

**Town of Red Hook  
Town Board  
Regular Meeting September 13, 2005**

A regular monthly meeting of the Red Hook Town Board was held Tuesday September 13, 2005 at the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Supervisor – Marirose Blum Bump

Councilwoman – Sue Crane

Councilwoman – Jean Bordewich

Councilman – Harold Ramsey

Also present: Deputy Supervisor William O’Neill and Town Attorney Albert Trezza

Absent: Councilman James Ross

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

Supervisor Blum Bump gave her monthly report for August.

Motion by Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Crane and carried unanimously accepting the Supervisor’s Report as read.

Councilwoman Bordewich said she would also like to see our grant status summary included in the Supervisor’s Report as we are starting to get quite a few grants and to manage them properly we need a monthly report, what we received, what we spent also the deadline so we don’t miss any deadlines.

Supervisor Blum Bump agreed that it should be included in her monthly report.

Councilwoman Crane said I would like to see the Cell Tower accounting in one line as I can’t tell from this report where it is and would like it to be included.

Supervisor Blum Bump agreed and said it would also be included in her report.

Motion by Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Councilman Ramsey and carried that we dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August meeting.

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the floor for public comment period.

Linda Keeling resident said she has given to Councilman Ramsey, Village of Red Hook and the Village of Tivoli the Special Event Planning Guide for the handicapped. Anytime

events are scheduled they are responsible to see that they are handicapped accessible. Suggest you work with Taconic Resources to make sure everything is accessible.

Councilman Ramsey said regarding Hardscrabble Day there were a couple of minor issues that have been taken into consideration and will be corrected for next year.

Linda said Rosemarie Zengen asked her on behalf of Save Our Town Committee to make a few comments. There was no agenda posted on the Red Hook website. She was also concerned that the Democratic Caucus was held in a private home that being in the home of Marirose Blum Bump and 30 people were turned away. Not handicapped accessible and not enough parking available.

Councilwoman Bordewich said there was additional parking at her house and didn't know of anyone being turned away.

Linda said I was told there was no parking and a wheelchair would not be able to be pushed on the grass where a wheelchair should have easy access so the individual can push themselves.

Lisa Pullaro 51 Jefferson Road said I am here to represent the concerned residents of Rokeby Gardens many whom are here tonight. Recent events have served to highlight issue of growing concern that must be brought to the attention of the Board.

Currently there are 46 housing units on Jefferson and Adams Roads, ten are rentals. This is an almost 22% rental rate. With two additional homes for sale this figure could rise to 26%.

We are fortunate that some of the owners of rental properties remain concerned about maintenance appearance and proper use of their properties. Yet other situations are troubling.

-Unauthorized parking on both sides of the street results in police being called by the town, school district and residents.

-Disregard for speed limits

-Illegal removal of "no parking" signs placed by the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority from county owned property. The signs were placed to preserve the quality of our water supply and a disregard for those measures threatens that resource.

-The degradation of maintenance of properties.

-The recent robbery reported to be drug related.

Every incident mentioned is directly related to rental property within Rokeby Gardens.

We are here tonight with a positive attitude and constructive suggestions for preserving the quality of life within our community.

-Explore forming an association that promotes social activities within the neighborhood.

-Welcome new residents in an effort that will foster mutual respect for people and property.

-Report dangerous activity to proper law enforcement.

Continue to be involved with local Board meetings and voice concerns to our elected officials.

As your constituents we bring these issues to you and ask that you:

-establish a meeting with the Planning Board Chairman, a Town Board representative and a representative of Rokeby Gardens.

-zoning restrictions, number of tenants per rental property off street parking for rentals, required and enforceable language in rental agreements.

Place new or replacement signs regarding sign ordinances such as snow and parking restrictions.

We appeal to you the Town Board in voicing our concerns and supporting zoning restrictions so we look forward to your response and working together to develop solutions.

Supervisor Blum Bump said we did receive your two letters as well and will be discussing this with the Board. This is a very complete report and I thank you.

Councilman Ramsey ...I would like to thank you as your package was very complete and I will follow up on the safety and security as I have been involved in many of these issues.

Councilwoman Bordewich...I would like to thank you, we were not aware of your issues. We will take a look at you suggestions and see which one's we might be able to address others may require legal action on our part.

Lisa Pullaro...we understand that and we came here tonight to partner with you to work out solutions we want to keep the lines of communication open and continue to work together.

Councilwoman Crane said I also would like to congratulate you for being an outstanding spokeswoman for your neighbors and friends in your area. Your report is an outstanding one, as for a neighborhood watch I think that would be something I have always

supported and I will help in any way that I can. I am a liaison to the Town Water Department. I am surprised you have not heard from Scott Chase regarding the signs. If you like I will have our Water Board Chairman get in touch with him for you.

Lisa Pullaro said she would greatly appreciate the Town contacting Scott Chase.

Supervisor Blum Bump said this was the first she heard of the problem but I know the entire board is concerned and will look into this at our next workshop and will have some comprehensive response for you.

Cathryne Zemann owner of 44 Jefferson Road, like you this is the first time I have heard of this issue. I have been an owner there and this will be my second year in August that Bard students will again be renting my house. I have never been contacted by a phone call, note in the door or any other way notified of any difficulty or concerns whatsoever it was not brought to my attention. The times that I come to the house I have never seen illegal parking as they have the driveway plus they park on the lawn. If there were problems I would certainly address them, when I first came there the neighbor across the way requested I not park on his side and I have complied so I don't see why I should be accused on parking on water supply & both sides of the street.

I request that this harassment stop as it threatens my income, my student's peace of mind with the hostility of some people I ask that it stop as they stated here tonight they are here to cooperate resolve issue and to be welcoming so I expect no less than that for my students and myself.

Councilwoman Bordewich said I assume the neighborhood watch will be open to everyone.

Lisa Pullaro said yes we will encourage everyone to participate who is a property owner.

Councilwoman Crane questioned if there are any police patrols in the area.

Lisa Pullaro said she contacted the Village Police, but they were unable to do so as they had no signed contract with the Town.

John Douglas Chairman of Disaster Preparedness said yes he will be here on the 20<sup>th</sup> and he will call his committee members if that's what the Board request so they can be present.

Councilwoman Bordewich asked that John present a summary of what the committee has done in addition to the document itself at the workshop, a ten minute open presentation for the Board.

Earl Boyce 47 Jefferson Road inquired if we had a street lighting committee.

Attorney Trezza responded that we do have street lighting districts in some areas that you pay for on your tax bill if you are in a lighting district. Suggest you send your request to the Town Board and they in turn will contact Central Hudson regarding a light at Rokeby and Jefferson.

Supervisor Blum Bump closed the public comment period and introduced Mr. Fred Brammer.

Mr. Brammer explained that he was the Red Hook representative of the Church World Service Annual Dutchess County Crop Walk that will be held October 2, 2005 at 1:00 P.M. starting at the Rhinebeck Reform Church and ending 4 miles later. Everyone is welcome to participate in the Crop Walk for world hunger as last year \$10,000 was raised with 25% going local such as the Community Action.

Supervisor Blum Bump read a copy of a "Proclamation" from the Town Board in support of those participating in the annual Dutchess County Crop Walk.

Copy Attached

Councilwoman Bordewich said she supports the Crop Walk as an individual and wish you every success but I do not support the governing resolution to distribute the funds.

Attorney Trezza presented the Board with a copy of the corrected Village of Red Hook Police Agreement. He also explained that this agreement is between the Village of Red Hook and the Town Authorizing the Village Police to provide protection to the Town of Red Hook in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Councilman Ramsey said this agreement will enable Supervisor Blum Bump to place patrols in the Town wherever needed on a regular basis. Whenever 911 are called the Village Police is now able to respond to any calls in the Town area.

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey that we sign the agreement between the Village of Red Hook and the Town of Red Hook which involves outlay of money, manpower and equipment provided by Village of Red Hook.

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump - Yes

Councilwoman Crane - Yes

Councilwoman Bordewich - Yes

Councilman Ramsey - Yes

Motion by Supervisor Blum Bump seconded by Councilwoman Crane that a public hearing of the proposed Ethics Law be held September 28, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Red Hook Town Hall.

Supervisor Blum Bump - Yes

Councilwoman Crane - Yes

Councilwoman Bordewich - Yes

Councilman Ramsey - Yes

Supervisor Blum Bump said those who wish may obtain a copy from the Town Clerk's Office. You will also find the Ethics Law on the Town website.

Councilman Ramsey said he had notified the Ethics Committee who will be available to answer any questions.

Supervisor Blum Bump said we have received a grant from Senator Saland's office on a small wetlands area, presently open and build a boardwalk across it as part of a Town Trail system for walkers and bikers, the area is just north of the Rec. Park.

We have completed the short environmental Assessment form and the Town of Red Hook is the Lead Agency.

Motion by Councilwoman Crane, seconded by Councilman Ramsey that we sign the Short Environment Assessment Form declaring a negative declaration as Lead Agency.

Copy Attached

Supervisor Blum Bump - Yes

Councilwoman Crane - Yes

Councilwoman Bordewich - Yes

Councilman Ramsey - Yes

Councilwoman Bordewich announced that the Town had received a New York State Quality Communities Grant award of \$32,000. The goal is to work with the Town, Villages of Tivoli and Red Hook and the School District to plan growth that boosts economy and slow tax increases.

Supervisor Blum Bump said she looks forward to the three municipalities working together to see the effects of different kinds of development on our tax base and our growth.

Councilman Ramsey reported on the Highway Garage that we would meet with our Highway Superintendent and the Town Engineer to see if we could come up with ideas as to how we want to go with that.

Supervisor Blum Bump said we go ahead and have Morris Associates check out the property on 199 that is owned by the Town.

Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand will be in on the 20<sup>th</sup> as the Board had a number of issues to discuss.

Councilwoman Bordewich said the Planning board Chairperson Christine Kane had called her and asked how to proceed as she had a few zoning issues she would like to discuss as it is hard working with some of the zoning laws the way they are written.

Councilwoman Bordewich said the road widths are issues she would like resolved as the Planning Board has a number of large developments coming before them.

Everyone agreed to ask Wayne to come on the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> to settle some of these issues.

Supervisor Blum Bump said she did receive a letter from the Public Service Commissions on Central Hudson.

Attorney Trezza said basically what the letter says is the Public Service Commission will hold their public comment period open until October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Board had written asking them for an adjournment of their decision until the issue of Eminent Domain can be decided by the Town Board. Our ninety days falls on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Our letter will be addressed and we will have an opportunity to add to it. The real issue is when they make a decision, second session is November 22<sup>nd</sup>. So the Town will have until October 27<sup>th</sup> if they wish to go Eminent Domain that is when they would rule on our request.

Councilwoman Crane...I am concerned that we have not done SEQR on the Central Hudson lands.

Attorney Trezza said he would do it and get it to the Board on Friday and will check to see if it is a type one action on the land.

### **Committee Report:**

#### **Red Hook Water District #1-**

Councilwoman Crane reported on the Red Hook Water District #1. 97,113 gallons of water pumped per day. Kevin Bathrick began work on the pump house. 2 new hydrants installed. November there will be dead end flushing. Now working on the Budget for 2006. Thank our Water Board for a job well done.

### **Purchasing Department:**

Councilwoman Crane reported the purchasing activity for July 12 thru September 12<sup>th</sup>. Callanan Industries Inc. \$139,968.27 for road paving, Pitcher Lane, Mill Road and Echo Valley Road were paved. Colarusso Blacktop \$21,119.81, 660 tons of blacktop used by Highway Department on Williams Road. Four tennis court renovations by Copeland Coating of Nasau, N.Y. Repairs on well site for \$2900.00 replacing chlorine pumps \$975.46.

Councilman Ramsey at the Rec. Park the Girl Scouts are repainting the benches.

Supervisor Blum Bump said she was talking to John Kuhn and when they build a new Rec. Park they will not have any lighting.

Councilman Ramsey said the Disaster Preparedness Chairman Douglas will be with us to go over his report.

### **Economic Development:**

Councilman Ramsey reported the Economic Development Committee working on a draft of strengths and weakness of the Town meeting again on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to complete this.

Councilman Ramsey liaison to the Fire Companies- Tivoli Fire Report was submitted on their Capital Projects. Will contact Chief Coon on the Capital Projects for Red Hook as I haven't received anything yet.

The Red Hook Fire Co. worked the traffic on Hardscrabble Day and collected \$4,000.00 for the Louisiana Fire Co. they adopted.

### **Building Department:**

Councilwoman Bordewich read report for the Building Department.

33 permits issued

61 inspections

### **Assessor:**

On the request from Assessor a report had been received from MJ Watch in responds from the letter sent by the Board. After the Town Board has a chance to review it will be available for the public in the Town Clerk's office.

Councilwoman Bordewich said looking at Dial-A-Ride I was wondering about the usage. We want to look into this as it is coming up for our budget.

### **Agriculture Advisory Committee:**

Chairman Robert McKeon reported his committee was working on a marketing plan. Keep the dollar locally and support our tax base as there is a benefit shopping locally. Also working on some PDR applications.

Supervisor Blum Bump said the budgets from the department heads are due by September 19<sup>th</sup> so that she and the Bookkeeper Debra Mars will prepared a tentative budget to present to the Town Clerk on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Resident Marcy Appell inquired if Central Hudson properties will be on the Ballot in November.

Supervisor Blum Bump said no, it would not be on the ballot.

Councilman Ramsey said Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April is to benefit the elderly and low income. They are looking for volunteers and the residents who do need their help.

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the floor again for public comment.

Resident Linda Keeling questioned why Pitcher Lane was only done  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way.

The other thing is you are contemplating putting in a bridge over the wetlands in the Rec. Park it has to be 2 wheelchairs wide and the surface can not be slippery.

Resident Jeanne Douglas questioned why Pitcher Lane was only a portion complete.

Councilman Ramsey replied only a certain amount of money is budgeted each year for road repair. The rest will be completed next year's budget.

John Douglas asked if the engineer were paid hourly or percentage of total cost. The property on Route 199 is a lot of hills going up and down so it is going to cost just to level the ground enough to put a building on it. Secondly the steep grade in the winter you are putting your men in danger with ingress and egress.

Kathy Stewart...you own that piece of property but you don't necessarily have to put the highway garage there you might be able to trade it.

To educate a child in school I heard it cost \$7,000, the equalization number the school has to use for a lot of budgetary items, this is across the state. We have a special education program that many move here for so it is costing us closer to \$12 and \$13,000 per student. We need to put extensive pressure on the Governor concerning this and be aware of the tax burden every year.

Lou Dondero...is there an actual plan for this highway garage?

Councilman Ramsey said yes there is a plan and it was 1.4 million scheduled to be built directly behind the building here. We are not going out to bid on that highway garage or on that location.

Councilwoman Bordewich...I don't think it was the right building for now and the price has gone up to 2.6 million. We are looking to see if there is a better location.

Lou Dondero...we have a salt shed right here. The property on 199 is dangerous with the grade getting in and out. The site was also used as a dump. This is something we shouldn't be dragging our feet on as it is needed.

Motion by Councilman Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Bordewich and carried the meeting adjourned 10:06 p.m.

Town Clerk

Margaret E Doty