

## RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

April 10, 2012

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 Harry Colgan  
Councilman William O'Neill  
Councilwoman Brenda Cagle  
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 February 29, 2012 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$2,504,846.10; Receipts - \$1,281,586.58; Disbursed - \$867,752.31; Balance - \$2,918,680.37. There was the following budget adjustment: General A Fund – total increase in appropriations - \$1,093.00. Offset to the fund balance is to reduce the appropriated fund balance - \$65.00.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilman O'Neill moved to accept the Supervisor's report with budget adjustments.

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

### TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report for the period March 1 – March 31, 2012 was read as follows: Total local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$2,107.98; Amount paid to NYS Ag. & Markets - \$71.00; Amount paid to NYS Dept. of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$45.00; Amount paid to NYS Environmental Conservation - \$744.52; Total State, County & Local revenue - \$2,968.50. We are in the process of collecting water rents and are collecting taxes until May 31, 2012. Town Clerk Sue McCann announced that she was awarded two scholarships, one for \$400 from the D. C. Town Clerk's Association and one for \$500 from the NYS Town Clerk's Association, to cover the cost of a conference she will attend.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- Bicentennial Event: May 19 - Heritage House and Barn Tour
- June 2: The Land, the River, the People Concert
- July 1: Aerodrome Open House
- July 14: Community Heritage Day
- August 4: Country Barn Dance and Concert
- August 11: West Point Band Sunset Concert on the Hudson
- Sept. 14 & 15: Our Town performance at St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- October 9: Bicentennial Quilt dedication
- October 13: End of the Bicentennial Celebration
- April 12 at 7 p.m.: Mayor Bryan Cranna address - Tivoli
- Library activities increased 20%; 72 programs in March with a total attendance of 700.
- April 21: Winnakee Land Trust hosts a DC Regional Trails Conference at Marist College
- April 27: Career Fair at the High School from 2 – 6 p.m. Co-sponsored by Bard College
- April 28, Arbor Day activities at Town Hall 10-2:00 pm.
- Girl Scout Gold Award to be presented on April 28 at 1p.m. Alison Diaz and Tamara Wambach will receive the honor.
- Eagle Scout award to Joshua Rector on April 29 at 4 p.m. at St. John's Reformed Church
- Green Tip of the Month: park and walk instead of using drive-throughs
- CDBG program for the 3 year requalification will be held at Town Hall on April 27 at 9 a.m.
- Dutchess Land Conservancy invited Supervisor Crane to talk about the strides Red Hook made over the last 10 years.

Councilwoman Cagle announced the following:

- April 28: National Drug Take Back Day- Call Red Hook Village Police at 758-4720 for details.
- May 5: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Clean-Up Day from 2 – 5 p.m.; Registration 1:30 at Town Hall. Refreshments will be available after the clean up.
- April 29: Tour-de-Red Hook- Information on Town website [www.redhook.org](http://www.redhook.org)

### **DEC CAMP: VFW POST 7765 SCHOLARSHIPS**

Supervisor Crane asked Councilwoman Cagle to introduce those who received the scholarship. Councilwoman Cagle gave a brief history of the scholarship which was awarded to Kyle McCluskey and Hudson Miller.

VFW Post 7765 Commander William Moore presented the award for one week at camp to the students. He explained that each year students come back from the DEC camp with a great deal of information and the VFW is happy to donate the money for the award. He thanked Laurie Husted and Councilwoman Brenda Cagle for their work in support of the program.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

*Frank Stoppenbach* presented a letter to the Town Board asking the Town to stand against hydrofracking and read the letter aloud.

### **BUILDING DEPT. PRESENTATION - STEVE COLE, BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Supervisor Crane explained that different department heads will be invited to talk about what specifically goes on in their department. Steve Cole, Building Inspector, was invited to speak tonight about required permitting.

Steve explained permitting is required for roof replacement, and stand-by generators. There is no building permit required for window replacement. Driveways do not need permits unless they access a Town, County or State road. He explained the simple permit application process and the information needed for permits such as contractor's insurance. Regarding sheds, there is a setback requirement which he explained as well as requirements for fences. Once a permit is issued there is an inspection process including a site visit. An electrical inspection is done by a third party. Permits are also required for wood stoves. Outdoor wood boilers are outlawed in Red Hook. Steve also explained permit fees.

Supervisor Crane asked Steve what the biggest complaint is that he receives.

Steve told her that most complaints are about our zoning and properties that are not kept up.

Supervisor Crane asked what the process is if someone calls about a property that someone might feel is unsafe.

Steve explained that they would go to the site, take pictures, and send a letter quoting the violation of the law. A second letter would be sent if the property wasn't cleared which could end up in court action.

### **SCISM ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane asked Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke to discuss the project.

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke explained that she tried to find an alternative to save some money since their last discussion about the Scism Road Bridge. An option was a pre-cast aluminum culvert system so she visited a few to see if they would be suitable for what we want to do. She prepared an estimate and explained that it would save \$16,000. An issue with the pre-cast aluminum over concrete is the lifespan. Studies from the DOT show that the lifespan would be 40 to 60 years shorter than a concrete culvert. She recommends not using the aluminum culvert and going with the concrete. It is important to make a decision so that it can be worked on before the weather affects the project.

Attorney Chale gave a breakdown of the costs given by the Engineer.

Councilman Colgan asked the cost of the engineering up front.

Theresa believes that the Engineer presented a package that included the engineering, the bidding process and related costs.

Councilman Colgan is trying to figure out the cost for a contractor to go out for an estimate.

He'd like to see a bid from a contractor which we can't get until we have a design. He cannot determine if it is in the package he is looking at. It's hard to authorize if we don't have a bid.

Theresa pointed out the information. In speaking with the Engineer, he is pretty close with his estimates with projects in other Towns. A concern she has is that a storm could take the whole bridge out which would create an emergency situation.

Supervisor Crane asked if this requires a short EAF.

Attorney Chale explained the steps that would be involved. A bond resolution can be considered after opening bids.

The Board discussed the cost estimate.

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke suggested that money can be saved by the Highway Department doing site work.

Attorney Chale explained the EAF and the process.

After discussion the Board decided to move forward with the EAF.

Supervisor Crane read the resolution adopting the negative declaration with respect to the Scism Road Bridge project.

### **RESOLUTION 2012 #23**

**RE: ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION REGARDING SCISM ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman William O'Neill moved to approve the resolution as read.

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

Copy attached

Attorney Chale reviewed the resolution authorizing the issuance of serial bonds.

### **RESOLUTION 2012 #24**

**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 \$350,000 PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL FINANCE LAW TO FINANCE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SCISM ROAD BRIDGE IN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK, NEW YORK, PROVIDING THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, AND DELEGATING CERTAIN POWERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH TO THE TOWN SUPERVISOR**

On a motion of Councilman Harry Colgan seconded by Councilman William O'Neill moved to approve the resolution as read.

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

Copy attached

### **RESOLUTION – DC YOUTH BUREAU RED HOOK YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DELIQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAM**

Supervisor Crane explained and read the resolution for \$1495.00 for the project Youth Development Delinquency Prevention which is spent on our Summer Recreation Program.

### **RESOLUTION 2012 #25**

**RE: AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FROM NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DELIQUENCY PREVENTION PROJECTS ON FILE WITH OCFS AND DUTCHESS COUNTY DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES AND EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

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

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

Copy attached

### **CPF/FARMLAND PROTECTION JOINT COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane asked Attorney Chale to lead this conversation.

Attorney Chale discussed the possibility of combining the Community Preservation Fund Committee and Farmland Protection Committee. They do somewhat similar things. She had a resolution that outlined the requirements for the CPF. If the committees are merged we will have to follow the rules for the CPF Committee. She suggested having the CPF Committee take responsibility for both review and membership.

Supervisor Crane will be meeting with the Chairs of both committees to talk with them about it. The issue of membership requirements for the Farmland Protection Committee is concerning to her. She suggested getting a sense from the two Chairs to see what the composition would look like, the number of the membership of a new committee, and she asked Councilman O'Neill to see if he can get an Ag. & Open Space Committee member for participation from farmers. Attorney Chale explained that the CPF Committee has some statutory by-laws. There has to be 5 or 7 members if a new committee is established and she explained the membership requirements. Supervisor Crane will bring this up at the next meeting after speaking with the Chairs.

### **CON ED. PARCEL – DAVID'S ISLAND PARCEL DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane described the location of the parcel known as David's Island. It is a wetland with two streams running through it.

Attorney Chale told the Board that Town Clerk McCann did some review of prior resolutions and apparently in 2005 the Board agreed to accept this donation. It was determined that this is part of Tivoli's watershed and should be protected. The donation process was going to be brought forward by Con Edison. When she asked the representative what the holdup was, she was told they just didn't get around to it.

Supervisor Crane thinks the Board should rethink this. The parcel is 5.27 acres and property taxes on the parcel are about \$1500. The value of the property is \$61,000. The question is who and why would anyone buy it? She doesn't think this parcel is of any value for us to own. It is not saleable or developable so she doesn't see any reason to take it off the tax rolls if that's true. Councilman Colgan said the primary concern is that it is wetlands and is protected. All of our regulations would preclude any development there.

Councilwoman Cagle added that after she saw the map she realized that it was part of the study area for the biodiversity assessment class. That section was chosen because it has some of the most diverse habitat in the Town and in fact they walked some of those areas. Charlie Laing produced maps as a result of the project and they show the many different habitats on that particular parcel. Before the Board makes a decision she asked that they look at that a little more closely. It is part of the designated gateway of the open space plan.

Supervisor Crane asked Councilwoman Cagle to look into that before bringing it back to the Board.

### **TERM EASEMENT PROGRAM**

Councilwoman Cagle updated the Board. She spoke to Mary Ann Johnson who told her that the committee is researching the programs of two communities who did enable legislation on the term easement law. They are also researching monitoring actions and hope to have a recommendation to the Board in three or four more meetings. Councilwoman Cagle just got a list from the Assessor's Office of parcels that are greater than ten acres, which are under easements and are currently participating in the Agriculture Assessment program. She hopes this will help the committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

*Linda Keeling* asked about the hydrofracking letter she wrote. She asked if it would be considered

Supervisor Crane will bring that back on the agenda for the next meeting after the Board has some time to research it.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to go to Attorney/Client session at 9:00 p.m.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilwoman Cagle moved to close the Attorney/Client session.

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Cagle seconded by Councilman O'Neill moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk