

**RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**November 17, 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  
Councilman James Ross  
Councilwoman Micki Strawinski  
Councilman Harry Colgan  
Councilman William O'Neill  
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale  
Deputy Supervisor Robert Latimer

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

**SCENIC HUDSON, DUTCHESS LAND CONSERVANCY & WINNAKEE LAND TRUST PRESENTATION**

Supervisor Crane explained that a few months ago she received a call from Carrie Watkins-Bates of Scenic Hudson who indicated that they were interested in collaborating with Dutchess Land Conservancy. She introduced Carrie Watkins-Bates, Becky Thornton, President of Dutchess Land Conservancy and Art Collings, Vice President of Dutchess Land Conservancy. They were at the meeting to discuss easements. She asked Carrie Watkins-Bates to lead the presentation. Carrie Watkins-Bates began the presentation saying the intent is to explain land trusts, conservation easements and the work that they do in land protection. She explained that land trusts are non-profit organizations focused on conserving land either by undertaking conservation easements or buying land for the purpose of protecting it for future generations. She gave some facts about land trusts and explained that Scenic Hudson, Dutchess Land Conservancy, Winnakee Land Trust and most other land trusts fall under the Land Trust Alliance which is an industry umbrella organization that helps coordinate and lead the works they do. Scenic Hudson is a non-profit environmental organization who works across a ten county area, mostly along the Hudson River.

Becky Thornton, President of Dutchess Land Conservancy, spoke next and explained that Dutchess Land Conservancy is also a not-for-profit land conservation organization. They are smaller than Scenic Hudson and work only county wide. Most of their work is with conservation easements.

Carrie Watkins-Bates apologized that Lucy Hayden, Executive Director from Winnakee Land Trust, was not able to attend the presentation. They are the most local land trust organization whose mission is to protect and preserve the natural agricultural, recreational, architectural, cultural, scenic, historical and open space resources of northern Dutchess County.

Carrie Watkins-Bates presented a brief overview of protected land in the Town of Red Hook. Becky Thornton explained what a conservation easement is. She gave examples of what qualities they look for in the properties they consider for conservation easements. Once a conservation easement is placed on a property it runs with the land in perpetuity and is protected forever. Also, the land continues to be owned privately so it stays on the tax rolls. She explained how they work with the landowners in regard to the conservation easement. Conservation easements can be donated to a conservation organization or Town, they can be purchased which is the case when you do purchase of development rights, and in some cases they can be mandated when a development is being proposed. The tool of choice to protect land is often a conservation easement. Once a conservation easement is placed on property, the development rights of that property go away.

Carrie Watkins-Bates spoke about conveying a conservation easement. A landowner can donate or sell their conservation easement which is a PDR or purchase of development rights. There is also a situation called a "bargain sale". She continued to explain how land is conveyed which is somewhat like a standard real estate sale.

Becky Thornton explained how a conservation easement is valued and funding opportunities. In Dutchess County there are numerous funding sources. Red Hook is the first Town in Dutchess County with the Farmland Protection Bond. Red Hook is also the only Town in Dutchess County that has a community preservation fund. County-wide, Dutchess County was the first County in the State to find a source of funds to match funds for easements. The State of New York has a program which will put up to 75% of the matching cost. She explained how they

could all work together. The FDA also has a program that provides a 50% match. Private funding is another source. Once an easement is recorded and accepted there is a perpetual obligation to monitor and enforce that conservation easement which requires a lot of time, money and dedication.

Art Collings spoke about conservation easement stewardships. The conservation easement is going to be around forever and it is especially important to know what the responsibilities are. The Dutchess Land Conservancy looks at that responsibility by monitoring the conservation easement, establishing positive relationships with the landowner, keeping records for the holding of conservation easements and funding the stewardship program. He explained how they act on all of those responsibilities.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked about organizations who invest in easements, if there is profit potential for those who hold easements.

Carrie Watkins-Bates said that Scenic Hudson does have an endowment for funding. They have spent almost \$5 million in conservation easements in Red Hook. The easements cannot be sold or traded. She explained a situation where money would be redirected to use for another program.

Paul Fredricks asked about a clause in some of the contracts saying that a person can purchase back the development rights. He asked what happens after five years if a developer pays for monitoring the conservation easement on the land he is developing and stops paying. Do you go to the Town to tell them they need to pay?

Carrie Watkins-Bates has not seen that clause and explained they do not go after anyone else if the five year payment is up. It is a onetime contribution that could be spread out over five years then goes into an endowment fund. Scenic Hudson does not allow anyone to buy back development rights.

Paul Fredricks asked if a conservancy could accommodate a farmer if they needed a building. Becky explained it depends on who buys the land. They understand you want to protect a farm and can allow some modifications over time to help a farmer.

Carrie Watkins-Bates explained they've learned that there is sometimes a need for flexibility. She gave an example of a farmer maybe needing an equipment shed. It would be ok with more administration from Scenic Hudson.

Peter Hubbell is a qualified conservation easement appraiser. He noticed in Red Hook over the last few years that there appears to be a "disconnect" between the agricultural value that some farmlands are appraised at and the ability of full time farmers to acquire them. He explained an additional clause in an easement that restricts the sale of that farm property to only a full time farmer. He explained a program to keep farmers on the farm. In Red Hook we want to keep the farmers in the breadbasket and need to disconnect estate value from farm value.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- A Proclamation honoring Ms. Martha Strever's fifty years of service to the Red Hook Central School District. Supervisor Crane read the proclamation commending her exceptional contributions to the Red Hook Central School community as teacher and friend.
- The Board is invited to attend a seminar tomorrow with our Assessor and staff from NYS Office of Real Property Service and Dutchess County Real Property. It will give us a chance to hear details of the program we voted to participate in regarding reassessment for next year.
- The Association of Towns announces the training and annual meeting February 20 – 23.
- DC Legislator Ben Traudt will hold a forum at 6:00pm on November 30 at Town Hall regarding the proposed 2011 County budget.
- State Assemblyman Marc Molinaro has been named to the Governor-elect's transition team to recruit, review and recommend candidates for key positions in the next administration.
- The Board will have an Executive Session before the Board meeting on November 22 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm with retiring Assessor Jeff Churchill regarding filling his position.

Councilman Colgan made the following announcement:

- The first winter farm market at the Elmendorph Inn is this Saturday from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. There will be two a month through March.

Councilwoman Strawinski made the following announcements:

- She and her husband attended a celebration of Bard College's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in New York City. She looks forward to having the Town Board have a proclamation for Bard College with regard to the milestone and for all the contributions they make to the Town.
- Red Hook Together will meet with Red Hook Communities that Care at 3:30 pm this Friday to work on goals we have in common.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

*Linda Keeling* read the letter she sent to the Town Board regarding a complaint against Councilman O'Neill, Chair of the Intermunicipal Task Force.

*Dan Sepesi* told the Board that he has spoken to Mr. Cole (Code Enforcement Officer) and called the police on several occasions regarding loud music from his neighbor's house. Loud music is played on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday night every week. On Sunday it was played from 2:00 – 4:30. That is when he went to all of his neighbors and asked them to sign a petition. It is absurd that it has gotten to that level. He hears the music inside his own house as late as 2:30 in the morning and can hear it over his own television. He pleaded for the Board to take action and asked for a noise ordinance. He asked for the Board's advice and said if he has to he will get an attorney. It is a nuisance by the Town's own definition. He asked what the noise ordinance is in the Town today.

*Supervisor Crane* said she cannot cite the law but knows we have spoken with the police about this location months ago. The police department told them they would be cited for disturbing the police. She asked if it ever stopped.

*Dan Sepesi* said the noise never stopped for longer than two weeks. He's called the police probably 20 times. The State Police say it is not their job to enforce local ordinances, the Red Hook police showed up right away and asked them to stop. Sometimes he waits for up to an hour and a half for the Sheriff to show up. He is tired of dealing with this every single week. He's owned his house for three years. They rent and don't adhere to the laws in our Town and he said they don't respect our laws, the police force and they don't respect you. He asked again, what he should do.

*Councilman O'Neill* suggested filing charges.

*Supervisor Crane* asked Chief Truitt to have them cited.

*Chief Truitt* told her that if they tell the residents to stop and someone undermines that and tells them there is no noise ordinance and they can do anything they want, they take that and do what they want.

*Dan Sepesi* explained the decibel limits in a noise ordinance.

*Attorney Chale* explained what they did in Tivoli was try to provide additional assistance in enforcement mechanisms having alternate ways to measure if there is a violation. One way was to go into the house and shut all the windows and doors to hear the noise.

*Dan Sepesi* invited anyone to come to his house on a Thursday night to listen to it.

*Councilman Colgan* asked about the hours of the noise ordinance in Tivoli.

*Attorney Chale* explained it is what is unreasonable.

*Supervisor Crane* asked how we determine what is unreasonable by decibel levels.

*Attorney Chale* explained what Tivoli did. They had a way of defining what was unreasonable. A decibel meter can be used. It is enforced by the police. Legislation is needed.

*Councilman Colgan* feels it has helped.

*Village of Red Hook Police Chief Jim Truitt* told the Board that right now there is no legislation that would allow the police to address the situation.

*Supervisor Crane* asked Attorney Chale to share some sample of legalese for the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Councilman O'Neill* would like to hear from Code Enforcement Officer Steve Cole.

*Supervisor Crane* feels Code Enforcement Steve Cole should be involved if he has to enforce it. He needs to have input.

*Attorney Chale* said there are different ways of enforcement.

*Councilman Colgan* feels ticketing the offender is more important.

*Dan Sepesi* has considered buying a decibel meter.

*Marcy Appell* is on the Zoning Review Committee and said they did go through this and they came up with nothing. A decibel meter has to be approved by the police department and you have to have a qualified person trained to read the meter. That was one of the problems that committee had.

*Councilman Colgan* said we have to enable the police.

*Dick Hansen* suggested considering it a conservation issue. He gave examples of laws in different municipalities regarding noise and its effects on the environment.

*Kim Gomez* from the Red Hook Community Events Committee announced Winterfest on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the Village of Red Hook. Their expenses are about \$1,000 per year and they are requesting money towards those expenses.

*Councilwoman Strawinski* hopes they purchase LED lights in keeping with the 10% Challenge.

*Kim* told her they began purchasing LED lights two years ago.

*Supervisor Crane* asked Kim what we donated in 2008.

Kim believes they had specific events covered. All entertainment is done by volunteers this year. She thinks it was about \$800.

Supervisor Crane told her that we cannot make a specific donation but if she forwards bills that are up to and not more than \$1,000 we can voucher those bills.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to support Winterfest up to \$1,000.

Adopted      Ayes    5      Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill  
                     Nays    0

There were no further public comments.

#### **DOG LICENSE LAW FINAL DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane explained that New York State Ag. & Markets is turning over dog licensing responsibilities to municipalities.

Attorney Chale referred to a revised draft local law, a Resolution establishing a date for a public hearing and a licensing fee and impoundment fee schedule for adoption at a later date. We are required to begin our licensing procedures under the new law by January 1, 2011. There was another committee meeting and they went through the changes. She pointed out changes in the impoundment fee regarding veterinary care. A little flexibility was added. The impoundment fees need to be included in the law itself. This is an incremental approach. Licensing fees were increased.

Councilman Ross thinks the fees should be in line of what it costs us for our dog warden and so on. He does not think it would be fair to surpass that and make money on dog licensing fees. He wanted to know how the fees were arrived at.

Councilman Colgan responded that they did some arithmetic having to do with creating tags and everything has to be done locally. The State gets a portion.

Town Clerk Sue McCann said the State gets the surcharges.

Councilman Colgan said it is clearly not a money maker and we would be lucky if we break even.

Town Clerk Sue McCann told the Board that there has to be a \$5.00 difference between spayed and unspayed. That is a State mandate.

Councilwoman Strawinski thinks what's before them is fine.

Attorney Chale explained the fees and what surcharge would go to the State.

Councilman Ross asked about the present fee schedule.

Town Clerk Sue McCann told him the fees are \$12.50 for neutered and \$20.50 for unneutered depending on the dog's age. With the new law we don't have to worry if the dog is younger than 4 months old.

Councilman Ross wants to keep in mind that we want people to do the right thing and license their dogs. If the fee gets too high people will not bother getting their dog licensed. He also asked if the fee schedule was going to be a separate portion so we can modify changes.

Town Clerk Sue McCann responded correct.

Attorney Chale told the Board that every year they should look at the fees.

Town Clerk Sue McCann read the resolution.

#### **RESOLUTION 2010 # 68**

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2010 (PROPOSED) AND OF THE PROPOSED APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE

On a motion of Councilwoman Micki Strawinski seconded by Councilman James Ross moved to set the public hearing for December 14, 2010 at 7:45 p.m. regarding the adoption of Local Law No. 4 and for comments on the dog license application fee schedule.

Adopted      Ayes    5      Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill  
                     Nays    0

Copy Attached

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Councilman Ross asked if the Board will have to include a public hearing for the proposed licensing fee schedule for the coming year.

Attorney Chale agreed that it is not a bad idea to do that. The resolution could be modified to include comments on the licensing fees.

The Board changed the wording in the resolution to include the license application fee schedule in the public hearing.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Supervisor Crane offered resolutions authorizing the Highway Department to purchase various materials.

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke provided the Board with her recommendations based on the bid results.

Supervisor Crane read the resolution.

### **RESOLUTION 2010 # 69**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF HOT MIX ASPHALT FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURPOSES FROM CALLANAN INDUSTRIES, INC. FOR 2011

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

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the resolution authorizing the purchase of road services and materials pursuant to Town procurement policy. Products and vendors are listed on copy attached.

### **RESOLUTION 2010 # 70**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SERVICES AND MATERIALS PURSUANT TO TOWN PROCUREMENT POLICY

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

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the resolution.

### **RESOLUTION 2010 # 71**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ICE CONTROL ABRASIVES FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURPOSES

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

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane told the Board that we had a visit from our New York State Comp. Insurance Alliance auditor and one of the things he zeroed in on is the highway equipment shed behind the garage. He was quite directive that the Town Board authorize the shed be taken down before it came down on equipment or worse. She asked the Board to authorize the removal of the shed. Further, if the equipment needs to be covered that the Board authorize them to go out for tarps or whatever it takes to protect the equipment.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to authorize the removal of the Highway equipment shed and authorize them to go out for tarps or whatever material needed to protect the equipment.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	

Supervisor Crane told the Board that she had a request from Amy Parrella, Horticulture Supervisor at Bard College, to support a grant proposal they have going in to New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. She read the resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2010 # 72**

RE: IN SUPPORT OF RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT FOR FRIENDS OF THE LANDSCAPE AND ARBORETUM PROGRAM AT BARD COLLEGE

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski moved to accept the resolution as read.

Adopted      Ayes    5      Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill  
                  Nays    0

Copy Attached

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Councilwoman Strawinski told the Board that since this letter of endorsement was due by November 1, she wrote a letter and signed it as liaison to the Greenway & Trails Committee. She will bring in a copy.

Supervisor Crane told her that she spoke to Amy and was told that she had until Friday to get the papers in. It will be certified by the Town Clerk by then.

**CELL TOWER DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane referred to the Omnipoint contract and the Clearwire Communications proposal.

Attorney Chale explained the two resolutions.

Supervisor Crane read the resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2010 # 73**

RE: AUTHORIZING A TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH OPTION BETWEEN THE TOWN AND OMNIPOINT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski moved to approve the resolution.

Adopted      Ayes    5      Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill  
                  Nays    0

Copy Attached

Attorney Chale read the next resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2010 # 74**

RE: AUTHORIZING A TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH OPTION BETWEEN THE TOWN AND CLEARWIRE US, LLC

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

Adopted      Ayes    5      Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill  
                  Nays    0

Copy Attached

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Highway Department – Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke reported that the trucks have been prepared in anticipation of winter storms, roadside mowing and road repair is continuing. The crew was called in at 6:00 this morning to take care of debris created by the wind storm. Town Clerk Sue McCann thanked Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke and the highway crew for the great job clearing her road this morning. What seemed like a mini-tornado went through and knocked down trees so that the road was not passable at either end.

Supervisor Crane told the Board that she will be polling them for available days that they might join her and Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke to visit a couple of highway garages in the

area to see what has been put up in recent years. She was very impressed by the audit we had from the Comp. Alliance person who strongly cautioned Highway Superintendent Burke and Supervisor Crane that she should proactively contact an organization called Public Employees Safety and Health Department to get an audit from them. There will be no penalties if we ask for that audit. They are coming on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Board members are welcome. Councilman Colgan asked if they are a State or private agency. Highway Superintendent Burke told him they are a State agency. Supervisor Crane said the Town Board was authorized within the last eight years to go out to bond for \$1.5 million for a Highway Garage. That was up for permissive referendum and there was no objection from the public at the time. We have a ten year window that it will still be available to us without going again for permissive referendum. She would like to get numbers together to see what we can get done. She will get dates to the Board.

Police Report – The report read by Supervisor Crane was dated November 4<sup>th</sup> for the month of October. There were 55 total incidents, 2 arrests and 20 tickets issued.

Purchasing – Councilman Colgan read the report prepared by Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy which was for activity for the period August 2 to November 16. 128 purchase orders were issued, the largest to Callanan Industries for paving Guski Road. The solar panel bid was awarded to Hudson Valley Clean Energy. The re-enforcement of roof trusses on Town Hall was completed, St. Margaret's roof repair project bidding process is moving forward. Our heating and air conditioning ducts over the courtroom had to be repaired this month. They were badly deteriorated and needed replacement. Frank Vosburgh and Sons who submitted the lowest quote will be clearing the Route 9 sidewalks of snow and ice this winter. An RFP for an energy consultant funded by NYSERDA is being drafted, and the mailing station installation is in the works.

Recycling – No report. Councilwoman Strawinski checked into a place for brush and leaf disposal. The Town does not have the facilities for that. Unfortunately we don't have an immediate solution.

Water Department – Councilman Ross gave the October 2010 monthly report prepared by Water Dept. Chair Hank VanParys. Everything is running fine. The wells are holding up. Bard was due to switch back to their new filter system the week of November 8, 2010. The galvanized pipe connected to 12 Aspinwall is being corrected. Chlorine and filters are operating satisfactorily. They will continue replacing old meters next spring. Supervisor Crane received correspondence that Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority runs the Rokeby Water System and they are increasing their rates. As a comparison the base rate for the Town water customers is \$30.00 and the base rate for the Rokeby Water System is \$80.00. The difference for usage over 9,000 gallons is \$3.59 per thousand for the Town water system and \$8.89 per thousand for the Rokeby system. You can see what an efficient and effective organization that Water Department is.

## **BOARD REPORTS**

Planning Board – Councilwoman Strawinski referred to the Planning Board minutes dated November 1<sup>st</sup>. They had one discussion about a certificate of appropriateness in Barrytown, and a lot line alteration and site plan approval on Albany Post Road.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ag. & Open Space Committee – Councilman O'Neill reported that the committee met with the Intermunicipal Task Force and Greenplan on Friday morning and went over details and recommendations by Ag. & Open Space on the Centers and Greenspace plan to complete the final GEIF. On Monday night they met about those recommendations to be incorporated into the Centers & Greenspace plan. Greenplan will compile the information.

Community Preservation Fund Committee – Councilman Colgan reported that they essentially put together a priority list as to how the funds can be distributed. All they are waiting for is the final documentation that would enable the funds to go into use. Prioritization is concluded. The plan has to be written by someone other than the committee.

CAC – Supervisor Crane reported that the committee wants to reiterate the 10% Challenge. Go to [redhookchallenge.org](http://redhookchallenge.org).

Intermunicipal Task Force – Councilman O’Neill reported that they reviewed the red-lined version of the proposed zoning amendments for the Centers and Greenspace Plan. They are discussing the final GEIF. Regarding the sewer project, the Village recently received a USDA grant of \$14,000 and a Greenway Communities Grant of \$10,000 to fund a preliminary engineering report to develop new water sources near Abrahams Park. It would allow increased water supply for the proposed Traditional Neighborhood District and make the Village water system much more efficient.

Recreation Committee – Committee Chair Doug Strawinski reported that the bathrooms are winterized and the park is officially closed. People can still use it but no facilities are available. He thanked John (Kuhn), Don (Whipple), Jeff (Tremper) and Howie (Callies) for the job they do in the park. They keep it in great shape. There are three trees that are hazardous and they want to see if they can get them removed this year.

Supervisor Crane thanked Doug for his help with St. Margaret’s. She knows he has been an enormous help.

Senior Services Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski read the report prepared by Chair Andrew Kehr. The Senior Walk program is suspended until the spring of 2011. The Medicare informational meeting will be rescheduled and the PANDA project is moving forward. The committee had a consensus that the new Dial-A-Ride 2011 contract is an excessive cost for the Town. They are examining the feasibility of the use of Northern Dutchess Caregivers, a car pool program at Red Hook Commons and a joint/shared program for use of the current Rhinebeck van that provides transportation to seniors and other members in the Rhinebeck community. Other options will also be explored. It was decided that the Red Hook Seniors Program should designate a person to be accountable for tracking and maintaining expenditure records of the use of Town allocated funds and report to the Town Board regarding the use of those funds. Specific programs should have a designated individual to oversee funds allocated from the Town and report the use of those funds.

Trails Committee - Councilwoman Strawinski reported that the committee is gearing up for a second Tour de Red Hook next year.

Tree Committee – Supervisor Crane read the report prepared by Chair Nancy Guski. Their final project for the year was a pruning workshop conducted by a certified ISA arborist. They also talked about their budget, reviewed last year’s program and discussed some goals for next year.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Crane shared the following correspondence:

- A letter from Glen Brent regarding a FOIL request. She read the letter from Mr. Brent. Town Clerk Sue McCann reminded Board members that there is a specific time line that has to be adhered to. She stressed that it is Freedom of Information *LAW*.
- Supervisor Crane clarified the law with Attorney Chale who explained the timeline that must be adhered to according to the law. Correspondence has to go through the Town Clerk who is also the Record’s Access Officer.
- A letter from Jon Wagner, President of the Dutchess County Supervisor’s and Mayors Association, regarding unfunded mandates. They will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> and Jeffrey Haber from Association of Towns will address some of those issues. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
- On December 22, at the last Town Board meeting of the year, special recognition will be given to volunteers and employees.

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced that Tivoli is collecting coats for veterans and families. Tivoli Trustee Bryan Cranna is assisting the Dutchess County Department of Veterans Affairs by collecting new or slightly used coats which can be delivered to the Tivoli Village Hall.

Deputy Supervisor Robert Latimer read a letter from resident Rosemarie Zengen. It addressed her concern about the public safety and the issue of cutting funding for Village police patrols. It also addressed how she and those who disagree with the proposed sewer district have been treated.

Councilman O’Neill asked why the Board did not receive a copy of that letter.

Deputy Supervisor Latimer had no idea he said it was indicated to him that everyone received a copy. It was addressed to him and he was asked that he read it at the meeting.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Supervisor Crane moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk