

## **RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**August 13, 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 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 Supervisor's report dated July 31, 2013 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$3,695,606.44; Receipts - \$120,384.66; Disbursed - \$200,478.33; Balance - \$3,615,512.77. There were the following budget adjustments: General A Fund – increase in revenues \$3,487, reduce appropriations-\$444, total increase in appropriations - \$3,931. General B Fund – increase in revenues - \$11,950; reduce appropriations - \$1,873, total increase in appropriations - \$13,823. Highway DB Fund – increase in revenues \$997, reduce appropriations – 0, total increase in appropriations - \$997. In the Community Preservation Transfer Tax Fund we have \$291,758.13 as of July 31.

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to accept the July report with budget adjustments as presented.

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

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### **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerks report for the period July 1 – July 31, 2013 was read as follows: Total local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$2,312.77; amount remitted to NY State Ag. & Markets - \$78.00; amount remitted to NY State Dept. of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$225.00; amount remitted to NY State Environmental Conservation - \$155.88; total State, County & Local revenues - \$2,771.65.

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced that the sporting licenses went on sale on August 12. Residents are also reminded that Hardscrabble Day is on September 21. If anyone is interested in participating in the parade contact her.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Crane explained that Primary Day is Tuesday, September 10. The Town Board's regularly scheduled meeting for that night is being rescheduled for Thursday, September 5. The August 28 meeting has been cancelled.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane was asked to comment on behalf of the Lawson family. Their house on E. Kerley Corners Road was hit by a car. The family is concerned about the 55 mph speed limit on that road and will request that the Town contact the County about a speed reduction.

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RED HOOK TOWN REC PARK MASTER PLAN**

Supervisor Crane explained the negotiations regarding the layout of the plan for the Recreation Park extension.

Attorney Chale reviewed the steps involved in the plan. The resolution approves the master plan and then specifies contract requirements.

Councilman Ross read the resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2013 #57**

RE: AUTHORIZING MASTER PLAN FOR RECREATION PARK EXTENSION

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

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**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT NO NEW NYS MANDATES WITHOUT CORRESPONDING LEGISLATIVE FINANCIAL RELIEF TO MUNICIPALITIES**

Councilman O’Neill read the resolution.

Supervisor Crane spoke about the impact we suffer when we are told from NYS or any government entity that we are faced with new expenses we are not prepared to pay or plan for. This is a step in the right direction telling the Governor and Legislators that it is up to us about these mandates and whether or not to accept them. We have to take a stand. Her point of view is that it leaves us floundering to have charges come to us that we have no control over and no hope of receiving reimbursement for.

Councilman Ross commented that he feels strongly the same way. They impose the tax cap and don’t pay attention to that when they come down with mandates. He thinks this is long overdue. Councilwoman Cagle supports it and thinks it makes sense. She noted that it doesn’t apply for expenditures that are less than \$10,000 and for laws that are already in effect.

Councilman Colgan feels the same way. These mandates are imposed on us that are expensive without considering the cost to the taxpayers. We have a tax cap less than the rate of inflation but we are expected to keep up with maintaining roads and providing day to day needs of the people. Councilman O’Neill believes the resolution is reasonable and necessary.

**RESOLUTION 2013 #58**

RE: ENDORSING SENATE BILL 5126 AND URGING THE SENATE TO TAKE UP THIS BILL FOR DEBATE AND PASS IT INTO LAW

On a motion of Councilman Harry Colgan seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Cagle moved to approve the resolution.

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

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**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC BIDS FOR THE DEMOLITION AND DISPOSAL OF FORMER HIGHWAY GARAGE**

Supervisor Crane explained that we wish to move forward with the project and she read the resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2013 #59**

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC BIDS FOR THE DEMOLITION AND DISPOSAL OF THE FORMER HIGHWAY GARAGE

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

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

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**MOTION TO APPROVE BID FOR PETROLEUM TANK ALARM RELOCATION**

Supervisor Crane told the Board that Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy went out for quotes from three companies to relocate petroleum tank alarms. Two bids were received. She read the letter from Ted who recommended American Petroleum & Construction Company of Walden, NY. Ted reviewed the RFQ with Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke and she approves.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to authorize Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy to move forward

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

### **TOWN OF RED HOOK- 2014 BUDGET**

Supervisor Crane asked the Board to review the budget calendar. Budget Officer Rose Rider is working on it now. Filing must be no later than September 30. By then we will have the Supervisors' budget to the Town Clerk. The recent tax cap fell to 1.66% for 2014. Last year we dealt with a 2% cap. With a threshold like this she doesn't think we can face the budget ahead without an override and she wants the Board to be aware of that. Knowing we've done everything we can think of doing, she cannot imagine what towns and villages are to do without dismantling the very system that serves our residents best. She asked for the Board's reaction. Councilman Ross doesn't see how we cannot override particularly since we have to start making highway garage bond payments. We've cut departments to the point where there is not much more to eliminate. It would be very difficult to stay below the 1.66%.

Councilwoman Cagle thinks we were lean last year and she can't imagine keeping it under 1.66% but we'll try.

Councilman Colgan said we can't continue to provide what residents require. It all costs money and it has to be done. We have to budget accordingly. Statewide, there has to be a better fiscal strategy. It has to be fixed from the top down.

Councilman O'Neill commented that as a tool the override has been made available to us and where it is reasonable and necessary we should not hesitate to use it.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

ZBA – Councilman Ross reported that they have two reviews scheduled for tomorrow's meeting.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Assessor – The final roll has been filed and published on July 1 pursuant to NYS Real Property Tax Law. They updated information on the website, received notification of 2 certiora and 2 small claims assessment review processes, documented and reviewed 346 properties and are attempting to complete data collection by the end of September. In addition to commercial properties, he is reviewing sales information and making appropriate changes. The office also continues working on the reappraisal process for the 2014 roll year.

Budget Officer – Budget Officer Rose Rider has been working on the budget and is finalizing the five year capital debt.

Building Inspector – For the period July 8 through August 13, 2013 there were 10 complaints, 54 inspections, 59 inspection reports, 19 certificates issued, 21 permit reports and total fees collected were \$2535.00.

Grant Applications – Councilwoman Cagle gave an update on the grant application. Rich Schiafo of the Trails Committee was able to get the application in one day early. The grant is for funds to enhance the Tivoli Bays Trail and to build the Aspinwall access trail. The Town will match our requirement with in kind services. Another application is being worked on to build sidewalks on the east side of Rte. 9.

Highway Dept. – Repaving roads - half of Norton Road is completed and Oriole Mills Rd. is completed. The area where the old tanks were removed in our parking lot has been repaved.

Police Dept. – The Red Hook Police Dept. report for the month of July had 58 total incidents, 6 arrests, and 20 total tickets issued.

Water Dept. – Everything is running smoothly. Councilman Ross gave specifics in the report prepared by Water Dept. Chair Henry VanParys.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Tree Committee – Chair Nancy Guski reported that they are wrapping up their two year urban forestry grant, they planted 32 trees. The street and road inventory is finished and inventory at the park is being finished. She explained the annual conference she and Councilwoman Cagle attended. She thanked Michele Greig for help she offered. A tree will be planted in honor of George Hildenbrand by the Highway Garage office. The dogwood tree in front of Town Hall may have to be replaced.

CPF Committee – they are considering two proposals, the Kesicke Farm and the Klose Farm who agreed to sell their development rights.

EDC – a report on the questionnaires will be available shortly

Disaster Preparedness Committee – will have a table of information at Hardscrabble Day.

Intermunicipal Task Force – continue to consider proposed changes to the Zoning Law and they received an update from Greenplan, Inc. as to the status of Scenic Roads and Historic Preservation matters. They took a field trip to measure and observe configuration of roads within the Village of Red Hook and are assessing the configurations and dimensions of proposed roads, curbs and sidewalks within the Hoffman TND Project.

Recreation Commission –The report generated by Recreation Director John Kuhn was presented. There were no accidents reported during the summer programs, which is a credit to the staff.

Trails Committee – another grant is coming in September from the Greenway Program for trails.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Crane referred to correspondence regarding the demolition of the old highway garage. She gave a brief explanation of the highway garage issues over the years. In regard to the demolition, we are looking at ways to enhance the Town’s vision of what we offer. We will come up with a responsible plan to meet the community’s needs.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

Sarah Imboden informed the Board that resident and volunteer Dick Franklin’s carving will be in the next issue of the Observer. His carving representing Red Hook will be on the carousel in the New York State Museum in Cooperstown.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilman Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk