

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 28, 2018

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 Robert McKeon
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman William O'Neill
Councilperson Sarah Imboden
Councilwoman Christine Kane
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney Christine Chale

Supervisor McKeon called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor McKeon announced that Town Hall will close at noon on Friday, March 30. The annual Clean-Up-Day will take place on Saturday, April 21 beginning at 2 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments.

Linda Keeling commented that at the last meeting, at no time, was the Highway Department given any recognition for the hard work they did during the blizzard. It was a real disgrace. In regard to the Supervisors personal Facebook and official Town web site, they were out of sync regarding the availability of dry ice during the power outage. She felt that only those who are friends of the Supervisor knew the availability and that is discrimination.

Supervisor McKeon apologized for not complementing the Highway crew. They did an outstanding job this winter, and so did the utilities. As far as the dry ice, Central Hudson supplied that and water at the high school and Town Hall.

There were no more comments.

DISCUSSION – AMTRAK FENCE PROPOSAL

Supervisor McKeon referenced the Amtrak fence proposal. Amtrak notified New York State that they intend to erect fencing or gates perpendicular to the Hudson River and railroad tracks in order to prevent vehicular traffic alongside the tracks for safety reasons. He pointed out aerial pictures where the fencing or gates will be installed. It is in Tivoli north and south of Diana Street along the waterfront area. He pointed out the stretch that is owned by Tivoli.

Councilman O'Neill said the fence is going up by the right-of-way.

Councilman Colgan said that it is well established what land is owned by Tivoli, Amtrak can't build there and they know that.

Supervisor McKeon pointed out the area where there has been public access to the river. There was a comment period from the Dept. of State that has been extended to May 1. The Tivoli Mayor is trying to get more detail. He will forward the information to the Town.

Councilwoman Kane said the reason there is public comment on this is because of the Coastal Zone program. That's why it is coming through the Department of State. That's why both the Village and the Town can submit comments. There is not very much information and she questioned the gates to prevent people from driving. Is this part of a larger project of more fencing along the tracks?

Councilman Colgan said this is all along up and down the County. They are only blocking crossings.

Supervisor McKeon commented that people will be able to walk across.

Councilwoman Kane asked if there is anything regarding CSX? Amtrak doesn't own the tracks, CSX does.

Supervisor McKeon said that CSX does own the tracks but Amtrak manages it.

DISCUSSION - REQUEST TO TOWN FOR ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF FREEBORN LANE

Supervisor McKeon explained the request to abandon portions of Freeborn Lane. He pointed out the area on an overhead map. The Town does own the length of the road but there is mostly private access on the portion requested to be abandoned. Gates have been up that are closed most of the year. It does have some public use. The farmer requested that portion be abandoned.

Before considering that request we have to speak to the adjoining land owners to see if they will be supportive. One of the concerns is that we had a stretch of W. Kerley Corners Road that was not passable.

Councilman Colgan said it is very apparent during the mud season.

Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke said the Town hasn't maintained that section in years, since the gates were put up. It would be an enormous expense to bring that road up to Town standards.

Supervisor McKeon said we could keep it as a seasonable road.

Highway Superintendent Burke said it has been an open issue for so many years that there should be some resolution.

Supervisor McKeon said one challenge is that there are still people using that stretch, that if it is abandoned the farmers can use that road. That has to be taken into account. We would abandon it and it would belong to the Village of Tivoli.

Attorney Chale assumes so but we would have to do a title search on it.

Supervisor McKeon said it might become the Village of Tivoli's issue.

Councilman Colgan said one side belongs to Ken Migliorelli and the other to Tivoli.

Supervisor McKeon pointed out parcels. This is the beginning of discussion. We have to get input from adjoining land owners. The Town should not incur the expense of a title search.

Councilwoman Kane asked about plowing if we abandon the road.

Highway Superintendent Burke said we now plow the asphalt section from E. Kerley Corners Road to the gate. She has to find out who installed the gates. There is a driveway they use for a turn around. She explained the process.

Councilperson Imboden asked what the next steps are. We need all the facts and a better map.

Highway Superintendent Burke explained that highway law speaks to public roads, user roads, and private roads. If a road has not been maintained for ten years, it can be private road.

Attorney Chale said the documents found about the temporary closure of that section to prevent dumping seems to indicate that the Town put the gates up in 1990.

RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE NYPA MASTER AGREEMENT

Supervisor McKeon explained that we are exploring working with NYPA on our street light project on the recommendation of the Mid-Hudson Street Light consortium. There is a master agreement with the municipalities. As soon as we execute this they will prepare the design proposal for us. Jen Cavanaugh produced new street light maps which they submitted digitally. He explained the last step to be done then read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2018 #14

RE: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ENERGY SERVICES PROGRAM MASTER COST RECOVERY AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY REGARDING THE LED STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK, COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, STATE OF NEW YORK

On a motion of Supervisor Robert McKeon seconded by Councilwoman Christine Kane moved to approve the resolution.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

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RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF TOWN HALL INSULATION RFP

Supervisor McKeon explained new insulation in the building is badly needed. Bid specs have been worked on for the installation and are ready to be approved. He read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2018 #15

RE: AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC BIDS FOR INSULATION OF TOWN HALL CEILING PROJECT

On a motion of Councilwoman Christine Kane seconded by Councilperson Sarah Imboden moved to approve the resolution.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

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RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF RFP SOLAR PROJECT

Supervisor McKeon explained that we need to get estimates for the work. We need an RFP to get specific quotes. It is our understanding that NYSERDA will support these projects.

Councilperson Imboden thought a developer was supposed to do the actual project. At what point does the developer come in?

Supervisor McKeon told her that this RFP is to developers. They will be submitting bids.

Councilman Colgan said it will be on the Villages well field. He voiced his concerns about it diminishing access to the well field.

Supervisor McKeon said that will be addressed. The Village is in support of this project.

RESOLUTION 2018 #16

RE: AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT

On a motion of Supervisor Robert McKeon seconded by Councilperson Sarah Imboden moved to approve the resolution.

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
 Nays 0

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DISCUSSION – DRAFT ZONING, LOCAL LAW C, FOOD TRUCKS, HAMLET BUSINESS

Supervisor McKeon explained the Local Law regarding food trucks. There is no action but the latest draft is presented. Our planner will be at the April 10th meeting to explain what is in the draft. He asked the Board to familiarize themselves with it.

REORGANIZATION

Water Board

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilperson Imboden moved to appoint Ablen Amrod to the Water Board for a term to expire December 31, 2018

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
 Nays 0

REPORTS

Planning Board – They commenced or continued to review seven projects and held public hearings for and granted approval to one project.

Dog Control – In February there were 4 loose dogs, 3 nuisance complaints, 1 dog impounded and 1 reclaimed. They were alerted to the Birchwood Drive dog again. The owner stated she will license her dog and will keep it on a leash. The owner of two dogs from Panorama Drive were running at large and the owner was advised to keep her dogs contained and licensed.

Assessor – They’ve been finalizing all the 2018 property tax exemptions. In February there were 12 sales. The lowest sale price was \$67,000 for vacant land and the highest was for \$325,000 for a professional building in the Village of Red Hook.

Building & Zoning – The March report showed 21 permits issued, 18 inspections, 13 CO/CC’s, no complaints and \$4243 in revenue collected.

Village Police – In February there were 58 total incidents, 9 arrests, and 35 tickets issued.

Water District – water tests were completed, filtration cartridges were replaced and a new supply will be ordered. There are 8 outstanding work orders, pump control panel was installed, antennas need alignment and the pump house roof will be repaired. Supervisor McKeon suggested the possibility of getting a generator for when the power goes out.

Senior Services Committee – February report – food drive discussion continued, discussed having a food distribution for area seniors at the office of the Aging picnic in Tivoli, brief discussion about having a table at Apple Blossom Day. March report – focused the need to reach out to area senior community and be more visible, will maintain the “Give a Child a Summer Meal” food drive.

Recreation Commission – Tennis courts finished in the spring, playground committee has been meeting and renovation of the playground planned for 2018. Eagle Scout project will put benches on the trail, tennis court lights are being worked on, a design for the west park is being worked on, Challenger Field, soccer fields and a pavilion will be included. Basketball court cracks must be repaired.

Tree Preservation Commission – Luncheon tomorrow, a presentation will be given to the Old Dutch Village Garden Club, details for Arbor Day are being discussed, the Mill Road School program has begun, poster contest judging is scheduled for April 24th and the winners from each grade level will receive a tree-themed book, 13 trees have been ordered for the Pitcher Lane project site, the Rotary Club will fund 5 of the trees.

Communication Committee – met several times to start the new web site project and all departments were met with. Councilperson Imboden thanked them for sitting with the committee. The date for the launch is in August.

IMTF – discussed and reviewed proposed local law regarding food trucks, formula businesses and the Hamlet Business District.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor McKeon received correspondence from a landowner on Budds Corners Road who went before the Planning Board to gain approval for a residential parcel. It is a wooded parcel and they cut the trees down and sold the wood. That triggered a commercial aspect. It is a minor residential parcel and our building department said it would be subject to the moratorium on large scale commercial extractive operations. It is a very small parcel.

RESOLUTION 2018 #17

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR WAIVER UNDER LOCAL LAW 4 OF 2017, A LOCAL LAW PLACING A TWELVE MONTH MORATORIUM ON LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL EXTRACTIVE OPERATIONS IN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK

On a motion of Councilman William O’Neill seconded by Councilperson Sarah Imboden moved to set the public hearing for April 10, 2018 at 7:35 p.m. at Town Hall.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

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PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments.

Linda Keeling asked about updates on the Red Church Cemetery.

Supervisor McKeon said we passed a resolution at the last meeting to accept the property and we are working with the volunteers for a smooth transition. He thanked the volunteers.

Attorney Chale said they are assembling documents.

Supervisor McKeon said we are getting ready to submit a grant.

Linda Keeling asked if there will be a committee for the cemetery.

Supervisor McKeon told her yes, if she is interested, she can submit a letter of interest.

Linda Keeling asked about St. Margaret’s Home.

Supervisor McKeon has no information at this moment.

ATTORNEY/CLIENT SESSION

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilperson Imboden moved to go into Attorney/Client session at 8:55 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to close the Attorney/Client session at 9:19 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to re-open the Town Board meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,