

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 25, 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
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
Attorney Victoria Polidoro (8:30 pm)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane asked Tree Preservation Commission Chair, Nancy Guski, to start with her announcement.

Nancy Guski reported on the Arbor Day celebration that took place on April 30th. She thanked all of those people who volunteered or participated in the festivities. She also thanked the local businesses and individuals who donated materials for the day. The commission's first commemorative tree was planted at the Rec. Park in memory of Bill Lewis. The New York State Urban and Community Forestry Conference will be held at SUNY New Paltz from July 14 through 16. The Town of Red Hook has been designated a Tree City for the fifth year and Nancy presented the award to the Town Board.

Supervisor Crane thanked her as well as the committee for all of the work they put in and also for the award that was presented. She then made the following announcements:

- There will be a Memorial Day parade and a service at Memorial Park immediately after.

Councilman Colgan announced that the Red Hook Girls Varsity Lacrosse team just won the regional championships.

Councilwoman Strawinski announced the following:

- Pop Warner Football and Cheerleaders are having their 2011 registration. For more information call Rich Schiavo at 758-1016.

- Winnikee Land Trust is having a trail opening ceremony at Thompson/Mazzarella Park in Rhinebeck on May 28th at 10:30. It is an inauguration of their public trail system.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

Linda Keeling asked Town Clerk Sue McCann to comment on burning.

Town Clerk Sue McCann responded that as of May 15 residents are allowed to burn again.

Brush only; no garbage, paper or leaves and we can no longer use burn barrels. Burn permits are no longer required.

Supervisor Crane said that the Recycling Center had a surprise visit and inspection by the D.E.C.

The Recycling Center passed with flying colors. We have been meeting with regard to the Highway Garage construction. Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke, Deputy Highway Superintendent Rick Schloemer and Recycling Center Manager TJ Hackett discussed how to reorganize the center so that drop off can be accomplished easily. That led to the Highway Department asking the Central Hudson people to help with the trees in the back so that the roll-offs can be moved to where it is more efficient. There will also be more parking.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONTINUATION REGARDING THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND PLAN

Supervisor Crane explained that this is a continuation of the public hearing from the previous meeting. The plan was discussed and they are calling for any additional comments regarding the Community Preservation Plan. She referred to a correction on the map and asked CPF Chair Susan Ezrati if she wanted to comment on that.

CPF Chair Susan Ezrati explained the issue with the map. She pointed out that the map gives a picture of how the parcels are ranked, the easements protected, and public lands.

Supervisor Crane asked if there are still corrections to be made.

Michele Greig said there is one small error that needs to be changed.

Supervisor Crane asked the Town Board members if they had any questions or comments. Councilman Ross is very comfortable with the plan as proposed. Councilwoman Strawinski thinks that things were thoroughly explained. Councilman Colgan thinks they did a great job and he is very happy with it as it stands. Councilman O'Neill feels the same way. Supervisor Crane asked Attorney Chale if there are concerns before the Board considers the resolutions before them. Attorney Chale addressed some procedural items and explained the resolutions. She read general guidance for best practices. She also explained that the local law has a statutory requirement that it needs to be in effect for three years before it can be amended. Supervisor Crane asked the Board if they are comfortable with this. Michele Greig, Greenplan, explained that the Planning Board is required to review the policies from within the recommendations. She reviewed the document. Supervisor Crane read the local waterfront revitalization program determination from the Planning Board. It is determined that the proposed action is consistent with the policies of the LWRP.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to approve the local waterfront revitalization program consistency determination.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to close the Community Preservation Fund Plan public hearing.

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

Attorney Chale reviewed the resolution approving Local Law B (proposed) of 2011 entitled "A Local Law Adopting a Community Preservation Fund plan. Councilman Colgan read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2011 #54

RE: APPROVING LOCAL LAW B (PROPOSED) OF 2011 ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW ADOPTING A COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN

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

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

Copy Attached

Attorney Chale referred to another resolution authorizing the implementation of the Community Preservation Plan. She reviewed the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2011 #55

RE: AUTHORIZING COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

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

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

Copy Attached

PRESENTATION BY PACE CLIMATE CENTER – ANNE MARIE HIRSCHBERGER/JAMES VAN NOSTRAND

Supervisor Crane introduced James VanNostrand who was there to speak on behalf of the Pace Energy and Climate Center.

James VanNostrand, Executive Director of the Pace Energy and Climate Center, introduced Brianna Bailey who just finished her second year at Pace Law School and is interning in the Climate Center lab. Anne Marie Hirschberger is the Project Manager who prepared the report

summarizing existing and ongoing activities with the Town. He reviewed the report. The projects included in the report include the Highway Garage and the NYSEDA New Construction Program, school district lighting, and Consort Smart Grid Pilot which selected Red Hook as among the first towns in the state to participate in a smart grid pilot. Other items included are the New York Power authority programs, NYSEDA - A Better Buildings sub-grants to Small Municipalities American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), NYSEDA Climate Smart Communities, and information about presentations and meetings Anne Marie had. Energy Star Building Standards, Climate Action Planning/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and proposed future presentations and outreach were also reviewed. Supervisor Crane thanked him and looks forward to hearing more about the projects.

ZONING AMENDMENT REVISIONS: BOARD DISCUSSION

Supervisor Crane said that the Board is in receipt of revisions from Planner Michele Greig as a result of the last meeting. She asked that the Board discuss what was before them then they will take comments afterwards.

Michele Greig distributed copies of the summary of revisions as well as a list of parcels. Supervisor Crane began the review of each item with Michele Greig and the Board. They included the definitions of agriculture, and medical care outpatient clinic, buildable acreage, agriculture, AB District, and the zoning map.

Al Trezza discussed the 40 acre option of the proposed zoning and explained his position on it. Supervisor Crane explained that the Board is striving for simplicity, clear language.

Supervisor Crane asked Jim Stagias if he made a decision about being included in the Ag. Business District.

Jim Stagias wants to see the final draft before making up his mind.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to hold a special Town Board meeting on May 31, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to schedule a public hearing on June 22, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

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

John Clarke thinks that there are compromises that have been made that will satisfy the public. Supervisor Crane asked for his comment on the TND (Traditional Neighborhood District) as he sees it.

John Clarke said the number in the proposed zoning makes sense. The likelihood of 300 homes happening is certainly not immediate. He is comfortable with it. He is for walkable neighborhoods and mixed uses rather than the existing zoning.

Michele Greig said when it is finalized the revised document has to be sent to the Planning Board and Dutchess County Planning for review.

Attorney Chale will go through that procedure with the Board.

Norman Greig wanted to point out what he feels is a double standard. He gave examples. The farmers are not developers in this Town. The developers are the ones building 300 units.

Paul Fredricks discussed hotels and restaurants. He asked the Board to keep an open mind so land can be developed properly.

Al Trezza said the intent and idea is to preserve open space. Look at what the farmers proposed and keep it in mind.

BOND RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT/DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW

Supervisor Crane referred to a resolution authorizing the issuance of serial bonds not to exceed \$210,000 to finance the acquisition of a dump truck. We've heard about this need and the possibility of bonding for this after the first of the year. She asked Attorney Chale to comment. Attorney Chale explained the proposed tax cap and an override that is allowed.

Supervisor Crane explained the bonding time frame.

Attorney Chale explained the resolution and the plan for financing.

RESOLUTION 2011 #56

RE: AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SERIAL BONDS OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$210,000 PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL FINANCE LAW TO FINANCE ACQUISITION OF A DUMP TRUCK AND DELEGATING CERTAIN POWERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH TO THE TOWN SUPERVISOR.

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

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

Copy Attached

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Water Department Annual Report – Water Department Chair Hank VanParys presented his annual report of Town Water District No.1, 2010 operations. Last year there were pump facility renovations and a storage tank inspection. He explained the costs related to those issues. Bard College replaced their water system in 2010 and we provided all of their water during that time. There were no problems. Water quality tests are conducted daily, weekly, monthly or yearly. All tests came out ok. We passed our Department of Health annual inspection. For 2011 it is business as usual for the most part. The Water Department is in the process of issuing a P.O. to Underwater Solutions, the people who inspected the tank, to have them clean it. A special test for synthetic organic chemicals is due this year but a waiver is possible. Their primary focus for this year is the storage tank. Should they repaint in a few years or should they plan on replacement instead. He informed the Board that the costs of repainting or reconstruction appear to be about equal. Engineering costs are extra and the possibility of increasing water rates is also a consideration. Our rates are much lower than those of surrounding areas. He reviewed operating expenses, the reserve status and gave a comparative operations summary for the period 2006 to 2010.

Councilman Ross asked what we do if we paint the tank.

Hank VanParys told him how they would do that using a pressure release valve.

Supervisor Crane asked if there is any consideration for expansion of the district.

Hank VanParys explained that currently they can handle up to 720 homes.

Assessor's Report – There was no report. They had a successful grievance day yesterday.

Building Inspector's Report – Supervisor Crane gave the report prepared by Code Enforcement Officer Steve Cole for the period February 25, 2011 to May 25, 2011. He recently attended the annual Code Enforcement Officer Educational Conference. A letter about the importance of a Code Enforcement Officer in the community was attached to the report. It was written by Wayne Chichon, Chair of the Hudson Valley CEO Board of Directors. In regard to activity in the Building Inspector's Office, total fees collected was \$4,917.60; 9 complaints, 81 inspections, 42 certificates issued and 52 permits issued.

Police Report – Supervisor Crane received the report and things seem fairly quiet. There were reports from the Red Hook Police and the Dutchess County Sheriff.

Purchasing – Councilman Colgan gave the report prepared by Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy for the period of March 29 to May 25, 2011. 61 purchase orders were issued in the amount of \$83,151.96. We issued a PO (state contract) for a pickup truck in the amount of \$19,375.71. Bids were received for a dump body to replace one on a 1996 International truck. The award went to Hudson River Truck & Trailer in the amount of \$10,538. Contracts were awarded to four vendors for the St. Margaret's roof replacement project which started last week. The photovoltaic roof project also started last week. A request for quotes for Town Hall grounds maintenance was published. The Highway Department will do basic maintenance this year as a cost saving measure. We will be working with the Highway Department on specs and bids for a work body for the new pickup truck.

Recycling – Councilwoman Strawinski met with the staff on Saturday morning about the reuse building. Items are for reuse not for resale.

REORGANIZATION

Deputy Supervisor - Supervisor Crane asked Councilman Ross to act as Deputy Supervisor in her absence.

Conservation Advisory Council – Supervisor Crane reviewed letters from Karen Schneller-McDonald and Sarah Imboden who wish to be considered for membership on the Conservation Advisory Council.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Karen Schneller-McDonald and Sarah Imboden to the CAC to fill vacancies for terms to expire December 31, 2011.

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

Disaster Preparedness Committee – Supervisor Crane told the Board that the committee asked about adding three members. Their suggestion was to add a Bard College Security Officer and two EMS, one from Red Hook and one from Tivoli fire departments. After some discussion it was decided to think about the request and come back to it.

Economic Development Committee – Supervisor Crane thinks the committee has been nonfunctional. There are no minutes so it appears nothing is happening.

Councilwoman Strawinski said she attends those meetings.

Supervisor Crane again said there have been no minutes of those meetings and there are five vacancies as far as she can tell.

Councilwoman Strawinski will attend tomorrow mornings meeting. She said letters of interest have been received for those vacancies. She discussed the suggestion of disbanding the committee. The three regular members disagree and have undertaken a recruiting campaign. They ask to change the committee's membership from nine to seven. She referred to letters of interest. The committee is putting together a diverse group.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to decrease the size of the membership of the EDC from nine to seven.

Councilman Ross asked why they want to reduce the membership.

Councilwoman Strawinski told him that they feel seven is more workable. She suggested discussing it with them tomorrow.

Supervisor Crane would like to fill it and keep the nine people membership.

Councilman Ross asked who the existing members are now.

Councilwoman Strawinski responded Chris Klose, Ben Shute and Beth Jones. Susan Kochanowski has not been attending. They meet twice a month.

Supervisor Crane asked how they can meet and we have no minutes.

Councilwoman Strawinski will remind the committee that they need to submit them. It must be an oversight. She withdrew her motion.

Supervisor Crane asked if Ben Shute is acting Chair.

Councilwoman Strawinski said that Chris Klose is the acting Chair.

Supervisor Crane told her the Board did not approve that. It is a Board decision. We have to have this committee understand that it is at the Board's discretion. The minutes establish whether or not the meeting is a valid meeting. We don't know who is at the meetings and there are five people who left that committee. It seems there is no structure or function of the committee. She will not support Chris Klose as Chair and she suggested moving on to reappointments and appointments.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilman Ross moved to reappoint Beth Jones to the EDC for a term to expire December 31, 2012

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

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to appoint Todd Baright to the EDC for a term to expire December 31, 2012

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilwoman Colgan moved to appoint Laura Pensiero to the EDC for a term to expire December 31, 2012

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Dan Budd to the EDC for a term to expire December 31, 2012

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

Councilwoman Strawinski will talk to the EDC members about the minutes and the issue of the Chair position.

Greenway & Trails Committee – Susan Gilnack resigned leaving one vacancy.

Intermunicipal Task Force – There are five vacancies on the task force. Councilman O'Neill said it is a work in progress.

Planning Board – there is one vacancy.

Senior Services Committee - Councilwoman Strawinski no longer will serve as liaison so Supervisor Crane will replace her.

Zoning Board of Appeals – Supervisor Crane discussed reappointment of the Chair. Councilwoman Strawinski looked into membership of the ZBA in other municipalities because we were considering the possibility of scaling down our membership from seven to five members. She gave the membership numbers in different localities in the area. County wide it appears that more have five members.

Councilman Colgan said our law is confusing because it refers to seven members in some areas and five members in other areas. It needs to be corrected.

Supervisor Crane spoke to Ken Anderson who wishes to remain until his term ends.

Councilman Ross is a firm believer in seven members. As liaison he attends most of the meetings. The ZBA has the authority to modify or change zoning. It should be seven community members, not five because you get more community input.

Sister City Working Group - Supervisor Crane acknowledged two other letters regarding the Sister City Working Group.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to have Jill Botstein-Baz and Jeff Levine serve on the Sister City Working Group

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

Zoning Board – the Board continued discussion of whether or not to change the membership to a five member Board. Councilwoman Strawinski wanted to decide today.

Attorney Chale explained issues regarding the law.

Supervisor Crane wants to see what has to be done to change the law.

Councilman Ross said we've always had a seven member ZBA. The mistake came after the State changed to five and our zoning was updated.

BOARD REPORTS

Planning Board – Paula Schoonmaker presented the report dated May 25, 2011. They had two meetings in April and two in May. She explained the activity from those meetings. In addition the Planning Board reviewed the Centers and Greenspaces proposed zoning amendments for consistency with the Red Hook Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

Zoning Board of Appeals – ZBA Liaison, Councilman Ross, reported that they had two public hearings at their last meeting. One on Stewarts and the other on an accessory apartment on an existing home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ag. & Open Space Committee - Chair Norman Greig said the committee has been meeting regularly. Linda Keeling is the new secretary. They spend time reviewing whatever comes from

the Planning Board and the purchase of development rights. He explained the Vermont style of PDR's. An ongoing concern with the committee is the fence issue.

CAC – Councilwoman Strawinski presented the report prepared by Chair Brenda Cagle. Topics included the 10% Challenge, recycling, the Highway Garage in regard to water quality and energy use, The Ruth Oja Scholarship winner is Jennifer Piacente, and they will have a site visit to a proposed development on Feller Newmark Road.

Intermunicipal Task Force – Councilman O'Neill reported that they continue to meet on Friday mornings to discuss the revisions to the Centers and Greenspace Plan.

Recreation Commission - Chair Doug Strawinski reported that the season had a slow start because of the weather. The softball tournament was a complete success, the Summer Program brochure is now on the Town's website. Signups will be June 4th and 11th at Town Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. He gave an update on the new recreation land.

St. Margaret's Committee – Doug Strawinski reported that contracts went out and the initial abatement project started.

Senior Services Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski read the report prepared by Chair Andrew Kehr. The committee is sponsoring a food drive for DC Community Action in conjunction with the Red Hook Seniors. Judy Walsh resigned from the committee. He asked that anyone interested in serving on the committee contact him. Supervisor Crane said that letters of interest should be submitted to the Town Clerk's office.

Trails Committee – Councilwoman Strawinski reported that the Tour de Red Hook was cancelled due to inclement weather. The committee has been discussing the implementation of a trail at the new recreation park.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Crane received a letter from NYMIR about money they have to distribute.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments. There were none.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to go into Attorney/Client session at 10:55 p.m.

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski seconded by Councilman Ross moved to close the Attorney/Client session.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:34 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk