

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

April 12, 2011

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.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor's report dated March 31, 2011 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$2,439,239.40; Receipts - \$3,965,952.48; Disbursed - \$2,607,785.56; Balance - \$3,797,406.32. There were 24 transfer tax forms registered in the month of March. The total forwarded from the County to our community preservation fund was \$98,412.00. She asked Business Manager Deb Marks to explain the budget adjustments.

Business Manager Deborah Marks explained the adjustments in the General A Fund. There is an increase in revenue to offset the appropriations in the amount of \$5,892. In the General B Fund the offset is appropriating the fund balance \$524.00. In the Highway DB Fund the offset is to reduce the appropriated fund balance \$242.00.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to accept the Supervisors report.

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

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report for the period March 1 – March 31, 2011 was read as follows: Local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$2,881.13; amount remitted to NY State Ag. & Markets - \$50.00; amount remitted to NY State Dept. of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$112.50; amount remitted to NY State Environmental Conservation - \$343.91; total State, County and local revenue - \$3,387.54.

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced the following:

- Outdoor brush burning is not allowed until May 15.
- The DEC suspended the sale of Marine Fishing Licenses
- There is a "Return the Favor", Veteran's discount card program. It provides Veterans with an ID card identifying them as a qualified, honorably discharged veteran of any of the US Armed Forces. The card entitles the Veterans to a variety of discounts from local businesses. Dutchess County is saying thank you to our Vets.
- "Hugs from Home" box by the Town Clerk's office fills up every month. Town Clerk Sue McCann thanked everyone who donates to the cause.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- The sewer district referendum took place on April 8. There were 139 valid votes cast. The results were 94 against and 45 yes votes. The proposition failed.
- The Red Hook police department scheduled another prescription drug take back day for April 30, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the police station.
- Apple Blossom Day is on May 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contacts are Nicki Weaver and David Wright.
- Congratulations to Makenzie Burud. She was named Co-State Class D Player of the Year by the New York State Sports Writers & Coaches Association. She was also the State tournament's most valuable player. She is Red Hook native who attends Coleman High School.

Councilwoman Strawinski made the following announcements:

- April 30th is the Arbor Day celebration and Town wide cleanup day. The Arbor Day activities start at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. People will gather at Town Hall at 1:00 for the Clean Up Day.
- May 15 is the second Tour-de-Red Hook. It begins at the Rec. Park and flyers will be sent out for that as well.
- Northern Dutchess Communities That Care will host an open house on May 20 at 7 p.m. at Village Hall.
- April 29th is the first annual career and college fair from 2:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. at the High School.
- April 29th at 6:00 p.m. at the Firehouse the Chamber will hold their artists event.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.
Johanna Moore brought up her concern regarding the proposed zoning change for the Coon’s property on Rokeby Rd. and Rte. 9. She is worried about the effect on the traffic on Rokeby Road. It could be problematic. Security is another issue she feels should be addressed and she asked if there will be a public hearing about it.
 Supervisor Crane told her the Board will review the recommendation from the Planning Board before a public hearing would be set.
 There were no further comments.

ASSESSOR’S REPORT

Assessor Scott Hobson gave a status update of the Assessor’s Office. They’re finally through the exemption season and have been preparing the tax roll which is to be published May 1st. In his report he listed their efforts to date. Work has begun on a plan to physically inspect and document each of the 4327 parcels in the Town by the end of 2013. It will be an ongoing process and will require shorter office hours during the summer and into the fall because they will be out doing physical inspections and data collection. It will allow them to effectively do an in house revaluation for 2014. A link will be set up on the Town website for residents to check property values. Grievance Day is on May 24th this year. Applications for grievance are available in the Assessor’s Office.
 Councilwoman Strawinski asked why he meets with the Assessment Review Board before Grievance Day.
 Scott told her that he wants to give them a heads up as to where we stand with the tax roll as compared to last year and what the overall trend has been with regard to property sales and values. It is an opportunity for all to stay informed and is an informal meeting. Individual properties are not discussed.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND PLAN

Supervisor Crane explained that there is a SEQRA review of the plan.
 Attorney Chale referred to two resolutions prepared by Ted Fink. He also prepared the Environmental Assessment Form for review.
 Supervisor Crane read the resolution declaring the Town as Lead Agency for review of the adoption of a Community Preservation Project Plan.

RESOLUTION 2011 #38

RE: ESTABLISHING LEAD AGENCY TYPE 1 ACTION

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

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

Supervisor Crane read the resolution authorizing the negative declaration along with the description of the action.
 Attorney Chale pointed out the positive impacts on the environment. She reviewed the impacts.
 Supervisor Crane asked if everyone reviewed the negative declaration or has any questions.

RESOLUTION 2011 #39

RE: AUTHORIZING FILING OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION

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

Supervisor Crane thanked the CPF Committee and Susan Ezrati, Chair of the Committee for their time and effort that went into the plan.

RESOLUTION 2011 #40

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF A COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski moved to set the Public Hearing for May 10, 2011 at 7:45 p.m.

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

Supervisor Crane told everyone that the plan is posted on the Town's website.

RHCSD REPRESENTATIVES – SUPERINTENDENT PAUL FINCH AND BUSINESS MANAGER BRUCE MARTIN

Supervisor Crane introduced Red Hook Schools Superintendent Paul Finch and Business Manager Bruce Martin who were to present the 2011/12 proposed school budget. Superintendent Paul Finch began the presentation with facts about the school district, how well it performs, and the wide range of support services it provides. He also explained that the school system has an excellent athletic program, arts and performance programs and offers various club opportunities. Bard College has been terrific for the school district because they are involved in various programs in the schools. They want to preserve what makes the school district special. He explained the issue of reduction in State aid. They will have to look at reducing staffing and programs. \$475,000 will be eliminated from their expenditure budget. That represents 4 ½ full time teaching positions. He reviewed the reductions planned for the coming year which will bring the tax levy down to 5.39%. If the vote fails they'd have to make additional reductions of about \$350,000 that could impact class size and class choices at the secondary level. They think the budget represents what makes them special. The tax cap is something they are keeping their eye on because that would be devastating to all public schools.

School District Business Manager Bruce Martin said the budget has not been adopted by the Board of Education yet but it will hopefully be adopted at their April 14th meeting. He explained expenditures and tax levy which will increase 5.38%. It is close to what a contingent budget would be. In that case the tax levy would be a little over 4%. There would also be significant additional reductions at various levels. The Board will adopt the budget at the April 14 meeting. The formal public hearing on their budget is Thursday, May 5th in the 3-5 Cafeteria at Mill Rd. School at 7:00 p.m. The budget vote is on May 17th at Mill Rd. Cafeteria on the 3-5 side between noon and 9:00 p.m. Other propositions on the ballot will be a bus proposition and there are two open seats on the Board. Three candidates are vying for those seats. For a number of years there has been a non-voting student member sit on the Board and this is the year for that to be on the ballot again. He spoke of the district's concern about the potential of a State imposed property tax cap. We are all aware of why this is discussed but the property tax cap as proposed would be devastating to all school districts in New York. A rough projection for Red Hook would cause a shortfall between expenditure needs and their ability to raise revenue. He gave examples of what would happen if there were a tax cap. Bruce moved on to explain the recent contract negotiations and said the increase for employees would be 3½%. Regarding a tax cap he explained what would have to be done depending on the percentage of that tax cap. It would

eventually be devastating to schools across the state. Going back to the budget it has a number of “one shots”. Federal stimulus money to be used in 2012 is an example. He doesn’t foresee that money being regenerated in 2013.

Superintendent Paul Finch discussed using the fund balance. He stressed that they do use it but it only lasts for so long. Staff has been reduced or eliminated.

Business Manager Bruce Martin said the total budget amount is approximately \$45.5 million. The last fund balance was about \$400,000 in the reserved fund balance and \$1.8 million is the appropriated fund balance. There is an undesignated unreserved fund balance which the State requires a certain percentage of indebtedness of the district is in the vicinity of \$20 million.

Councilman Colgan asked about the student population. He heard enrollment is down.

Paul Finch said that is accurate.

Councilwoman Strawinski how many students are in the kindergarten classes?

Paul Finch responded about 21 per class.

Supervisor Crane asked about vacant space in the schools.

Paul Finch said there is some but not a lot of vacant space because they’ve brought in some programs like Head Start.

Supervisor Crane asked if a tax cap would affect capital plans or capital budgets.

Bruce Martin answered the one exemption in the Governor’s tax cap proposal would be debt service that has already been approved by the community.

Mr. Finch and Mr. Martin answered questions posed by some residents.

RESOLUTIONS

Proposal for Town Board support of Red Hook Bicentennial Celebration 2012 – Loretta Campagna, Chairperson

Supervisor Crane explained that Loretta Campagna, Chair of the Bicentennial Committee, brought forth a resolution for the Town Board’s consideration.

Loretta Campagna explained the resolution which says the Town Board supports the plans and goals of the bicentennial celebration committee and proclaims 2012 as the official bicentennial year of the Town of Red Hook.

Supervisor Crane thanked Loretta and the committees for all of the work involved.

RESOLUTION 2011 #41

RE: THE TOWN BOARD UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS THE RED HOOK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE, ITS PLANS AND GOALS AND PROCLAIMS 2012 AS THE OFFICIAL BICENTENNIAL YEAR OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK

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

Proposed Justice Court Liability Insurance – Jonah Triebwasser

Supervisor Crane asked Justice Jonah Triebwasser to describe the grant he is interested in.

Justice Jonah Triebwasser said the he and Judge Martin were again able to obtain a grant to assist in the operation of the court without direct impact on the taxpayers of Red Hook. This year they received \$1,950 to pay for a shredder, label maker and a new office chair. Besides that they received an additional grant of \$5,000 for equipment of a confidential security nature. Over the last four years the total amount of grants they obtained for the Town and Village courts was over \$68,600. The second issue he wanted to discuss was regarding the purchase of professional liability insurance to protect court employees specifically the two Justices. He explained his understanding of the public officer law. The question is whether or not if someone decides to make a frivolous complaint to the Judicial Conduct Board would the Public Officer’s Law pay for that defense. The NYS Magistrates Association has arranged for a group insurance for each of the Justices in the amount of \$1,370 a year. He pointed out that the Court has saved the taxpayers a considerable amount of money, far more than the cost of the insurance. He asked that the Board authorize the purchase of the insurance to protect the two Justices.

Attorney Chale explained that if the Board were to cover this type of insurance it would require a local law. You’d have to have a public hearing to adopt the local law.

Judge Triebwasser pointed out that many localities pay for this. He asked that the Town Board and Attorney try to make this a priority since it has been a pending request since October. Supervisor Crane said it was discussed in their budget and this was one item they could not afford to do. She does not recall a discussion about a local law. The Town budgeted a modest amount of money for local laws. That cost is almost expended. She explained the costs associated with local laws. It is a budget consideration and she would rather wait and recommended considering it and putting in the budget for 2012.

Councilman O'Neill thought during the budget discussions the Board was supposed to receive data.

Supervisor Crane asked that the Court clerks take a survey of Towns that have this liability insurance.

The issue was tabled until the May 10th meeting.

Adoption of Amendment to Restrictive Covenant between the Town of Red Hook and Martin's Foods (Hannaford's) – Attorney Christine Chale

Supervisor Crane referred to the amendment to our agreement with Martin Foods. She asked the Board to review the amendment and it will be put on the agenda for the May 10 meeting.

Attorney Chale solicited review of the proposed amendments. She had asked for the covenants to be modified and she asked the Board to review them.

Approval of St. Margaret's Architectural Construction Committee's Recommendation for Awarding Restoration Contract Bids

Supervisor Crane asked Paula Schoonmaker of the St. Margaret's Committee about the bids for restoration of St. Margaret's Home. She passed out information packets.

Paula Schoonmaker submitted the data from the bids.

Attorney Chale explained that the bids for the project were opened on February 28th. There were five different projects to be funded through two different grants. She explained the resolutions.

Councilman Colgan read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2011 #42

RE: AUTHORIZING THE AWARDING OF BIDS FOR THE ST. MARGARET'S MAIN ROOF REPAIR PROJECT

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

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

The Board discussed the large difference in the bids for the asbestos abatement project. The difference between the two companies was the distance one had to travel to complete the project. Supervisor Crane thanked Paula for all of the work she put into the St. Margaret's bidding process. She put aside the other resolutions to focus on the Highway garage discussion.

TOWN HIGHWAY GARAGE DISCUSSION – DAN PROPER, CRAWFORD ASSOCIATES/ATTORNEY CHALE

Supervisor Crane thanked Dan Proper for being at the meeting and asked him to lead the discussion regarding the Town Highway project.

Attorney Chale had a resolution that Dan prepared. He reviewed prior SEQRA documentation and explained how the proposed plan now differs from an environmental perspective. He went through a point by point review for the Board's consideration. She explained the resolution about the supplement to the negative declaration adopted on December 30, 2008.

Supervisor Crane moved for discussion. She asked if anyone wanted to discuss the resolution that is being modified.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if the CAC saw the new drawings and if they've weighed in on the proposed plans.

Supervisor Crane told her they were part of the discussion when the presentation was made. She asked if that was what Councilwoman Strawinski was asking.

Councilwoman Strawinski said we normally have them weigh in on SEQRA or if they did so in 2008.

Supervisor Crane said she couldn't answer that. She asked Attorney Chale if there were any requirements for CAC to weigh in at this juncture.

Attorney Chale answered in this procedural step, not necessarily. What the Board is doing is looking at Dan's review of the entire EAF to determine if the changes should be adopted.

Councilwoman Strawinski said the CAC meets tomorrow night and she will bring this to their attention.

Supervisor Crane wants to move this forward because we are talking about a two month window of preparing bid documents. We need to take step one with SEQRA

Councilman Colgan asked about the location of the storm water pond and run off.

Dan Proper responded that the storm water pond is pretty much just a settling pond. He explained the process. It is shown on the report. Once the storm water plan is developed the DEC will review it. All inspectors have to be certified. He answered a question about the floor drain and explained how that will work. That is more of a building feature and is not included in the site plan.

Councilwoman O'Neill asked if the salt shed mitigation was reviewed.

Supervisor Crane said there is no adverse impact on the well water in the Village.

Councilman Colgan said that is tested monthly.

Councilwoman Strawinski wants the CAC to look at this before she votes to approve it.

RESOLUTION 2011 #43

RE: REAFFIRMING DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE PROPOSED HIGHWAY GARAGE

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

Adopted	Ayes 3	Crane, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays 1	Strawinski
	Absent 1	Ross
		Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the next resolution regarding approving preparations of plans and specifications for the Town of Red Hook Highway Garage.

Attorney Chale explained the resolution considering construction of a new highway garage and related facilities at the Town Hall site as described in a feasibility study dated March 2011 prepared by Crawford & Associates Engineering PC. She also explained the resolution regarding a bond resolution for an increased aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.

Supervisor Crane said we have to know how much it is going to cost and all of this is contingent on how the bids come in.

Councilwoman Strawinski will not vote until the CAC weighs in.

Supervisor Crane said the CAC had ample opportunity to comment. The new energy consultant helped us prepare the application for new construction.

RESOLUTION 2011 #44

RE: APPROVING PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF RED HOOK HIGHWAY GARAGE

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

Adopted	Ayes 3	Crane, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays 1	Strawinski
	Absent 1	Ross
		Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the next resolution amending and supplementing the bond resolution dated February 11, 2003 authorizing the issuance of serial bonds of the Town of Red Hook in an increased aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,800,000 pursuant to the local finance law to finance the construction of a new highway garage.

Attorney Chale summarized the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2011

RE: SUPPLEMENTAL BOND RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 12, 2011

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

The motion was withdrawn.

Councilman O'Neill said he was not in the position to vote on this at the night's meeting. Since the sewer project went down he thinks it might have been because of the economy. It's been 8 years since the voters agreed to the bonding and he is concerned about the present economic climate.

Councilwoman Strawinski will not support the resolution.

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke asked if increasing the bond by \$300,000 would still require the Board to vote on the final amount that is determined to build a highway department or does it mean they have free leeway to go up to \$1.8 million?

Attorney Chale responded that the Board would have to vote on the authorization for the award of the bid.

Highway Superintendent Burke confirmed that voting for the \$300,000 does not necessarily mean that the Town is going to spend \$1.8 million. It just means that we can develop a plan to get the project going that we *need*, not that we *want*. There is a difference between the sewer district for the businesses that is a want and a highway department that is falling apart and is not even suitable for insurance purposes that is a need. She feels this is being put off and the situation is not even understood. The comparative cost is nothing compared to the liability issues and lack of work force if they have to move out if the building if something happens out there. She does not see a reason for postponing it.

Supervisor Crane said that it has been put off and it's been lack of political will to do what is right and what should have been done five, six or seven years ago. We are in the position now where we have nowhere to go we have to do this job. We have to realize that this is the time we have got to move forward this year.

Councilman Colgan thinks Dan should move forward and put the plan together. He has about two months. It gives the public time to make comments and will have no impact on his work and no impact on the project as he sees it. Letting it go for another month in terms of the bond resolution will not close the whole thing down.

Supervisor Crane said it will only allow Dan the opportunity to develop limited plans. We were talking about the additions that might give us the additional space. She withdrew the motion and will bring it back to the table on the May 10 meeting.

Councilman Colgan also wants to see the impact shared services will have on the Town budget. He hopes it will be a positive impact.

Supervisor Crane announced that there will be no meeting on April 27th.

PLANNING BOARD REFERRAL RE: REQUEST FROM ARVINE AND WENDY COON FOR ZONING CHANGE FROM ZONE RD 1.5 TO B1 – PROPERTY ON RT. 9 AND ROKEBY ROAD

Supervisor Crane referred to the request for zoning change. She read the Planning Board's recommendation for the property. They recommend that Mr. Coon apply for a use variance for his intended business. The County also added a comment.

Councilwoman Strawinski read the recommendation from Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development. The County supports farm related enterprises as a matter of policy but they feel rezoning of that location would be inappropriate.

Supervisor Crane thinks that there are two substantial agencies looking at this proposal as one that is not in the best interest of long range plans for the Town and there are other remedies.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to deny the request for zoning change.

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

TOWN ZONING AMENDMENT (PROPOSED) 1 & 2 – JOHN CLARKE

Supervisor Crane reminded everyone that the Board agreed to meet again regarding the proposed amendment to the Town's zoning as they related to some of the comments and requests from local landowners. John Clarke from DC Planning sent a statement dated April 8 and shared the information with the Board.

John Clarke reviewed some of the items brought to his attention at meetings with large farm owners and others. He came up with four potential considerations which he summarized. One issue concerns permitting a simple 40 acre farm scale subdivision without requiring a conservation easement. Another consideration is whether you can subdivide a farm that had a conservation easement for farm purposes only. Scenic Hudson said they allow that. Councilman Colgan thought they meant a lot line adjustment so that it would be contiguous. John Clarke thinks that will take a little more legal research.

Attorney Chale wants to keep it clear that the focus has to be what the zoning is supposed to say. Councilman Colgan said the intent here is to make sure our zoning law allowed that action since Scenic Hudson allows it.

John Clarke moved to limited development options for a conservation subdivision. He explained what the farmers wanted. John mentioned that this seems to be in conflict with State law for a conservation subdivision. The last issue is that the farmers want the right to subdivide one lot of any size without having to concede to the farmland protection plan. The complaints were that the farmland protection process is too complicated, very time consuming and it locked in future development options. It requires the farmer to do a full development plan even if they don't have any desire to develop the property. He reviewed provisions in the proposed plan and made suggestions. The Board discussed these issues and ideas.

Supervisor Crane said there are a number of problems that are a result of the many discussions. Some of them are about particular situations for example one owner who wants to opt out of the Ag. Business District (ABD). That is something we should consider now, just as we are considering adding people to the ABD because they fit the requirement. These should be fairly simple fixes. The Sky Park Airport property owners indicate that they do not want to be in the ABD, their entire easterly property line is contiguous with RD 3 zoning. They simply want the lot line adjustment to put them back in the RD 3 district. All of those landowners expressed their dissatisfaction with this and they are simple fixes. It is a consideration we should take into account. If we make changes of subdivisions do we need another build out? She wants to address the concerns in some logical way that the landowners can get most of what they need in order to continue doing what they want to do with their property. We have a Traditional Neighborhood District now that does not have a sewer potential and that throws an entire new light on that element of this plan. We've expended a lot of money and energy and she needs some encouragement that there is an end in sight. At some point we have to make a practical decision.

Michele Greig answered that TND does not depend on the sewer. Obviously the sewer would enhance it. She explained how it would work without the sewer. She addressed the issues of concern in the ABD. The parcels could easily be reviewed.

Norman Greig spoke about the farmers options. Farmers are at an impasse about what is happening in Red Hook and what is in the best interest of agriculture. A number of farmers are examining legal options and the whole reason we are having these conversations is to come to some compromise. He explained the farmers concerns. Changing lot lines is a heavy hit economically. What is the best option for the Town of Red Hook and the farmers? We are looking for an appropriate compromise to make it possible to go forward. He is not speaking for himself he is speaking for the farmers who need to create value in their land. When we talk about a conservation easement we are technically separating good farmland from the next generation of farmers because it is too big and too expensive. Three 40 acre sections would make it possible for the next generation to farm it. Scenic Hudson said they have no problem with that but they are prevented by local Town law from doing any kind of subdivision. We are talking about what makes farming possible not what makes housing possible. Stop the build out and keep the farmland with the farmers.

Robert McKeon thinks you would be taking a huge step backwards if you allow the largest parcels to separate into 40 acres. They don't have the ability now under the current zoning to pay for a 100 acre parcel and subdivide 40 acres from that. It makes no sense. You talk about wanting to preserve 80% of the farmland. If you cut off 40 acres from a 100 acre parcel, you are down to 60% of the farmland on the largest piece which could be further subdivided. If you look at our most productive farms, they utilize the largest parcels. There is only 10 or 12 large 100 acre or so parcels that need to be protected. It won't exist the moment all ten of those

landowners lop off 40 acres. You will add to fragmentation of our agricultural lands by allowing that option. We are better off with the current zoning as it is now.

Supervisor Crane likes the simplifying of the Farmland Protection Plan. It is daunting to try to deal with this and anticipating it becoming law.

Michele Greig said you should have input from the Ag. Committee.

Supervisor Crane is also worried about the 40 acre subdivision of a large parcel even if it is one time.

Michele Greig has been making changes the Town discussed and the changes Ag. & Markets suggested as well. It looks like one more meeting with landowners and she can easily make these changes and have them prior to the next meeting for the Board to be able to review them. There will be changes to the local law and to the map.

Supervisor Crane thinks they should hold off on the public hearing until the changes are ready. She is willing to meet with people any time about their concerns. A letter from the Baright's is something we need to thrash through and the Kirchhoff Corporation contacted her asking if we need anything else from them. She told them she'd get back to him with the changes.

Councilwoman Strawinski presented an article from the Daily Freeman dated February 4, 2007 about protected open spaces.

RESOLUTION OF STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING FOR THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO JOIN NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Supervisor Crane referred to the resolution that is a requirement of the New York State Retirement System that requires the Board to pass a resolution affirming that we have a full time employee who works on a full time basis. Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke provided her hours to Business Manger Deb Marks over the last three months and Supervisor Crane wanted to move the resolution to be included as a full time position in the New York State Retirement System.

RESOLUTION 2011 #45

RE: ESTABLISHING STANDARD WORK DAYS FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND WILL REPORT THE FOLLOWING DAYS WORKED (BY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT THERESA BURKE) TO THE NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

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

TRANSFER FUNDS OF WATER WORKS O & M TO SPECIAL RESERVE FUNDS

Supervisor Crane explained the resolution. It is a simple transfer of funds in the sum of \$80,000 to be appropriated from the unexpended funds within the fund balance of the Red Hook Water District No. 1 and transferred to the RESERVE FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

RESOLUTION 2011 #46

RE: TRANSFER OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED FROM THE SURPLUS FUND BALANCE OF THE WATER WORKS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE TO SPECIAL RESERVE FUNDS

On a motion of Councilman Harry Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski moved to accept the resolution.

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

REORGANIZATION

Councilwoman Strawinski told the Board that she spoke to Senior Services Committee Chair Andrew Kehr about not being able to attend their meetings. She asked that another Board member be considered as liaison to that committee.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Supervisor Crane moved to appoint Supervisor Crane as liaison to the Senior Services Committee.

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

Supervisor Crane explained there is now a Town Accountant so Town Auditor will be deleted. The Tivoli Fire Company representative for Disaster Preparedness will be Tom Crisci. The EDC appointment will be held until after their next meeting. The Greenway & Trails Committee has a vacancy due to the resignation of Susan Gilnak. There are no other changes at this time. Supervisor Crane told the Board that she was contacted by Hudson Valley Clean Energy and they will begin the installation of the roof panels on May 2.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Supervisor Crane moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk