

**RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**March 27, 2013**

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 William O'Neill  
Councilman Harry Colgan  
Councilwoman Brenda Cagle  
Town Clerk Sue McCann  
Also Present: Christine Chale Attorney for the Town  
Business Manager Deborah Coon

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

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor's report dated January 31, 2013 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$2,049,594.19; Receipts - \$1,057,929.47; Disbursed - \$1,255,621.42; Balance - \$1,851,902.24. The Transfer Tax realized - \$70,523.00

The Supervisor's report dated February 28, 2013 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$1,851,902.24; Receipts - \$1,126,313.21; Disbursed - \$333,697.58; Balance - \$2,644,517.87. There were the following budget adjustments: General A Fund: Total increase in revenue - \$33,148; Total reduce appropriations - \$20,886; Total increase in appropriations - \$54,034. General B Fund: Total increase revenue - \$15,482; Total increase in appropriations - \$15,482.

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilman O'Neill moved to accept the January and February reports with budget adjustments as presented.

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

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Business Manager Deborah Coon explained that in the adjustments she reestablished some of the grant money that was left over. She plans on reviewing the revenues line to make sure she picked up odds and ends for donations that were made. Everything balances. She and Budget Officer Rose Rider will meet to review debt and discuss capital planning, and then they will both meet with the Supervisor about the capital plans. They will update that with Standard and Poor's for our Moody's rating which gives us a good tool to use during budget time.

Town Clerk Sue McCann read the abstract for the month of February for vouchers #15816 through #15920. General A Fund - \$51,392.05; General B Fund - \$8,255.26; Highway DB Fund - \$59,221.88; HA PDR - \$3,902.50; Capital Project Scism Rd. Bridge - \$2,369.76; Capital Project Highway Garage - \$787.50; SL Lighting - \$2,1777.01; SW Water O&M - \$2,006.41; Total Abstract - \$130,112.37.

Abstract for the month of March for vouchers #15921 through #16029 were read as follows: General A Fund - \$174,698.52; General B Fund - \$38,922.35; Highway DB Fund - \$33,424.74; HA PDR - \$595.00; Capital Project Scism Rd. Bridge - \$8,119.55; Capital Project Highway Garage - \$4,604.25; SF Fire - \$73,570.80; SW Water O & M - \$5,297.96; Total Abstract - \$339,233.17.

Copies of abstract attached

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Crane announced the following:

- Resolutions honoring Eagle Scouts Andrew Pope and William Matthew Espana Gross. She read the resolutions.

**RESOLUTION 2013 # 16**

RE: HONORING ANDREW CHARLES POPE IN ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

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

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

Copy attached

- Resolution honoring

**RESOLUTION 2013 # 17**

RE: HONORING WILLIAM MATTHEW ESPANA GROSS IN ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

On a motion of Councilwoman Brenda Cagle seconded by Councilman William O’Neill moved to approve the resolution.

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

Copy attached

- Dutchess County EDC Annual Breakfast – May 9 at Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel
- Dutchess Land Conservancy is offering a two hour course on conservation easements and subdivisions at their office on April 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- We are going to investigate the removal of the former highway garage.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

*Richard Franklin* spoke in regard to hydro-fracking. He’s done a lot of research on the issue and gave some examples. We have to be careful of unintended consequences. Be careful of free waste because we would own the liabilities that go along with it.

*Linda Keeling* asked about the old highway garage and if the material will be recycled.

Supervisor Crane told her that we hope it will be recycled. Most of it is metal. We’ve had conversations with the aerodrome officials who might be interested. It is in discussion.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Supervisor Crane explained and read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2013 # 18**

RE: ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE REQUIRED AUDIT OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK JUSTICE COURT WAS CONDUCTED

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Cagle moved to approve the resolution

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

Copy attached

**RESOLUTION 2013 # 19**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO ENGAGE THE TOWN ENGINEER TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REMOVING THE OLD HIGHWAY GARAGE

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

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

**RESOLUTION 2013 # 20**

RE: HIGHWAY VEHICLE PURCHASE TO REPLACE 2001 DODGE RAM PICK-UP TRUCK WITH A 2013 FORD PICK-UP TRUCK, TOTAL COST OF \$32,469.99 UNDER STATE CONTRACT

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

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

Copy Attached

Councilwoman Cagle asked about purchasing the truck from a local dealer for the same price. Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke explained how the State contract works and said the prices are always lower through State contracts.

**PANDA REPORT**

Supervisor Crane was hoping for a report from Mary Anne Harvey from PANDA. She pointed out the 2013 budget to the Board. It is essentially unchanged except for maybe a slight reduction from 2012.

**PLANNING BOARD FEES**

Supervisor Crane asked Councilman O’Neill to report on the topic. Councilman O’Neill explained that the Intermunicipal Task Force discussed the request by the developer of the Hoffman property TND project off of Old Farm Road. The project is presently before the Planning Board and the developer’s request is to waive the required application fees under the TND code. He described the units and value of those fees. After reviewing the matter they recommended that the Town Board not waive or change the calculations of those fees. Supervisor Crane asked for further questions or discussion. She thanked Planning Secretary Paula Schoonmaker for her research with other Towns regarding their rates. Councilman Colgan commented that we are in the ballpark with other Town’s charges. The fees make sense and will offset the expenses. Councilman Ross asked if the Planning Board weighed in. They deal with this every day. Planning Board Secretary Paula Schoonmaker said the request was directed to the Town Board so the Planning Board didn’t discuss it. Councilman Colgan said there is Planning Board representation on the Task Force so they would have been part of the discussion. Supervisor Crane assumes the Board will not undertake any changes at this time. Councilman Ross agrees with Supervisor Crane.

**HYDRO-FRACKING DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Crane explained that we’ve had multiple presentations and referrals to countless documents regarding the hydrofracking issue. We’ve gotten three local laws for the Boards consideration. They are different in respect to the areas they address they are all related to hydrofracking. The Board discussed each one. Attorney Chale summed up the three local laws. One is a local law to prohibit heavy industry, one is to prohibit brine on Town roads and the third is an amending to our existing code to prohibit the disposal of natural gas or oil drilling waste products in the Town. She explained procedures the Board would have to take. Councilwoman Cagle said the CAC and Zoning Review Committee have both reviewed the drafted laws. Councilman Colgan said that the first two parts of the EAF have been completed. Supervisor Crane will speak to the Planner after the Board gives direction as to what they want to do. She asked if the Board had any concerns. She will ask the Planner to work on the full EAF. If she hears by tomorrow she can be ready for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting with the complete EAF and begin the process of the negative declaration.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan move to proceed with all three local laws.

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

## **BOARD REPORTS**

Planning Board - They continue to discuss three residential developments, the Preserve at Lakes Kill, the Hoffman TND and Anderson Commons. They granted a special permit and limited site plan approval to a farmers market on Pitcher Lane, a Certificate of Appropriateness to a project in Barrytown and site plan approval to a solar panel array on the Bard campus. They continued to discuss several smaller projects, including a minor subdivision on North Drive, one on Middle Road and one on West Willets Drive and a lot line alteration on Starbarrack Rd.

Zoning Board of Appeals – The ZBA is working with an applicant on Benner Road who is requesting to construct an attached garage to her existing dwelling. It is expected that her request will be approved at the April 10 meeting.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Animal Control –The report for February - 10 loose dog reports, 1 found dog report, 1 improper shelter report and 1 barking dog report. 755 dog licenses/renewals sold through the Town Clerk Office last year.

Councilwoman Cagle reported that the Dog Park Committee is continuing to make progress on their work in cooperation with Rhinebeck.

Budget Officer – Budget Officer Rose Rider has been meeting with the Supervisor and Business Manager and various departments to review the requests for Capital Expenditures for 2013. As they look at the requests they are examining the current debt load as well as the impact that the requests would have on that debt. They'll also start work on updating the Capital Expenditures five year budget with various departments and will be reported to the Board at a later date.

Building Department – For the period February 25 to March 26, 2013 there were 44 inspection reports, issued 25 Certificates, examined 12 applications for permits, two complaints attended to. Local Government Efficiency Grant was submitted to the New York State Department of State that was due earlier in the month. Supervisor Crane said we believe it is a strong application and it will look at the ways we can derive efficiencies from combining the functions of the Highway Departments among the two Villages and the Town.

Highway Department – Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke reported that the department will start street cleaning next week if the weather holds out.

Purchasing – During the period of February 27 through March 26, 2013, 30 purchase orders were issued in the amount of \$43,129.33, the largest \$16,855.02, to Cargill Salt Co. for road salt. The State contract quote for a new pick-up truck was reviewed and Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy recommends purchase.

Water Dept. – The February 2013 monthly report was presented. Wells are holding their own, sanitary quality and filters are working well. Various repairs are planned for 2013. The 2012 annual water quality report for NYS Dept. of Health will be distributed with the April 1, 2013 water bills.

Recycling – Recycling Manager TJ Hackett sent the annual report to the DEC. In 2012 there were 72 tons of comingled, 107 tons of mixed paper; 39 tons of cardboard, 18 tons of scrap metal, and an estimate of 10 tons of electronics. The paper, comingled and cardboard go to Ulster Resource Recovery and the metal is sold at Millens in Kingston. Last year 820 permits were sold, totaling about \$13,000.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ag. & Open Space Committee – The committee is discussing the zoning in the new Centers and Greenspace Plan as far as the definition of farm markets and requiring special permits. Escrow fees and the Planning Board are an issue being addressed. Fencing is a subject being considered and the committee is going to write a letter asking the Town Board to review the fencing requirement in the new zoning in respect to agricultural fencing.

Councilman O'Neill proposes to speak to the Planning Board, the Planner and the Attorney for the Town about the escrow fees then report back to the Ag. & Open Space Committee.

CAC – The Waste Sub-committee has been very active and working on composting, organic waste composting, recycling, and some of the members visited New Paltz's zero waste facility.

Disaster Preparedness Committee – Plans to meet next month and they are working on information for the 2013 manual.

EDC – will meet tomorrow morning. Councilman Colgan plans to attend.

Intermunicipal Task Force – The report dated March 25, 2013 was presented. They discussed a request from the developer for the Hoffman Property TND project. There was also a request to amend the incentive zoning fees required prior to Planning Board approval. The consensus of

the Task Force was to recommend that the Town Board not waive this fee requirement. Two other requests by the developer were reviewed by the Task Force regarding lot coverage, and the other to increase the maximum size of a Cottage Home in the TND. The Task Force discussed the Anderson Commons issue regarding an area variance application to make adjustments in the density, and they also reviewed the proposed Preserve at Lakeskill Project and the issues involved.

Recreation Department – The ball fields are up and operational. Everything is moving along nicely in spite of the weather and will be ready on schedule. The financial agreement has been sorted out with the school district.

St. Margaret’s Committee – Committee Member Rose Marie Zengen reported that the committee met today and Trilby Sieverding was in attendance. The committee recommended her as a member. They are looking forward to Earth Day and Arbor Day and she explained the various activities planned for April 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Paula Schoonmaker reported that two phases of the restoration are just about finished. When the weather is warmer painting will be finished. Upon completion a technical oversight person from NYS Parks will come and when everything is signed off on, they will get reimbursed and an audit will be done.

Supervisor Crane thanked Paula for all of the work behind the restoration of the home. It’s been a long time and took a huge amount of work.

Councilman Colgan commented that the building is now secure from the weather since the roof has been repaired.

Senior Services Committee – Their next meeting will take place at Red Hook Commons. At their last meeting they met with a representative from DC Transportation Council about the LOOP bus service.

Trails Committee – The committee is moving forward with the Aspinwall Road access to the new recreation park.

Tree Committee – the Committee is actively working on a forestry management plan and they are also working on Arbor Day and Earth Day. Councilwoman Cagle congratulated them for their 7<sup>th</sup> year as a “Tree City”.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Crane received and read a letter from Solartech Renewables thanking the Town for supporting their application for the Bard College solar project.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

*Dick Franklin* spoke about hydrofracking. He announced that the Farmers Museum has a carousel of Towns. He completed a carving for Red Hook to be placed on that carousel. The Archival Association for the State of NY called him to inform him that the carving has been approved and they will install it on the carousel. Mr. Franklin will photograph it and present it to the Town.

*Linda Keeling* is delighted with the Board’s stature on hydrofracking. She asked about the other Towns in the area and what they are doing about it.

Councilwoman Cagle told her that the Village of Warwick passed an anti-fracking law but it is far from here.

*Linda Keeling* asked if we can pass our information on to surrounding Towns.

Supervisor Crane explained if there is an issue considered a hot topic and a Town moves forward, it gets everyone’s attention and she hopes this provides encouragement to Towns around us.

Councilwoman Cagle said that the cooperative extension maintains a spreadsheet of all the Towns in the County and the environmental ordinances that they all have. This will be added to that list.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilwoman Cagle move to go into Attorney/Client Session at 9:05 p.m.

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

On a motion of Councilman O’Neill seconded by Supervisor Crane moved to adjourn Attorney/Client session.

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Cagle seconded by Councilman O'Neill moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk