

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

July 28, 2010

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
Councilwoman Micki Strawinski
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman William O'Neill
Town Clerk Sue McCann
Absent: Councilman James Ross
Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- She and Councilman Colgan attended the celebration of the Tivoli/Hudson River access acquisition. Scenic Hudson invested in what will become a river side park. Attorney for the Town Christine Chale was recognized for her part in working with the Village to negotiate with CSX railroad.
- Beth Doyle from Dutchess County Planning announced that the CDBG program application for 2011 will be available on line as of this week. Applications are due by Friday, October 1, 2010. There is much to think about and the Board will discuss the issue at the next meeting.
- Tivoli is considering improvements in their park. If they apply for funding from the Community Development Block Grant this year, she is sure they will get the Town Board's full support to see that some of those improvements take place.
- She will pick up a NYMIR check at the Red Hook Village Board meeting. They are sharing dividends that they have collected with the initial sponsors of the New York State Municipal Insurance Reciprocal. Kevin Crawford, the Executive Director, shared the fact that there is a free NYMIR on line University for public officials. He is going to get copies for those interested. We will have a user name and password so it is confined to officials.
- Ed Blundell, Deputy Mayor for the Village of Red Hook, responded to a letter Supervisor Crane wrote regarding the authorization of a \$2,000 investment in Hardscrabble Day. She wrote that they have the Town's support and that there was a question from a local resident regarding ADA compliance. He wrote right back thanking the Board for their support he assured us that they work hard every year to see that it assures ADA compliance. His letter explained the steps they've taken to assure ADA compliance.
- A letter was received regarding the sewer system and our turnaround in funding from the USDA. A letter came from US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's office protesting the way USDA Rural Development had reinterpreted and defined Towns. She read the contents of the letter explaining the loss of eligibility and the results of the change affecting Towns and water and wastewater districts that lost eligibility. The elected officials are protesting to the USDA in that regard. Supervisor Crane responded to the letter and read her response. Councilman Colgan said it is great to see the Tivoli waterfront happen. It will take several years to develop and it is the only public access in the Town. Councilwoman Strawinski congratulated the Village of Tivoli. She said she sends out a listing of events every Thursday and gave her email address if anyone wants to get on her list. She mentioned that our former Town Supervisor's husband had his heart transplant and wished them well. Supervisor Crane gave her very best to the Blum Bump family. We are very happy for them.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane suggested going into public comment after the CDBG 2010 update.

RESOLUTIONS

Community Development Block Grant 2010 – Town Engineer Dan Wheeler spoke to Joseph Murray from the DEC who said he needs a negative declaration from the Town before he can issue a Notice of Complete Application. Dan has been working on delineation of the wetlands which is very minor and is about 75% complete with those. The spec's plans have been sent to the Department of Planning, the Town and the Attorney. He sent the easement description to the

Attorney who is looking for a specific map for each of the easements (2) which he will have within a day or two. He spoke to Ken Markunas of SHIPO and at this time they are waiting for an archeology report. Dan left a message for Ruth Pierpont who is the Director of SHIPO and will follow up on it on Monday or Tuesday. Everything they need has been sent and will be reviewed. He is just waiting for the archeological find report. The written descriptions of the easements are completed and what Attorney Chale's office wants is a map of each one.

Supervisor Crane asked Dan if we will be prepared for SEQRA by the Town Board meeting the second Tuesday of August.

Dan explained that depends on whether or not they get through archeology between now and then.

Supervisor Crane asked about going out to bid before then.

Dan told her that he has to think about that. He wants to talk to Attorney Chale.

Attorney Chale explained that the problem is that something might have to change based on findings of the archeology report. It is better to get the negative declaration going.

Dan told the Board that his office is open for any questions and will keep the Board updated.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for public comment. There were none.

RESOLUTIONS

Referring proposed zoning amendments for review to the Town of Red Hook Planning Board and Dutchess County Department of Planning Attorney Chale explained that the resolution is a requirement of the Town code and the planner recommended it. She read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2010 #42

RE: REFERRING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 (PROPOSED) OF 2010 TO THE PLANNING BOARD AND THE DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman Harry Colgan moved to accept the resolution as read.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Ross

Copy Attached

ST. MARGARET'S COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Supervisor Crane explained that the Committee Chair Paula Schoonmaker requested that the Board consider a letter of interest from Michael Brown. She explained his credentials and asked if any of the Board members had anything they wanted to discuss.

Councilman Colgan commented that Michael Brown has attended and contributed to the conversations in the St. Margaret Committee meetings. The St. Margaret's Committee would be happy to have him as a member.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to appoint Michael Brown to the St. Margaret's Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2010.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Ross

AGRICULTURE AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Councilman O'Neill explained that he was asked to remind the Board that Jim Stagias submitted a letter of interest to serve on that committee and they recommend his appointment.

On a motion of Councilman O'Neill seconded by Supervisor Crane moved to appoint Jim Stagias to the Agriculture and Open Space Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2010.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Ross

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Budget Officer – Budget Officer Rose Rider reported that it is almost budget time and she will be getting forms out in August.

Councilwoman Strawinski thanked Budget Officer Rose Rider, Business Manager Deb Marks and Supervisor Crane for sitting with her and going over itemized expenses as they relate to the budget. It was a learning experience.

Building Inspector – Building Inspector Steve Cole gave the report for the period June 24, 2010 to July 28, 2010. It included a permit report, certificate report, inspection report, complaint report and a permit fee report.

Supervisor Crane asked how the Building Inspector handles zoning violations, what the process is and how people should bring issues to the attention of the Zoning Enforcement Office.

Steve Cole told her people can contact him by phone, e-mail or in person. His office would go out and do a physical inspection to check on the validity of the complaint. In most cases once they write a letter to the homeowner they comply.

Grant Application – Supervisor Crane told the Board that she received notification that we are going to be lead agency for the disbursement of the grant that was given to Northern Dutchess Alliance.

Highway Department – Supervisor Crane said that the Highway Department responded to complaints from citizens on Pitcher Lane about visibility around a stop sign that approaches Route 9. They cleaned up the area and Supervisor Crane appreciates their action on that regard.

Police Department – Supervisor Crane read the report for the month of June. There were 42 incidents in the reporting period; two arrests and nineteen tickets were issued.

Purchasing – Councilman Colgan read the report prepared by Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy for the period June 24 to July 28, 2010. A new roof will be put on the Town Hall building by BT General Contractors at a cost of \$18,000. The Highway Dept. had Amherst, Columbia and Stonybrook Roads paved under State Contract. A purchase order was issued to Underwater Solutions to perform an inspection of the Water District's water tank on Kelly Road.

Preliminary reports were good on its condition. Crawford Associates inspected the roof trusses in anticipation of the solar panel project. Some reinforcement is required and Ted will ask BT Contractors to do this as part of the re-roofing. The Justice's lease is expiring soon on their copier and we have renewed our lease with them.

Water Department – Water Department Chair Henry VanParys presented his report dated July 27, 2010. Bard College completely switched over to the Town Water District early last week. He explained what steps they took prior to the switchover. Meters are being replaced. A total of 76 will be replaced and more than 20 have already been done. An RFP for location of old pipe on Aspinwall Road and street valves is being prepared. The water tank inspection was done on July 27, 2010 by Underwater Solutions. There are not enough problems to paint now.

Recommendations should be received shortly. He thinks that maybe they should repaint the water tank rather than wait until there is significant damage.

Supervisor Crane asked how customers will receive water when the tank is being painted.

Hank explained that in order to maintain adequate pressure they will keep the pump going and open an overflow valve so that everyone has adequate pressure. It is a waste of water but is less expensive than putting up an alternate tank. DC Department of Health conducted an annual inspection on June 29 which seemed to go well. There is no formal report yet.

Supervisor Crane asked how many households depend on our water system in addition to Bard. Hank responded 489.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked how they drain the tank and where the water goes.

Hank explained the process.

BOARD REPORTS

Planning Board – Planning Board Secretary Paula Schoonmaker read the report. They met twice during July and issued a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a screened-in porch in the hamlet of Barrytown. They granted approval for a small lot line alteration between two properties on Pitcher Lane and the members are continuing to review and discuss the Centers and Greenspaces Plan in order to prepare formal comments at an August meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ag. & Open Space Committee – Councilman O’Neill told the Board that the committee met on Monday night and resolved appointing the newest member. An issue was discussed about a local law requiring a building permit to put up an agricultural fence. They will work with Building Inspector Steve Cole and others in order to resolve whether it is required or not. Additional research by the Zoning Enforcement Officers says that it is required.

Conservation Advisory Council – CAC Chair Brenda Cagle presented the report dated July 28, 2010. They are continuing to meet with Sustainable Hudson Valley to work out the kickoff events for the 10% Challenge in the next few months. Goals are to inform businesses and residents about ways to reduce their energy use. AmeriCorps volunteers will be planning ten community events. Grant money has been applied for to cover related costs. She thanked those involved in Watershed Awareness Month. At their next meeting Hudsonia will meet with the biodiversity mapping group to hand over the final map from the training class and there will be a review of a conservation easement request.

Intermunicipal Task Force – Councilman O’Neill gave the 68th report dated July 27, 2010. At their weekly meetings the ITF discussed the presentation of the Centers & Greenspaces Plan before the public and the Town Board. They began the review of comments made at the Public Hearings. The final Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) will now be completed by Greenplan, Inc. while the proposed zoning amendments will be referred to the Town of Red Hook Planning Board and to the Dutchess County Office of Planning and Development for their comments. The Task Force also reviewed developments in the effort to find new financing for the joint Town/Village of Red Hook Sewer project. It was announced that the Village of Red Hook received a grant for about \$14,000 to fund the engineering work on locating a new source of water for the Village Water System. Local officials and members of the Task Force will be meeting with State and federal officials in Albany on July 29th in an effort to explore and obtain 2011 funding for the sewer project.

Economic Development Committee – EDC Chair Michelle Martin reported that the committee’s primary focus this past month was to review and prepare a statement of support for the proposed local law. A Professor from Marist College is interested in serving on the EDC. They are reaching out to ND Alliance and are reviewing their Blueprint for Economic Development. It contains a lot of useful information about economic and strategic planning. They’ve compiled contact information for the Villages, Town and all business owners. A roster has been completed to hand out that holds their contact information. They heard from an individual interested in developing the Skypark property who told them his goals for the property.

Roads & Traffic – Supervisor Crane spoke to Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke and Deputy Highway Superintendent Richard Schloemer about the intersection of County Route 79 (Linden Ave.) and Rockefeller Lane to make it safer. Narrowing the intersection and moving the stop sign might help make the intersection safer.

St. Margaret’s Committee – Chair Paula Schoonmaker reported that the committee welcomed Michael Brown as their new member. They discussed the continuing reviews of the building conducted by the preservation architect and staff. The reviews indicated that the roof is in large part solid but the ends of the rafters are in very poor shape. Plans for Hardscrabble Day were also discussed.

Senior Services Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski read the report prepared by Chair Andrew Kehr. Their main focus was on the development of the Guide for Personal & Family Disaster Preparedness. He gave a special thanks to Richard and Sheila Franklin for their work on the project. The guide is being distributed throughout the Town and will appear on the Committee’s link on the Town’s website. The Senior Walk Program continues to take place on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. beginning at the north entrance of the Rec. Park. Supervisor Crane announced that the Dutchess County Office of the Aging Senior Picnic will be in mid-September. The exact date will be announced at the next meeting.

Trails Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski reported that the committee met but did not have a quorum. Scenic Hudson will have a bike event on September 25 and Chair Howie Callies will recommend that the Trails Committee assist Scenic Hudson with that event.

Tree Preservation Commission – Chair Nancy Guski gave the report dated July 28, 2010. She attended the NYS Urban and Community Forestry Council Conference at Hobart College in Geneva, New York. She explained the workshops that she attended. They included How Trees Grow Communities, Healthy Watersheds: Managing Storm Water with Trees and Forests, The ABC’s of Pruning Young Trees, Emerald Ash Borer – The Green Menace and Keeping Communities Green. Nancy discussed the issue of stress on Maple trees.

Zoning Review Committee – Chair Susan Simon reported that the committee is working on a proposal for parking regulations. They will be reviewing windmills and alternative energy structures. There will be no meeting in August.

Recreation Commission – Chair Doug Strawinski reported that everything is running smoothly at the Rec. Park. Tee-ball is going on and about 140 children are involved in it. He encouraged everyone to use the Rec. Park.

Zoning Board of Appeals – Supervisor Crane reported that ZBA Secretary Sheila Franklin is going to have surgery on her hand. Supervisor Crane may have found a replacement and will inform the Board if she accepts. There is a limited amount of activity going on right now but the August meeting needs to be covered.

PANDA – Susan Simon reported that most of their new equipment has been installed. She spoke with Tim Fitzmaurice, Technology Instructor from Red Hook High School, regarding programming and having more representation on PANDA from students. They are still doing internal broadcasting and are hoping to have more robust student participation next year. At PANDA they are installing inventory tags on all equipment. They continue to operate under their 2010 budget and are waiting for the 2010 funding from one more municipality.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Crane said that Jonathan Drapkin, Executive Director of Patterns for Progress, contacted her and is looking into possibilities of shared services throughout the County. He was pleased to hear about how much we have going on in Red Hook. She will report more as she hears from Patterns for Progress.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Susan Simon goes to the Goods Exchange at the Recycling Center every week and asked if something can be done about the ground there. After a rain, it is very muddy so she asked about the possibility of gravel or something to prepare the ground so that it is not as muddy and messy as it is now after a rain.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, O’Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Ross

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk