

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 28, 2008

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Crane announced a fifteen minute public comment period and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Bill O'Neill, Chairman of the Intermunicipal Task Force, asked the Board to favorably consider the Village of Red Hook's request for a contribution to the feasibility study for the sewer project in the Village and Town of Red Hook. He reminded everyone that in December of 2007, there was an application for a shared municipal services incentive grant. They hoped to get the grant for the first part of the sewer feasibility study. Unfortunately they were turned down. In December the Town Board agreed to set aside \$3500 had the Town and Village attained the grant. So far \$15,000 has been obtained from the County and the Village voted for \$7,500. They are asking the Town for \$7,000 to make up the difference. \$35,000 is the minimum needed for the plan. Basically what they are asking for is another \$3500 above what was already agreed upon by the Town in 2007. The Intermunicipal Task Force asked the Board to consider it.

Councilman Colgan explained the County committed \$5,000, the Village committed \$7,500 and the US Department of Agriculture committed \$15,000. To reach their objective of \$34,500 they need an additional \$7,000.

Supervisor Crane wants to determine if the Town's financial commitment will meet what is needed for the engineering facilities plan. She is not certain if the County has committed \$15,000. If they haven't then we still haven't met the goal.

Rosemarie Zengen of the Save Our Town Committee prefaced her comments saying that she has the utmost respect for the Village Police. She has a problem with money and the Village Police because she sees duplication of duties. She is not clear on where their services are duplicated and asked the Board for clarification.

Supervisor Crane thanked Mrs. Zengen and the issue will be addressed when the Board gets to that point in the agenda.

Susan Elias expressed her thoughts regarding the Highway Garage. She is concerned that it could cost anywhere from three to five million dollars and there is a lot of concern not only about the cost, but also the location. Should it be in the middle of Town where the real estate is more expensive? Could it be somewhere connected to another garage? There are also environmental considerations. She hopes you don't rush this.

Supervisor Crane responded that is the reason they are starting the discussion tonight. We absolutely have to address this problem. It is not going away no matter how much we wish it *were* going to go away. It is going to cost us money, we are going to do it as economically as we can and we are going to get it done soon. It is not a matter of rushing, it has been six years in the making and this Board is committed to solving this problem. She is personally going to make sure it happens. She said she is not sure where Ms. Elias got her figures. We will get to this in a little while. She wants to make it clear that her commitment is to address this problem.

Rosemarie Zengen has also spoken to a lot of people about the highway garage. She thinks it is high time something is done about it. We have a community to be proud of and we should be ashamed of that highway garage.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Assisted Listening Device – Councilman Latimer explained that after much work by several employees of the Town, our assisted listening system is up and fully functional. He thanked Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy and especially Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand who got the system rewired and got the patch cable. We are now in full compliance. Should anyone have need of the assisted listening device, ours is fully functional. He also thanked Arlene London who provided the citizen's technical assistance to get us where we needed to be.
- CPR Week – Councilman Latimer announced that June 1 – 7, 2008 is National CPR Week. All over the County there will be free CPR classes, but locally Northern Dutchess Paramedics is offering them. There will be free friends and family CPR classes all week. The telephone number is 876-0338. It is a very simple process.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked to take a few minutes to make a couple of comments. First of all she congratulated Supervisor Crane for the wonderful job she did representing Red Hook at the Memorial Day service. All of our Supervisors in the past have done a tremendous job but Supervisor Crane's script was well written, almost poetic, and her reading of "Flanders Field" was very passionate.

Councilwoman Strawinski also wanted to comment about the Highway Garage. She proceeded to read notes she wrote. She referred to the June 6th meeting where Mrs. Ellen Feller addressed the Board regarding her husband, Bobby Feller's health. He has been in the hospital for about eight weeks with an undiagnosed respiratory problem. Mrs. Feller indicated there is a possibility that perhaps the illness could be related to working conditions in the Highway Garage. Councilwoman Strawinski stated that we must move forward, as Supervisor Crane said, with replacing the Highway Garage but we have to move forward with consideration for all of the people in Red Hook, not just the employees of the Highway Garage and the employees who benefit from their generosity when small tasks are needed. The project will be of considerable cost to the Villages and Town. She encouraged careful planning with regard to location, shared services and suggested applying for grants. She also thinks we have to consider future growth in regard to location; a location that will not be built on property that can be of great value to us as we move forward with the Centers and Greenspace Plan. She looks forward to what Morris & Associates has to say and hopes the public will stay through the end of the meeting for their comments.

DAN WHEELER, CDBG SIDEWALKS PROJECT UPDATE

Supervisor Crane introduced Jay Trapp and Dan Wheeler, the Town Engineer who gave an update on the Community Development Block Grant sidewalk project on the west side of Rte.9.

Dan Wheeler explained that the grant is for a continuation of what was previously done. They had a meeting with Beth Doyle and Audra Murray from the County. He presented maps to the Board. The sidewalk will be approximately 1280 linear feet and will be approximately 5 feet wide. There will be an 8 foot green space between it and the edge of the road. The purpose of the green space is so when NY State plows snow it goes on to the green space rather than on the sidewalk. It also leaves space for tree planting. The Board needs to take a SEQRA action on the project. He sent copies to Michelle Grieg and Attorney for the Town Christine Chale. It is a Type I action and he deferred to the Town Attorney. State Environment Quality Review Act (SEQRA) is a Type I action because they are within 500 feet of St. Margaret's Home which is on the National Historic Register.

Attorney Chale explained that what we have is a resolution declaring lead agency. That is a starting point for the SEQRA process. In looking at the EAF, there are no other involved agencies.

Dan Wheeler explained the DOT is involved but it is just a permit. Because of the nuances of the buildings, signs and structures, the sidewalk won't be straight, it will have to be snaked a little.

Attorney Chale asked Dan to describe the next step in terms of approval.

Dan Wheeler explained that Audra Murray from the County will be handling this so they want the preconstruction meeting in Poughkeepsie. They have their own inspectors. We will have three levels of inspectors, ours, the County's and the DOT's. They will go out to bid, review the bid, make sure the contractors are competent and then apply for reimbursement. The next critical step is to get the SEQRA up to speed.

Jay Trapp said at that point they will submit the SEQRA document to Audra Murray who is handling the environmental review.

Attorney Chale said this resolution is ready.

Supervisor Crane asked about the remainder of the project impact.

Attorney Chale told her that they will be reviewing that at a later date.

Dan Wheeler explained that this is a non intrusive project.

Jay Trapp told the Board they chose not to create any new curb cuts into any of the businesses because of the drainage issues. They are staying away from businesses turf.

Attorney Chale asked if they are preparing biddable specs.

Jay Trap answered yes.

The Board discussed parts of the map with Dan Wheeler and Jay Trapp.

RESOLUTION 2008 #40

RE: RESOLUTION DECLARING LEAD AGENCY FOR THE 2008 CDBG SIDEWALK PROJECT

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman Jim Ross, move to declare lead agency for the 2008 Community Development Block Grant.

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

Copy Attached

Dan Wheeler came prepared to talk about the air quality issue in the Highway Garage. He explained that he was directed to issue an RFP which they did. They sent it to Certified Industrial Hygienists and ended up with 11 responses. They have six who will prepare a proposal and feels that is a good number. He's already spoken to Attorney Chale and Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand. Some of those who responded had many questions and some are going to submit alternate proposals.

BRAD PALMITER, MVP HEALTH RETIREMENT OPTIONS

Supervisor Crane introduced Brad Palmiter. She invited him to the meeting because we are facing the retirement of some employees and wants to respond to what is being done in towns around us. Some towns offer medical coverage to their retirees depending on the length of service. She asked Brad to acquaint the Board with some options that they may wish to consider for town employees as they anticipate retirement. In all fairness to them, some have worked as long as 30 years and at this point we have no health retirement plan. She'd like to hear what the options are and have the Board make some decisions in that regard.

Councilman Latimer disclosed that Brad Palmiter provides the benefits for his company and clarified that nothing contained in the proposal will benefit Councilman Latimer whatsoever.

Brad Palmiter explained there are retirees that are under the age of 65 and others that are over the age of 65. Each would be handled differently. Mr. Palmiter reviewed the plans and costs of the plans in the handouts he provided. He suggested that whatever policy the Town provides they build into it that whenever the retiree turns 65 they have to go on to MVP Gold.

Councilman Colgan asked if this is the primary insurance.

Brad Palmiter answered yes. He explained how Medicare Parts A & B and supplemental insurance would work.

Attorney Chale asked if retirees are covered whether they are over or under 65.

Brad Palmiter explained if a person retires at 55 they are not eligible, they would go on the regular MVP Plan. It is also based on the length of service.

Supervisor Crane referred to the 2-Tier System part of the handout. One is after 20 years of full-time Employment, the Town offer 50% of the single rate of the premium whether or not the person is 65 years old. The second is after 30 years of full-time employment, the Town would offer to pay 75% of the single rate.

Brad Palmiter explained that the Town could offer a third option that over the age of 65, 80% of the Medicare advantage product would be paid by the Town.

Supervisor Crane asked the Board to consider this and decide if they want to make the commitment.

Councilman Colgan questioned that there currently no coverage?

Supervisor Crane said there is no coverage offered to any employee who retires no matter how long they have worked here.

Councilman Colgan asked about the coverage for current employees.

Supervisor Crane responded that at this time the Town pays the coverage for whatever the employees need.

Brad Palmiter explained that MVP has new products that they will be looking at for the upcoming renewal. Upon renewal there is an option of a PPO that has no referrals and has few negatives, which is also considerably less money. The reason is that MVP has made a concerted effort to make this product competitive.

Councilman Colgan asked if this could be set up with other towns as a group.

Brad Palmiter answered it could be but you have to have a critical mass of about 500 people.

Councilwoman Strawinski is glad to see this brought forward. After 20 years of service employees should be able to think about retirement. She is supportive of looking into this for our employees.

Councilman Latimer asked if anyone brought up a minimum length of service for someone to retire at age 55.

Councilman Ross thinks that it is usually standard to be with 10 years of service.

Supervisor Crane suggested the Board take this under consideration at budget time in August or September and review it again to determine if we are where we want to be. She asked to vote on it tonight if the Board is comfortable.

Councilman Ross feels the 75% should be up to 25 years of full time employment.

The Board went on to discuss the retirement insurance issue before a vote was taken.

Supervisor Crane said it is not a huge number for the coverage we are offering these employees and she strongly feels we owe it to them and probably should have done this long ago.

On a motion of Councilman Latimer, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to adopt a modified two tiered system, 50% of the single rate after 20 years of full-time employment, 75% of the single rate after 25 years of full-time employment and 80% of subscriber rate for the MVP Medicare Gold plan for any employee retirement age 65 or greater or with at least ten years of service.

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

MORRIS ASSOCIATES HIGHWAY GARAGE DISCUSSION

Supervisor Crane introduced Ray Jurkowski from Morris Associates who led a discussion regarding the Highway Garage and its development.

Ray Jurkowski said his purpose is not to have a presentation, but to provide an open discussion of the issue of the highway garage. He provided a list of items for discussion which included maps. Mr. Jurkowski explained that several years ago the town went out to bid on the project. At the time that particular location was between the existing salt barn and the existing Town Hall. Roughly about a 13,000 square foot building at the time. We are looking at similar sized buildings at this point. A little over two years ago there was discussion among the Board whether to proceed as far as keeping the facility as a whole. We currently have infrastructure on the site, you have existing fuel storage tanks, some of which will be used. There is also the existing salt storage barn with respect to the facility so it made sense to continue to consider this site for the structure of the facility. Some Board members looked at the potential for another site. One was next to the existing DOT facility off Rokeby Road. In the handout he provided he pointed out an aerial of that particular parcel. It consists of approximately 22 acres. At the time there were questions about potential contamination of the water supply in that area based on the NY State DOT facility. There was also discussion whether that site had previous uses to it, possibly a landfill at one point. There was also an issue with respect to wetlands. The site does not contain any State wetland jurisdiction, but it does appear to have Federal wetlands contained on the site. Mr. Jurkowski superimposed the wetlands that are potentially affected on the map he handed to the Board. He explained that until he does a formal mapping, looking at vegetation, hydraulics and soil, the wetland area he is referring to could actually increase or decrease. When the Department of Interior mapped the wetlands they provided it as a guidance document only. When we look at that particular site there are wetlands to be dealt with.

Supervisor Crane believes at that time two years ago, the Board voted to undertake a Phase I environmental study. She has not been able to find the results of that study.

Attorney Chale said it is usual to start with Phase I and then evaluate the results of Phase I and determine if you need a Phase II.

Supervisor Crane said Phase I was done but just sat as far as she knows. She does not believe the Board reviewed it.

Ray Jurkowski said with respect to the issue of that particular property would be the purchase of the property. The results of what to do with portions of the existing facility are a concern. The current location has an existing salt barn. Would the option be to then move that location, eliminate the current location and build a brand new structure at the new location and add that to the cost of the construction and make it one entire stand alone facility.

Councilwoman Strawinski understands the salt barn is going to need to be replaced.

Ray Jurkowski explained that moving that component to the other site, the issue with the wetlands and they'd have to take into consideration whether we'll be able to fit the facility in its entirety without effecting or impacting those wetlands.

Councilwoman Strawinski said since the State has a facility including a salt barn there already would we have access to studies they may have done.

Ray said we can FOIL their studies if the Town were to pursue that location. Under due diligence we could FOIL that information from the DOT or from the Department of Health. He has not seen anything formal from them. There would be issues pertaining to water supplies whether we deal with trucking in water or try to look for alternative water sources. That was the last discussion as far as location. Maybe there is another more centralized location the Board would like to discuss. Obviously depending on the site that is chosen the building layout may change. He wants to get together with Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand to make sure that program wise it will still suit the needs now and in the future. Another item with respect to the building itself would be the type of construction. Previously use of a steel building was anticipated, Morton Buildings provided a pole barn type structure with wood trusses. Of construction types, those two are the most economical when it comes to highway garages. Masonry buildings become very expensive with respect to construction costs. He would tend to lean toward the metal building if we are looking at over an 80 foot span. Another item to take into consideration regarding type of construction is financing. He confirmed that for a pre-engineered metal building you can bond generally 25 years as far as term. For a pole barn constructed building that has wood trusses it would be limited to 15 years.

Councilman Latimer commented that you lose that competitive edge.

Attorney Chale said the question is, in terms of affordability, when you do the resolution you would look for the maximum term you could bond for. The interest rates vary from time to time.

Mr. Jurkowski discussed building systems. We would use potentially "green" technologies and asked to what extent we want to use those technologies. In regard to heating, a possibility is geothermal radiant heat in the slab. He suggested having a workshop with Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand. They'll examine costs, status of financing, and possibly bonding.

Attorney Chale said we do have a bond resolution.

Supervisor Crane had a question regarding the proposed location. An issue has just come to her attention regarding the recycling center. She said there is a possibility of relocating it to Village property which might be more convenient. Another consideration regarding the highway garage is that the Village wishes to enter the conversation with the Town for some Village highway needs. The Village of Red Hook is talking about the possibility of an addition or a larger space for the highway garage that would incorporate their needs. That will add another element to this that we have not yet discussed.

Ray Jurkowski responded that yes that does add another element to investigate. He will reach out to the Mayor of the Village of Red Hook.

Supervisor Crane asked if he could see what kind of space the Village is looking for and to what kind of partnership we would enter into. She is not totally sure how we would enter this but she's sure it could be done. Shared services happen all the time.

Councilwoman Strawinski has names from the Association of Towns of people who presented how they did it in their own communities.

Supervisor Crane asked Mr. Jurkowski to talk with the Mayor about the potential for the recycling center.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked how would moving the recycling center affect the partnership with the DEC regarding the Goods Exchange Building.

Supervisor Crane answered it's been there for fifteen years and is easily moved. She doesn't see that as a problem. She thanked Ray Jurkowski for the background information. She is not personally in favor of the Rokeby Road location. Other than the NY State DOT being there. Beyond that she doesn't see any advantages. She personally feels that the garage being near the Town Hall is a huge advantage and to have the entire operation here on one site is a big advantage to those of us who work in this building as well as those who work at the highway garage. Having said that she asked to hear what everyone else had to say.

Councilman Colgan feels very strongly that we should pursue the Rokeby Road site until we understand whether or not it will work. The state made overtures at the Association of Towns meeting and he spoke to other towns where the state and town share the same salt shed. He thinks the problem is money and the problem is that both the Village and Town residents have to pay for this. This would free up land here that is prime land surrounded about residential property. We could free up this land and have a very positive financial tradeoff between our valuable land here and the low valued land on Rokeby.

Supervisor Crane asked if he is suggesting we sell some of this land.

Councilman Colgan answered perhaps. It might be a place to add more commercial property and help the tax base. It would be a natural place to expand an office park. It could be a very positive financial tradeoff to the town and he thinks it should be pursued and fully understood before we make a decision. He does think we should do it with speed and is not suggesting that we put anything off.

Councilman Ross said he is in favor of the Town Hall site. He would like to see Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand sit with Ray Jurkowski and look at the needs at this point. See what would be a good way to configure it. As far as valuable land, he can't see how the sale of it could possibly come anywhere close to the cost of what it would cost us to purchase and move the entire thing. Supervisor Crane's idea of moving the recycling center if we work something out with the Village would work nicely. He feels it all should remain centrally located as it is. It is adjacent to a storage unit, a trailer park, a warehouse. It is not really out of place for the neighborhood. We have done soil tests on this site as well.

Councilwoman Strawinski is leaning toward the Rokeby site but would like all the facts and information and hear from the constituents regarding how it will impact their pocketbooks. We are ripe for intermunicipal cooperation, not only between the Town and Village of Red Hook but between us and the State. There is talk that the building on Rokeby that the State owns might need updating.

Supervisor Crane asked where she heard about that particular talk.

Councilwoman Strawinski wasn't sure where she heard it. Perhaps Zoie Riel mentioned it. We have to look at any way we can to save taxpayer money.

Councilman Latimer put an inordinate amount of work into researching alternative sites, the Rokeby Road site being one of them. He tried looking at it from every aspect, engineering and based on cost. He contacted three NY State DOT engineers who led Councilman Latimer to believe that the State would be less than enthusiastic about sharing facilities with us on Rokeby Road. They are leaning toward not wanting to take on the liability for us purchasing or sharing salt usage there. He then contacted three others to get advice on environmental impact and liability should we move off this site and upon further investigation found that there are continued and sustained liabilities that go beyond our disposition of this property to another party. He wants to give that full explanation maybe at the first meeting in June. Moving might be prohibitively expensive.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if those costs would have to be incurred if we decided to keep the garage on the present site.

Councilman Latimer answered no. If he could say wholeheartedly that we could move the site somewhere else and make it cost effective and eliminate or reduce our liability of what we left behind he would vote for it. He cannot say that in clear conscience. He spent a lot of hours asking opinions and investigating this issue.

Ray Jurkowski said regarding Rokeby Road site, traditionally DOT uses straight salt. The Town, to save cost, uses a combination of sand and salt. Operation wise, the town would still have to build some sort of storage building.

Supervisor Crane asked Ray Jurkowski to meet with the Mayor of Red Hook.

Mr. Jurkowski would like to have Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand as well as a Board member with him at the meeting.

Supervisor Crane would like to have closure on the Rokeby situation. She asked if Councilman Colgan and Councilwoman Strawinski would do more investigation regarding the use of Rokeby Road site. She would like them to get to the source of their information to uncover more information about the possibility of using that site.

Ray Jurkowski gave a brief report regarding the photovoltaic panels. We did go out for bid, the bids were published and faxed some notices to contractors. Bids did not come in. At this point he would like to get authorization from the Board to go out to bid again but this time for 15 days. He contacted a firm that showed initial interest and asked why they did not submit. The president of that company said notice never came to him. The company is very interested in the process. He will fax information to the Supervisor's office.

On a motion from Councilman Latimer, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to authorize the Supervisor to place a publication for a rebid for an approximate 15 days bidding period for the specs for photovoltaic project.

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

Supervisor Crane proposed the Board cover the reorganization appointments at the following meeting which is scheduled for June 3rd.

Supervisor Crane announced the Hazardous Waste Disposal Day sponsored by the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency will take place on Saturday June 7th.

REORGANIZATION APPOINTMENTS -Will discuss at the June 3, 2008 meeting.

VILLAGE OF RED HOOK

Shared Police services for Sunday patrol – Supervisor Crane explained that Village of Red Hook Mayor David Cohen asked her if the Town would be willing to share the cost of police patrol on Sunday. The patrol would be from 4 p.m. to midnight.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, move to approve sharing the cost with the Village of Red Hook of a police patrol on Sundays from 4 p.m. to midnight.

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

Engineering Study: request for contribution – Supervisor Crane referred to a request from Bill O'Neill, Chairman of the Intermunicipal Task Force. They are asking for \$5,000 to \$7,000 from the Town of Red Hook. Supervisor Crane asked if the Board would be willing to commit to \$5,000.

Councilman Colgan understands that they need \$7,000 to get to the \$34,500.

Supervisor Crane explained that the money is for an engineering study to look into the possibility of a sewage treatment connection for the Village of Red Hook to study the possibility of connecting to the Red Hook Commons sewage treatment plant.

Attorney Chale explained that the study is needed in order to pursue further funding opportunities. The study will include consideration of other options.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, move to support a \$5,000 contribution for an engineering study for the NY State Environmental Facilities Corporation facility plan grant.

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

DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE, BARKING DOGS

Supervisor Crane said because of the time, she would like to postpone this topic for a later date.

DISCUSSION WITH TODD BARIGHT

Supervisor Crane met Todd Baright at an EDC meeting she attended that evening and he asked if he would be able to address the Board at tonight's meeting.

Todd Baright provided copies of a letter and a petition. His presentation was regarding the petitioner's beliefs and concerns about the Red Hook Village parking lot. He explained that Key Bank currently owns what we consider the Village parking lot as well as the "green lot" between Key Bank and the Mobile Station. Key Bank decided to sell both properties. They looked to the Village as the appropriate purchaser. The Village passed on the offer at the time possibly due to lack of funds. Mr. Baright was told that the potential purchaser has planned to construct a commercial building to be built on the front of that parking lot. If this is true the building will consume valuable parking spaces and the tenants will then create an additional demand on the parking lot leaving only about half of it. The building will also block visibility of the remaining lot hiding scarce parking spaces from visitors and potential shoppers. As far as he knows this is the only municipal parking lot in the Village of Red Hook. If a consumer has a perception that parking is difficult, that consumer is less likely to shop here. The Village Hall does not have a parking space to their name. They do not own the rights to any parking. The Village employees, Board members, police personnel, judges, visitors, clerks and meeting attendees should have a place to park secured by the Village government. He presented a petition with 700 signatures on it to make a point. By signing the petition they expressed their belief that it should not be developed because it is necessary to provide a safe alternative to parking along Route 9. Mr. Baright asked the Town Board to make a statement very similar to that. He believes the Village leadership needs all the encouragement not to develop that property as we can give them. He read a letter from Pine Street Pediatrics. They stated that they depend on the parking lot for their employees as well as their patients. If the lot capacity is reduced their patients will have no where to park. Part of their decision to open an office on Prince Street was the availability of parking. At that time no one mentioned that the parking lot was not public property. Pine Street Pediatrics supports the proposal by the Baright family to buy the property and lease it back to the Village as a parking lot. Mr. Baright's stated that his solution is for his family to buy the parking lot, not build on it, and lease it to the Village long term for \$1.00 a year. In conjunction with the satisfactory parking lot they will buy the green lot and preserve it until they find a way to protect it.

Mr. Baright respectfully requested that the Town Board make a motion and vote on a version of the following: We the Town Board of Red Hook at this time believe that the Red Hook Village parking lot remain entirely as a parking lot and not be built on. He wanted to make this public and make people understand that there is something potentially brewing. He wants everyone to understand the Baright's offer to solve the problem at least what he and 700 petitioners believe. He asked if the Town Board would make a statement he could bring to the Village. He asked if anyone had any questions.

Councilman Ross is very familiar with the situation and in fact, signed Todd's petition. He also spoke with three of the Village Board members and told them he thinks the Village should purchase the lot without a third party and it should be owned by the taxpayers. If that should not happen then the Baright's offer would be a second choice as far as he is concerned, with the agreement that the parking lot will always remain a parking lot.

Todd Baright said he couldn't agree with Councilman Ross more. His family does not want to own a parking lot. They offered to do it to protect the parking lot.

Councilwoman Strawinski appreciates the grass roots effort involved. She usually gets behind this kind of effort but she is not comfortable making a decision regarding the Village. Jeff Martin, Village attorney, made a presentation and she asked Mr. Baright what his interpretation was of that presentation. She thought residents were satisfied with what he had to say.

Mr. Baright answered that he thinks even Jeff Martin will tell you that at that meeting he was not privy to all the facts.

Councilman Colgan feels the Village has rather comprehensive plans for the whole Village and for the future of the Village. He for one would not want to sway them beyond where they are now. They've given this a great deal of thought.

Mr. Baright responded that the Town has not voted on that plan yet. Mr. Baright spoke to John Clarke from Dutchess Count Planning and at this time he would prefer the Baright's offer over the developer's offer. The Comprehensive Plan that Councilman Colgan is referring to if it were completely fulfilled would supply other parking spaces throughout the Village. Therefore at some time in the future, if it were a reality, then possibly a building on our only parking lot site may make sense.

Councilman Latimer respectfully disagrees with the notion that we should not have an opinion on this . If you refer to the brass tacks of Town law, the residents of the Village, 700 of whom decided to sign this petition, are primarily Town residents and are Village residents second. They elect us and if there are 700 people who feel the need to keep this as a parking lot, we have an obligation to render our opinion.

Supervisor Crane, as a Village resident, feels that it is critical to the businesses in Red Hook that we have Village parking. She can't imagine what the Village would do if that parking lot was reduced and would be happy to endorse the Baright's proposal. She thinks that Dr. Jane Ferguson's (Pine Street Pediatrics) letter sums it up very well. That parking lot serves a lot of businesses and that professional building in particular. Supervisor Crane doesn't think we can afford to lose it so she proposed that the Town Board support the petition.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, moved that the Town Board support the petition. We express our strong belief that it should not be developed because it is a necessary asset to the businesses, residents and visitors providing a safe alternative to parallel parking along Route 9.

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

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Councilwoman Strawinski does not want to see that parking lot developed. The Intermunicipal Task Force has been working on this very issue.

Councilman Colgan doesn't agree with the motion, he thinks the decision should be made by the Village who is working out the plans for their future. Whatever they are doing is in line with their future vision for the Village. He doesn't feel we should restrict them or suggest we should restrict their actions.

Councilman Ross said we are not restricting their actions, why not give them our opinions and suggestions.

Supervisor Crane explained that our vote in no way restricts them, it simply expresses our opinion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Keeling congratulated Todd Baright for what he is doing. She has written letters to the Village Board regarding parking for handicapped. The parking is in the wrong place.

Rosemarie Zengen thinks we should make a resolution tonight because they could sell the parking lot tomorrow. She disagrees with Councilman Colgan. If the lot gets developed we could destroy our downtown. There is no parking as it is.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters of a particular person and Attorney/Client regarding a court decision at 10:10 p.m.

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

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Supervisor Crane, move to close Executive Session and Attorney/Client Session at 10:45 p.m.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Latimer, move to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk