

A regular monthly meeting of the Red Hook Town Board was held Tuesday November 15, 2005 at the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Supervisor – Marirose Blum Bump
Councilman – James Ross
Councilwoman – Sue Crane
Councilwoman – Jean Bordewich
Councilman - Harold Ramsey
Town Clerk – Margaret E. Doty

Also present: Deputy Supervisor William O’Neill and Budget Assistant Debra Marks.

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

The first order of business was the closing of the Public Hearing on the 2006 Budget.

Motion by Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Crane that we close the Public Hearing on the 2006 Budget.

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Supervisor Blum Bump read the amended Supervisor’s Statement for September 2005 and the October Statement.

Motion by Councilwoman Bordewich, seconded by Councilman Ross and carried unanimously accepting the Supervisor’s Reports for September and October 2005.

Motion by Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Councilman Ramsey and carried dispensing with the reading of the October minutes and accepting them as written.

Supervisor Blum Bump then opened the floor for a 15 minute comment period.

Councilwoman Bordewich took this opportunity to congratulate all the candidates who were elected or reelected, Sue McCann, Sue Crane, James Ross and Marc Molinaro and Richard Griffiths who were not present. In two more years I look forward to running again.

Vicki Perry resident said I wanted to bring up the topic of voting here tonight as you know I have been working for when we move from lever machines that the county gets machines that will count the votes accurately and reliably with the least expense and what I would like to do is ask the Town Board to consider a Town resolution supporting the paper ballot, optical scan solution. Other towns have put forth the resolution, Greenberg, Hastings and the Town of Lebanon. In 2006 we will be getting rid of the lever machines, the research I have done is the paper ballot optically scanned and reliable and less expensive, requiring less storage and easier for the citizens to use.

The reason I am asking for this resolution is that it would stand as a statement from the citizens of Red Hook that we care about our votes being counted. I am hoping that you will research this and come to the same conclusion that this is a better way for the citizen of Red Hook to vote.

Councilwoman Bordewich questioned when is the county deadline for this?

Vicki Perry responded that probably January maybe February the Commissioners will have their minds made up, but we don’t need to wait for this certification. The thing to know is there is two basic technologies, touch screen technology and there is the paper ballot optical scan. You can research both of these.

Councilwoman Bordewich questioned why are the lever machines being abandoned that was used for decades?

Vicki Perry said that's because Federal Government says all voting machines have to be accessible to all physically impaired and the lever machines are not, people go in with a friend or relative. I think you can understand why this is so important to have a system that is easy to use.

Councilwoman Bordewich suggested we put this on the agenda for our next meeting so we can have a discussion.

Lisa Pullaro, Rokeby Gardens gave an update on what was taking place, everyone on the Board was mailed a newsletter, planned activities etc. We had a nice size children and adult Halloween costume party. Next event planned is Christmas caroling. As for the neighborhood watch had our meeting on October 20th finalized our zones, since than our captains have been busy combing their areas. Have registered our neighborhood watch with the Sheriff's Association.

Have spoken to Councilman Ramsey about placing signs at the entrance saying we are a neighborhood watch community.

Councilman Ramsey said he had spoken to Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand who will be ordering the signs and putting them up and have spoken to our Attorney Albert Trezza concerning the no parking at the well property he is going to draft a resolution for a local law preventing parking on the well property.

Supervisor Blum Bump thanked Lisa and said she enjoyed reading the newsletter.

Supervisor Blum Bump closed the public comment period and opened the Board meeting by introducing Irene Penny from the Dutchess County animal Response Team.

Irene Penny introduced her associate Lynn MacDonald. Irene said they would be giving a presentation on the disaster response plan dealing with animals. The steps you could take on a local level and than there is the county where you could contact Irene and Lynn if disaster happens.

There are County and State animal response teams that are both public and private with volunteers from the community as well. You have agencies that respond involving animals such as a house fire you have a command system so when you get to a scene, apartment house or a barn fire where you have a lot of animals the animal response teams is intergraded into and fits into the command structure that's already in place so we work well with fire or police whatever is there.

You are increasing your ability to respond at various levels. The County animal response team has permission to cover for animal emergencies. Do require our members to sign a code of conduct. They also offer specific training.

The animal response team has a motto of treating any disaster of any animal any where.

The Town of Fishkill adopted their Town plan. This is the first that we have done a pilot with them as well as Beacon and Wappingers for the last year and a half and they have done a great job putting this together.

When you have people and animals together there are unfortunately health concerns, as a result we have the health department involved in our plan as well.

Lynn and I are volunteers and not a county agency. The others are volunteers, Dutchess County Emergency, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Dutchess County SPCA, USDA Animal and Plant Service, Hudson Valley Veterinary as well as the Dutchess County Health Department.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked for a copy of the Town of Fishkill plan.

Irene Penny said you could call Fishkill and get a copy.

Irene Penny said there are a lot of animals in Dutchess County probably 50,000 dogs and 70,000 cats and Dutchess is Agricultural so we have a lot of livestock. Lot of reasons for taking care of our animals. The recent hurricanes confirmed this, there has been a bill put together that begins to address Federal planning which allows local emergency management people to include pet in the evacuations as right now they can't include them. This is the beginning of the realization to save family pets.

Response to any emergency has to be done at a local level first and than it goes up the ladder to get that additional level. One of the things at a local level is to get an idea how many animals you would be dealing with in an emergency and also the different species. You would maybe need large shelters this could come under municipal agreement this could be in your plan.

You should educate your residents to you disaster plan what shelter for the animals as well as themselves.

Councilman Ramsey said we have included the animals in our disaster plan but would like to view Fishkill plan.

Supervisor Blum Bump thanked Irene and Lynn for their presentation as it will be a help for our disaster plan.

RESOLUTION 2005 #33

RE – BAN Renewal \$150,000 Town Hall Addition.

Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman James Ross and carried.

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

RESOLUTION 2005 #34

RE – Peer Mediation

Resolution was offered by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane and carried.

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

RESOLUTION 2005 #35

RE – Town of Red Hook Recreation

Resolution was offered by Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman James Ross and carried.

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Debra Marks passed out copies of the Budget.

Councilwoman Crane suggested taking monies from the fund balance to lower the taxes.

Councilman Ramsey said he agreed with Sue we could take money out of the fund balance if we wish to lower the taxes further.

Councilman Bordewich questioned how much would we want to take out the fund balance, do we want to reduce the tax rate more.

Supervisor Blum Bump said if she can't have a full time secretary I would like to add \$5,000 so there would be adequate help in my office.

Councilman Ramsey pointed out that under the Town Board line there was \$3,500 and I don't have a problem for the goal that you have in mind.

Councilwoman Crane said she is looking at the Deputy Supervisor's line and it hasn't been used at all this year \$2,115. Hard for me to raise any line when here is one that hasn't been touched.

Councilman Ross said we put this in for the Deputy Supervisor. We did increase the secretary 4% and I just can't justify in my mind that it goes from zero in three years to increase that much.

Councilwoman Crane said she has talked about it at length and has no desire to increase that line.

Councilman Ramsey said I would not be willing to put the money in just increase incase we would need. We are trying to keep the budget down.

Councilwoman Bordewich said she wanted it noted for the record I think the minute we get a male supervisor in this job, recognizing how much the job has increased the salary will go up and he'll want a full time secretary. I think if the budget is as is I would be in favor of increasing it to \$5,000, maybe we just have to assess the work and maybe less secretarial work being done like making copies for all the meetings, like I said I'm in favor of increasing it to \$5,000 but if not than we'll have to adjust and do less clerical work.

Supervisor Blum Bump said her job in Town Hall is that when anyone comes to her and says they need additional help to do their job she is of the opinion she would say I want you to have what you need to do a good job. If the Board doesn't want to give the further secretarial help that's their right, I think in good faith I asked if anyone asked me I would be supportive of them.

After discussion on the Fund Balance all were in agreement not to lower it but to keep a healthy balance.

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ross granting Bookkeeper Debra Marks permission to make the necessary budget adjustments to pay the retirement bill.

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Debra Marks explained that she had spoken to June Hughes from the New York State Retirement System concerning Tier 1 and Tier 2 members of who we have six members. At a cost of \$1,603.00 it will provide additional benefits for these people. This amount Debra said is less than ½ percent above what we are paying and the other option is just over 1% of what we are already paying. She said if you don't act on it tonight please don't wait until it is too close to the due date.

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Crane and carried adopting the 2006 Budget with Debra's one correction (interest rate on the Bond).

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Bids were opened and read from:

Red Cedar Arborist & Landscapers
 AW Coons & Sons
 Callanan Industries
 Chemung Supply
 Peechman Materials
 Dutchess Quarry & Supply
 Darling Sand & Gravel
 A.Colarusso & Son, Inc.
 ADS Advanced Drainage Systems
 Red Wing Properties
 Renjl

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ross and carried accepting all bids and turning them over to the Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand for his review.

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Councilman Ramsey said we will be setting up a meeting with Wayne and Morris Associates to discuss the Highway Garage.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Economic Development-

Councilman Ramsey said that the Economics Development Committee have submitted a report and would like to discuss this with the Town Board at our workshop sometime in December.

Motion by Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilman Ross adopting the Disaster Preparedness as presented by the committee.

Supervisor Blum Bump -	Yes
Councilman Ross -	Yes
Councilwoman Crane -	Yes
Councilwoman Bordewich -	Yes
Councilman Ramsey -	Yes

Recreation Park-

Councilman Ramsey said the Rec. Park is closed and they are now planning the winter programs. The tennis courts have been resurfaced, looking at fencing bids for fencing around the courts. Would like to thank and congratulate all the teams as they had a great season.

Building & Zoning Department-

Councilwoman Bordewich reported that the Building Department had issued 27 permits, 30 CO's issued and 94 permit inspections.

Recycling Center-

Councilwoman Bordewich said Ted is working on the fencing bids. TJ said he would like to have Wayne fill in the potholes.

Councilwoman Bordewich said she had spoken to Marc Molinaro about the Time Warner negotiation with the other towns with contracts and see if we are going to hire an expert to advise all of us.

Conservation Advisory Council-

Councilwoman Bordewich said the Conservation Advisory Council met November 1st, applied for a grant for planting 75 trees.

Councilwoman Bordewich said that Bard Center for Environmental Policy is submitting a grant proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in response to the agency's goal to "promote environmental stewardship" by working closely with the Town and other communities. They are asking the Town Board for a letter of support. It wouldn't commit us to any funds, just our support. With everyone's approval Supervisor Blum Bump will sign this letter of support.

Zoning Board of Appeals-

Councilman Ross said the Zoning Board of Appeals met November 9th and they had two public hearings and 2 variances which were granted.

Planning Board-

Councilman Ross reported the Planning Board met November 7th and continuation on the Bard signs as they had not gotten site plan approval. Will call Al and discuss this with him.

There was also a discussion with Roundout Construction and a discussion with Nathan Kalina concerning his sketch plan on Overlook Drive.

Agricultural Advisory Committee-

Councilwoman Crane said on October 15th the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommended we draft a resolution to support the Community Preservation Act and gave us a draft resolution. Would like to have this on the agenda for our first meeting in December.

Received a call from Al and since he can't be here tonight he wanted us to know he has been in touch with a Hannaford representative who has a map of the property which Al will have by next week.

Water District #1-

Councilwoman Crane reported the Water Board will be flushing the hydrants on November 17th. An alarm dial system is installed at the pump house in case anything goes wrong our Water Superintendent will be notified. The increase in their budget line is for study of an additional water source.

Purchasing Department-

Councilwoman Crane said 36 purchase orders were issued the largest for road salt \$10,000.

A W Coons & Son submitted the lowest price for snow removal for sidewalks and Hannaford.

Bids have gone out for the fencing for the Recycle Center requested by TJ Hackett.

Supervisor Blum Bump read a report on the current status of our grants.

Town Clerk Margaret Doty read a letter of resignation from Town Assessor Richard P. Trotti.

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Bordewich meeting adjourned 10:23 p.m.

Resident Kathy Stewart asked if she could make a statement. She suggested we have an addendum to our budget, need for personnel to get a job done as it might help us.

Town Clerk

Margaret E. Doty