan of these subdivisions on the agenda. There are a number of projects which have received conditional approval, but not yet final approval, including two major subdivisions, two site plans, four lot line alterations, and five minor subdivisions.

Zoning Board of Appeals – ZBA Chairman Tim Ross summarized that they had six continued Public Hearings and two additional reviews all of which have been carried forth to the next meeting. The one with quite a bit of public interest is opened to interpretation of multi-family dwellings as it pertains to the subdivision proposed for Norton Road. He wanted to make it clear that it is an interpretation of the law, it isn't specific to that site. There are no new reviews for next month, but there will be a continuation of a Public Hearing.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked ZBA Chair Ross what his interpretation is of multi-family.

Tim Ross explained that they went to Executive Session and are researching the law as it is in the book. A multi-family is defined as three or more units, there can't be more than six in one structure. He doesn't know if they will close the Public Hearing at the next meeting, they will have to see if any additional facts come to light.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if it is determined to be multi-family, is that property zoned for multi-family.

Tim Ross answered that it is zoned for multi-family. The question came up because the developer's proposal has a mixture of structures with individual residences, three family, four family and six family. They are saying because it is a condo association, the whole group is multi-family. Our interpretation is if the single structures that only have one family, constitute a portion of a multi-family?

Councilwoman Strawinski inferred that the developer of the proposed 199 unit Meadowbrook development is a "buddy" of ZBA Chair Tim Ross, a "poker buddy".

ZBA Chair Ross said he's not a "buddy", but an acquaintance.

Supervisor Crane interjected that in a small town, it's hard *not* to be acquainted with most of us. We all have to endure that criticism from time to time.

Tim Ross responded that you can't believe everything you see on the internet.

Councilman Latimer was curious if Councilwoman Strawinski was hinting of bias or if she thought Tim Ross could still be impartial. He is sure there is no bias.

Ag & Open Space Committee – Mary Ann Johnson read the February 2008 meeting report written by Ag. & Open Space Chair, Robert McKeon. The committee is currently working on the following initiatives: Farmland Protection, Marketing, Farm to School, and Agricultural Assessments. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2008.

Conservation Advisory Council – Susan Ellis presented a report dated 2/20/2008 prepared by CAC Chair Brenda Cagle. Town Hall is making great strides in “going green” and the energy conservation measures recommended by NYSERDA have been completed. Scenic Roads were reviewed, the recertification application for Tree City 2007 has been submitted. Regarding trees, all tree related work will be handed over to the new Tree Commission as soon as a meeting can be set up with the new members. DEC Scholarships were awarded as mentioned earlier in the meeting. Chazen (aka Russell Urban-Mead) recommended the Town consider implementing the county model ordinance or more specifically, a similar version adopted by Amenia. Anne Rubin is reviewing the information and the committee has met with the Water Dept. Chair to begin discussion. They continue to work on their proposal that all new residential building conform to Energy Star standards. A Town wide Earth Day celebration is tentatively set for April 26 and is in the initial planning phase. It would be combined with the annual Arbor Day celebration. Lisa Pullaro contacted Dick Wambach about creating a CAC content page on the Town website. A wastewater engineer has been invited to be part of their presentation to the Intermunicipal Task Force. A discussion with Hudsonia representatives was held to hear about habitat mapping and possibly mapping for Red Hook. Sources of funding were also discussed.

Purchasing - Councilman Colgan reported on the purchasing activity for January 1 to February 8. During that period 43 Purchase Orders were issued in the amount of \$74,996.03, the largest going to the International Salt Company for \$26,803.62. Road salt is purchased under state contract at \$54.16 per ton. In the previous period we issued a PO for snow and ice removal from the sidewalks on the west side of Route 9 and Hannaford Road. The award went to AW Coon and Sons who submitted the lowest quote. Installation has been completed of 84 electronic ballast fluorescent fixtures in Town Hall with energy saving T-8 lamps. The lowest bidder was Electra Supply in Poughkeepsie. The Highway Department purchased a used van for the dog warden. It was an emergency purchase approved by the Board for \$10,016. Morris Associates is submitting a project estimate on installing solar panels on the south roof. Two wall cabinets were purchased for supplies in the rest rooms. The existing cabinet hampers handicapped access.

Supervisor Crane reminded residents that all exemption forms, renewal and new STAR, STAR Enhanced, Senior, Disabled, Non-Profit and Fire and Ambulance forms must be in the Assessor's Office by March 1, 2008. The revaluation agricultural exemptions can be in by April 1st. Forms are available on the Town website, www.redhook.org, the Office of Real Property website, www.orps.state.ny.us, or from the Assessor's Office. Make sure your forms are updated by March 1, 2008.

Ethics Committee – Linda Keeling announced the Ethics Committee will meet this Friday morning. The committee is working on reviewing the present ethics law and fine tuning it. We are getting close to the final product.

Supervisor Crane asked Linda Keeling to thank the committee for working on that.

Recreation Report – Doug Strawinski announced they met on February 11th. He told the Board that the annual report was sent to the County on January 4, 2008 regarding the recreation program. We serve about 750 children in the summer. A PeeWee wrestling program is going on and is run by Jim Sheehan until March 27th. We also have AAU Basketball. The Commission is looking into new programs for the summer, possibly soccer, softball, basketball, wrestling and weight training. A PE teacher, Barbara Murray, received a grant for some new fitness equipment. She is interested in running a coed fitness program through the recreation program.

The new Summer Language Director is Kelly Preyer. Regarding the new recreation land, we are looking for grants and doing some fundraising. We have a shared services grant with the school district that we are waiting to hear about. He thanked Linda Keeling for her help with grants. The recreation commission is also working on the skate park. Eagle Scouts are doing projects at the recreation park.

Supervisor Crane raised concern about vandalism in the bathrooms at the Recreation Park. Some of it was a result of kids being mischievous clogging toilets with paper towels. She asked if the Board would support, providing it's in the budget, the substitution of paper towels with electric hand dryers. She thanked the Board for being agreeable to the suggestion.

St. Margaret's Committee – Paula Schoonmaker announced that the awarding of \$450,000 in matching grant money to acquire and begin to restore St. Margaret's Home. In January Ron Rader, grant officer for NYS Parks & Recreation in the Taconic Region told her that the Town must sign a contract with the state to cement the grant. Geoff Carter, head of restoration for Historic Hudson Valley; Barbara Bielenberg, project manager for the Elmendorph restoration; and Bobbie Thompson, archivist and member of the Red Hook Historical Society, have all agreed to help in an advisory capacity. Architect Pete Sweeny has agreed to join the St. Margaret's Committee. Paula has been speaking to various certified real estate appraisers about the two self-contained appraisals required by the State for the acquisition portion of the grant. They suggested a list of questions for Mr. Rader. In February, Amy Dubin, Paula Schoonmaker, and Councilman Colgan will attend the "orientation" meeting at the Taconic Regional Headquarters of NYS Parks and Recreation at Mills Mansion. Ron Rader will discuss both the development aspect and the acquisition aspect of the grant.

Senior Services Committee – Rose Rider reported that Councilman Harry Colgan has agreed to be the liaison and went to their meeting on Friday. The committee was invited to the Rhinebeck Senior Committee on February 14th. They discussed transportation, particularly Dial-A-Ride. Their concern with Dial-A-Ride is the limitations on time. The committees will meet and brainstorm next week. Nina Lynch is looking into grant possibilities. Rose went to Red Hook Commons and talked to Margaret Sheehy who would be happy to have the committee have a presence there to help with information sharing, helping to fill out applications, etc. We agreed to do an hour one day a week, four committee members each taking a day. They will also take pertinent bulletins for an information holder.

Tree Committee – Nancy Guski thanked Brenda Cagle for her work with the Tree Committee. She reported that all the plant material has been ordered for Arbor Day and they will be planting at the Recreation Park. Planting will be in the morning and they hope to have information available for adults and children afterwards. An internationally known author has been invited who would do a demonstration, they might give away books to children, Bard might help with a horticulture area and they hope to have information from the Arbor Day foundation available. The trees donated by the DOT must be planted on the major highways and near commercial areas. They are giving small trees so as not to cover up the businesses.

Zoning Review Committee – Councilman Colgan announced the next meeting is February 28, 2008 and he is the liaison for the committee. He will report more after having attended a meeting.

Supervisor Crane told Councilman Colgan that she found they are a great group of people who represent major committees throughout various levels of Town government. What they are struggling with is tweaking language within the zoning code that causes stumbling from time to time. We talked about the need for the ZRC to look at the very few zoning code issues that need to go to the Board for our consideration and adoption. We are hoping that Councilman Colgan can give them a message to concentrate on them one at a time and move them forward. They've been under consideration for years and when the last administration came in that was put aside. Commissioner Akeley from Dutchess County Planning suggested making a serious time line and finishing one at a time, then bring them forward to the Board so that we can clear up some of the issues that keep haunting the Planning Board and Zoning Board.

Councilwoman Strawinski took a minute to clarify, after hearing Councilman Latimer's comment earlier that she wanted to say to ZBA Chairman Tim Ross that the comment she made was not meant to be accusatory and she apologized. By and large our committees work very

hard and can be unbiased in decision making but it does give him an opportunity to speak. She wanted to go on record saying she didn't mean to insinuate he would be biased.

Greenway and Trails Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski reported that the Trails Committee is going to be working with the school district to connect the trail from the back of the Middle School to the new Rec. Park area. Howie Callies report stated that lumber was purchased for construction of an observation deck off of the Rec. Park wetlands trail and that there will be a dedication and opening ceremony for the newly wetlands trail on Saturday, April 26, 2008. The committee's next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on March 6, 2008 at Red Hook Town Hall.

Economic Development Committee – Supervisor Crane brought to the Board's attention a memo from EDC Chairman Doug Moat. Councilman Ross will contact Mr. Moat and the report will be tabled until the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Linda Keeling asked Nancy Guski of the Tree Committee who will do the planting.

Nancy Guski answered that it will be done by volunteers.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Crane read a letter from Karen Mead Cadorette. It is a letter of interest to serve on the Tree Commission.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to appoint Karen Mead Cadorette as the third member of the Tree Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

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

Attorney for the Town, Christine Chale presented a PDR program status report that was updated September 7, 2007. The County is moving forward on the Mead project with their part of the approval. Wil-Hi is going to be paired with Mead. Attorney Chale will need to hear from the Board as to how they want to proceed with the other group who have applications submitted, but she would like the new Board members to read over them first.

Attorney Chale said the police contract needs to be put on the agenda for review. Regarding LOSAP, we created a committee and have to identify a Town representative to that committee to oversee the process. Councilman Ross and Councilman Latimer are liaisons so it would make sense to have one of them act as Town representative. She will provide a copy of the intermunicipal agreement for whoever needs it.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, move to go into executive session for the consideration of contract regarding Omnipoint.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to adjourn the executive session.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	3	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk