

## **RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**March 11, 2014**

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  
Councilwoman Brenda Cagle  
Town Clerk Sue McCann  
Absent: Councilman William O'Neill  
Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

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

### **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor Crane explained that Business Manager Deborah Coon provided a fund balance report for the Board's consideration. We ended the year in strong position because of everyone's efforts to keep costs down.

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

The Town Clerk's report for the period February 1 – February 28, 2014 was read as follows:

Total local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$3,467.00; amount remitted to NYS Ag. & Markets - \$67.00; amount remitted to NYS Dept. of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$45.00; Total State, County & Local revenues - \$3,579.00.

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced the following:

- DCRR will hold hazardous waste days. The closest to us will be in Rhinebeck in June and October.

-To date, she's processed \$7,081,783.27 in town/county taxes.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilman Ross announced that the ZBA meeting scheduled for tomorrow is rescheduled for April 9.

Councilwoman Cagle announced the following:

- Big Read Program, a program involving Bard College, Tivoli and Red Hook libraries.

- The Town received \$2500 from NYSEDA for adopting the unified solar permit

Supervisor Crane announced the following:

- Highway Shared Services kickoff meeting will take place on April 2 at 7:30 p.m.

- March 18, 7:30 a.m. breakfast at Farm & Home Center in Millbrook

- Acknowledged Business Manager Deb Coon's work getting the annual report completed and submitted to NYS Comptroller's Office in a timely manner.

- Regarding safety on Route 9G. It has the attention of the Village of Tivoli, the Town of Red Hook the Village of Red Hook, Winnakee Land Trust, State Assemblyman, State Senator, Bard College Administration, and our County Legislator. Everyone is working hard trying to resolve issues. There has been commitment from the DOT for solutions.

- We've been asked by levels of government above us to cooperate and develop shared services. She is committed to working with the Villages to come up with ways for shared services that we haven't looked at yet. Hopefully we will see functional changes in the year ahead.

### **ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

Assessor Scott Hobson presented his status report dated March 11, 2014. They continue their data collection and data entry efforts. The ORPTS representative informed them that their current project will not qualify as a reappraisal reassessment. We will however be considered as an annual reassessment and maintain our level of assessment at 100%. Work since March 1, 2013 through November 2014 will be considered towards a reappraisal reassessment in 2015 should we decide to do so and qualify for aid. They've also reached an agreement to utilize McGrath & Company, Inc. for advice on valuation results for commercial and special properties. Supervisor Crane asked about funding opportunities for municipalities, if they will still be available to us if we work through this year. Will they be available next year?

Scott told her they will and the work they've done will be used in the consideration. It's unfortunate that we are not able to access that aid at this time. We are maintaining 100% of assessment which affords the maximum benefit to each of our taxpayers with respect to exemptions.

Supervisor Crane asked if we could access that funding in 2015.

Scott said we would present the evidence that we have assembled a complete reappraisal of every property in the Town. Upon them accepting the evidence we would qualify for the aid for the 2015 assessment roll which is this time next year. For the most part we would have to have the majority of the work done by November.

Councilman Colgan asked if the commercial work needs to be done with the assistance of McGrath. Is that the remaining element to reach the 100%?

Scott told him they will reach the 100% irrespective of that commercial component.

Councilman Colgan asked if those inventory issues were with commercial or residential.

Scott told him that the vast majority of our residential property inventories are pretty sound.

There are not a lot of problems in residential, vacant or agricultural land. The last revaluation in the conversion data into our current system, information didn't get brought over correctly.

Councilman Ross asked about dates.

Scott told him that taxable status day is March 1, final roll is July 1. May 1 is the tentative roll.

Councilman Ross asked about the following year and the completion of commercial inventory with help from the firm. Come this November between the residential and commercial assessments being done, will we qualify for the state aid?

Scott said that is the goal. A revaluation by definition is 100%. To the extent we are doing a reappraisal, the residential component is relatively flat.

Councilwoman Cagle said on February 28 when they met, he was still trying for incentives and thought it could be accomplished.

Scott told her it was unclear at that time because he didn't have all the information he needed to say that we could get it or not.

Supervisor Crane asked how much we were expecting to receive.

Scott answered that it is up to \$5.00 per parcel. Historically they've paid something less than that. Its contingent on how much of a pre-established fund is available for those towns doing revaluations. We don't have a way of estimating how much that would be.

#### **RECREATION COMMISSION SUMMER PROGRAM UPDATE**

Recreation Commission Chair Doug Strawinski presented the update. For the last few months the commission has addressed the need for healthy living and physical activities for young children. He read a statement about their objectives. They are working on changes for this year. Supervisor Crane said that some towns have wellness committees and this speaks to that. She welcomes any help in that effort.

Doug reminded residents that the Red Hook Raiders basketball team will be playing in the final 4 game in Glens Falls this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. He also announced that the fishing contest will be on April 12 and starts at 8:30 a.m. There will also be a softball tournament on April 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke reported that they purchased most of the salt and sand they need for this winter. There is enough for a couple of good storms and there is still money in their budget. They will be able to purchase 1000 tons of sand and 300 tons salt in the fall for the early winter season at the current prices. The Highway Department received a letter of concern about the safety of the intersection of Starbarrack Road and Vosburgh Road. It was reviewed and a course of action was determined to approve a configuration. She provided a map for the Board's review. Residents will be advised when the project begins.

Supervisor Crane thanked Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke for being so responsive and immediately addressing the problem.

#### **SHARED SERVICES COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Supervisor Crane thanked Dutchess County for the grants awarded to Red Hook. She thanked Building Inspector Steve Cole for his part in getting grant money for his department in conjunction with Hyde Park. She also thanked Councilman Colgan for his efforts.

Councilman Colgan said that he's been involved in shared services discussion for about 10 years. We all see it as a necessary way to address the cost and efficiency of government.

### **REORGANIZATION**

#### Planning Board

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilwoman Cagle moved to appoint Sarah Gilbert to the Planning Board for a term to expire December 31, 2020.

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

Intermunicipal Task Force

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Councilwoman Brenda Cagle as Village of Red Hook representative to the Intermunicipal Task Force.

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

Sister Cities Working Group

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Jordan Robenstein-Edbeg, Bruce Chilton and Erica Freudenberger to the working group.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to reappoint Jill Lundquist, Jeff Levine, Jen Huber and Paul Marienthal to the working group.

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

**RED HOOK JUSTICE COURT GRANT**

Supervisor Crane read a letter from the Town Justices reporting that they received a \$530 grant to cover expenses involved for a dehumidifier for the records room in the basement and a shredder for the Court.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments. There were none.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/ATTORNEY CLIENT**

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Ross moved to go into Executive Session regarding the hiring/firing of a particular person or persons and into Attorney/Client session regarding contracts at 8:31 p.m.

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

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilman Ross moved to adjourn the Executive Session and Attorney/Client Session at 10:15 p.m.

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

On a motion of Councilwoman Cagle seconded by Councilman Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk