

## RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 8, 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 James Ross  
Councilman Harry Colgan  
Councilman William O'Neill  
Councilwoman Brenda Cagle  
Town Clerk Sue McCann

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 monthly statement of the Supervisor dated March 31, 2012 was read as follows: Opening Balance - \$2,918,680.37; Receipts - \$3,358,174.89; Disbursed - \$1,823,747.73; Balance - \$4,453,107.53. There were the following budget adjustments: General B Fund – increase in revenue \$8800.00 for a total increase in appropriations of \$8800.00; Highway DB Fund – increase in revenue of \$237.00, total increase in appropriations of \$3105.00, offset to the fund balance is to appropriate the fund balance \$2,868.00.

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

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

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### TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report for the period April 1 – April 30, 2012 was read as follows: Total local shares remitted to Supervisor - \$2,283.95; Amount remitted to NYS Ag. & Markets - \$68.00; Amount remitted to NYS Dept. of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$67.50; Amount remitted to NYS Environmental Conservation - \$816.30; Total State, County & Local Revenue - \$3,235.75. Town Clerk McCann also gave a Tax Receiver's report; \$6,795,228.55 has been collected to date. Taxes will be collected until the end of May.

She announced the Memorial Day parade on May 28. Line up at the High School at 9:15 a.m., the parade begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at Memorial Park where there will be a short ceremony.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- New York State Town Clerk's Association awarded Town Clerk Sue McCann the Association's Certification of Registered Municipal Clerk. This is a prestigious award and the association is very pleased to have her as a member.

Supervisor Crane said the Town is pleased that she applied for and received two scholarships to attend the training. She congratulated Town Clerk Sue McCann and thanked for serving so beautifully over the years

- A letter of congratulations from Cornell University announcing that Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke has completed the requirements for a Level I Road Master Recognition Program. She completed at least two core workshops and four optional workshops and has been presented a certificate of her accomplishment. She congratulated Highway Superintendent Burke.

- Apple Blossom Festival is on May 12. The CAC will hold an electronic waste collection from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Holy Cow parking lot. There is a \$20 fee for air conditioners.

- May 18, 10:00 a.m., at North Wind Farm there will be a demonstration by Hudson Solar who partnered with North Wind Farm to encourage farmers to take advantage of clean, cost effective benefits of solar technology.

- Congratulated Tree Commission Chair Nancy Guski for celebrating the Arbor Day event at Red Hook Town Hall. She also thanked Marcy Appell, Karen Carteret, Rosemarie Zengen and Eleanor Friery for their part in the event. Norman Greig was thanked for the hay ride he provided for the children and she also thanked Councilwoman Brenda Cagle, liaison to the

committee, Linda Keeling, Secretary and Jean Duntz for assembling all the food provided for those who attended the event. A tree was planted in honor of former Dog Warden Cecil Moore. Sue McCann was also thanked for helping Jean.

Councilman Colgan announced that the Interact Club will hold a road race on Apple Blossom Day beginning 7:45 a.m. at the Village parking lot.

Councilwoman Cagle thanked the organizers of the Tour de Red Hook, Greenway & Trail Committee members Howie Callies, Vicki Perry, Micki and Doug Strawinski, Bruce Cutler and John Kuhn. They had over fifty bicyclists. She thanked Micki Strawinski and Robert McKeon for organizing the Clean-Up Day.

Supervisor Crane reminded everyone that Apple Blossom Festival will be the kick-off for the Bicentennial event.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

*Linda Keeling* asked if the Board was going to discuss hydrofracking at the meeting.

*Matthew Nucci* was at the Planning Board meeting and asked if Mr. Greig is granted the airstrip will others be able to use it. He is concerned because of the flight path.

### **RED HOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Supervisor Crane introduced School Superintendent Paul Finch School and School District Budget Manager Bruce Martin who were in attendance to discuss the school budget.

Superintendent Paul Finch began by explaining the process the school district used to stay under the tax cap. That included staff reduction and an unexpected increase in State aid.

School District Budget Manager Bruce Martin explained that the budget will be easily achieved this year and the budget proposed will be under the tax cap. He then spoke about the structural deficit and the components of the Taylor Law and Triborough Amendment on the books. The tax cap is another component added. The budget needs just a simple majority to pass this year.

The vote is from noon to 9 p.m. at the 3-5 side of Mill Road School on May 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be a bus and vehicle proposition on the ballot as well as the election of one Board seat.

Superintendent Paul Finch brought up how a contingency budget would work if the budget isn't passed.

Supervisor Crane asked about debt service that is exempted from the 2% cap which was not exempt for municipalities.

Bruce Martin answered that their debt service is probably in the upper 18 or 19 million dollars.

The annual debt service payments are just over three million. He explained the capital exemption in the tax cap calculations.

Supervisor Crane appreciates the consortium they belong to for health insurance. She asked if there were any questions from the audience.

Linda Keeling asked if they are using the old voting machines and will the handicapped machine be operational. If anyone needs help filling in the little circles they should ask.

Superintendent Finch told her that the school will use the old machines and someone would be happy to help should anyone need it.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Supervisor Crane mentioned that this Sunday there are two Gold Scout Award dinners. She will present certificates to Rebecca Fildes and Siobhan Rubsam.

Councilwoman Cagle announced the Senior Services Committee food drive on June 12. Non-perishable food items can be dropped at the Firehouse from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

### **GREIG FAMILY FARM AIRSTRIP**

Supervisor Crane received a number of communications in this regard. There is a memo from the Planning Board that they are the most appropriate agency to conduct the SEQR. They asked for the Town Board's consent to allow them to act as lead agency.

### **RESOLUTION 2012 #28**

RE: CONSENTING TO LEAD AGENCY REQUEST – GREIG RUNWAY

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Cagle moved to allow the Planning Board to act as lead agency regarding the Greig Family Farm airstrip.

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

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane has a report dated May 4<sup>th</sup> from Brandy Nelson of Crawford & Associates Engineering regarding the length of the runway. A letter to the Engineer dated April 16 from the New York State DOT does not specifically address the length of runway required for this facility. The letter does acknowledge the determination of landing area proposal from the FAA on March 2. That letter was reviewed and does not appear to contain requirements for the runway area length and width. She read their recommendation and the determination from our Town Engineers, Crawford & Associates. Based on the property lines the airstrip would meet the minimum offset of 300 feet from roadway. It was noted that the drawing submitted to the Planning Board states that the map is not for specific site work and that all information should be site verified. She read the rest of the recommendation from Crawford & Associates. Attorney Chale said the Planning Board will be expected to complete the SEQRA review and the Town Board can address this after the review. We have to consider the type of application i.e.; how many takeoffs and landings. The Planning Board will make a recommendation to the Town Board.

Norman Greig said it seems that there is some confusion on who votes first.

Councilman Ross responded that the Planning Board is the lead agency now so that should clear it up.

### **DAVIDS ISLAND DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane asked Attorney Chale if we heard anything further about David's Island.

Attorney Chale did not.

Supervisor Crane will bring it back when we hear from them.

### **HYDROFRACKING – CARY INSTITUTE – SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

Supervisor Crane introduced a report from the CAC regarding hydrofracking.

Councilwoman Cagle said she and Ann Rubin from the CAC went to a forum at the Cary Institute which is an independent scientific research institute. She described the forum and the presenters. This is just the beginning of understanding the whole process and there is much to be learned. Water is the paramount issue of concern. There is a possibility that parts of Dutchess County lie above the Utica Shale which is a much deeper formation than the Marcellus Shale and we yet have a lot to learn.

Ann Rubin gave a power point presentation regarding hydrofracking. The idea was to find as much scientific information as possible. She explained the information she gathered from the forum and cited and summarized a New York State Environmental Conservation law mandate regarding drilling.

Karen Schneller-MacDonald has been working with municipalities that have recently passed bans on hydrofracking. She explained what Ulster County has been doing regarding banning the use of the waste water from the process for use as a de-icing substance. Karen distributed information from the NYS Water Resources Institute: Waste Management of Cuttings, Drilling Fluids, Hydrofrack Water and Produced Water.

Supervisor Crane thanked Ann and Karen for their presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Linda Keeling asked if earthquakes have been linked to hydrofracking.

Ann Rubin said it was talked about it at the forum and no earthquake has been linked to the drilling as yet. She briefly explained the process and waste produced from the drilling.

### **TERM EASEMENT – CPF/PDR**

Councilwoman Cagle told the Board that the committee will meet this Thursday at 7 p.m.

Supervisor Crane will bring it back to the agenda.

### **BOARD/COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Supervisor Crane pointed out the following committees with vacancies:

- Ethics Board – one vacancy
- Greenway & Trails Committee - one vacancy
- Intermunicipal Task Force – one vacancy
- Planning Board – one alternate vacancy – Betty Carr might be interested
- St. Margaret's Committee – two vacancies
- Zoning Review Committee – liaison from Tivoli
- ZBA – one alternate vacancy
- Design Review Committee – one vacancy

Town Clerk McCann will run a notice soliciting volunteers to fill the vacancies.

Councilman Ross thought they appointed the Chairman of the Assessment Review Board. Supervisor Crane will contact Carl Dowden. Attorney Chale advised the Town Board that the Board of Assessment Review chooses the Chair.

**RESOLUTION – INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT**

Supervisor Crane explained a resolution regarding an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Milan. We were prepared to buy a large chipper in 2013 and have since gotten together with the Town of Milan who also needs the large chipper. We are proposing to authorize an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Milan regarding the sharing of the chipper for the year 2013. She read the resolution. The Board voted after a short discussion.

**RESOLUTION 2012 #29**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF MILAN REGARDING CERTAIN MUNICIPAL SHARED SERVICES – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O’Neill, Cagle
	Nays	0	

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**TERM EASEMENT - PDR/CPF**

Attorney Chale gave a brief summary of the application process. The composition of the committee has already been determined so now we have a single committee. She asked for someone from the committee to provide a more useful application with better wording.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Crane said we will have a presentation from NY State Office of Real Property at the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. It will give us a chance to hear what their expectations are and what ours are and ask questions of them as to what is going on with New York State’s property assessment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane asked for public comments.

*Linda Keeling* thanked the CAC for their hard work and dedication on finding information on hydrofracking

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Cagle moved to go to Attorney/Client session at 9:05 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O’Neill, Cagle
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Councilwoman Cagle seconded by Councilman Ross moved to adjourn the Attorney/Client session at 9:50 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O’Neill, Cagle
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilwoman Cagle moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O’Neill, Cagle
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk