

A regular monthly meeting of the Red Hook Town Board was held at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, N.Y. on Tuesday, June 13, 2006.

Present: Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Jean Bordewich
Councilman Harold Ramsey
Deputy Town Clerk Claire Horst
Absent: Councilwoman Sue Crane
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the meeting at 7:45 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor's report deferred to next meeting because of absence of Bookkeeper.

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting is a continuation of a public hearing on Mass Gathering Law.

Rosemarie Zengen of Save Our Town read a letter regarding an e-mail from Kathy Stewart. Asked the Town Board to clarify the situation by writing to Clermont and Livingston.

Councilman Ross said that if it has taken place we should clarify publicly that Ms. Stewart doesn't represent the Town.

Ms. Stewart requests that the Board respect her right to privacy.

Linda Keeling ... had a good time during the Historic Tour.

Paul Fredericks read a letter addressed to the Zoning Enforcement Officer clarifying reasons for the wet basement at the Stewart home.

Brad Mitchell...in regard to the Fiscal Analysis Study. Feels the Economic Development committee should be brought into the process.

Councilwoman Bordewich said that the Town of Red Hook, the two Villages and a representative from the School District have been working on it and will put a steering committee together.

Supervisor Blum Bump tells the audience that she does not want personal attacks at the meetings and asks people to write letters instead of bringing personal issues to the Board

Harry Colgan asked the Board to look at the assessment – especially Tivoli's. He did his own research and asked that we look towards improvement.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked if he asked the Assessor if this occurred anywhere else. Any other section of Town given such an increase across the board?

Harry ...looked at all areas.

Councilwoman Bordewich ...not sure how he came to an average, the Assessor can make changes.

Councilman Ross...the new Assessor is working on the issue.

Lou Ambrico from Tivoli asked how his property wound up in an Agricultural Zone. He lives on Route 9G, 500 feet north of Lasher Road on the east side.

Councilwoman Bordewich recommended he speak to Robert McKeon, Chairman of the Ag. Committee. See if his property fits within their definitions.

Supervisor Blum Bump announces the continuation of the public hearing on large assemblies. Asked if any other comments on the proposed large assemblies' law.

Brad Mitchell asks for an abbreviated version of the Mass Gathering Law.

Supervisor Blum Bump... our present Mass Gathering Law governs assemblies of 200 or more people. We realized we need to update that law, yet don't want what governs those large gatherings (tens of thousands) to also govern a wedding or smaller gatherings. It's basically a health, safety and welfare issue for the citizens. We want to clarify the law and increase the number of the gathering allowed before having to obtain a permit. Copies are available in the Town Clerks office.

Supervisor Blum Bump continues the Public Hearing on the highway specifications. We are seeking to amend and would like to add two possibilities, one called a country lane, and one called a traditional neighborhood road. Copies are available in the Clerk's office.

Councilman Ross asks if we will open a Public Hearing.

Supervisor Blum Bump ... yes, will set and make an announcement.

Councilman Ross wants to make sure we give enough public notice.

Supervisor Blum Bump opens the Business meeting at 8:05 p.m., and introduces Michelle Greig from Greenplan.

Michelle Greig gives comparative analysis of proposed amendments of places who adopted narrower road standards. Hopes to help with Boards decision. Passed out excerpts from various publications regarding road widths. A traditional neighborhood street would be for neighborhoods developed adjacent to the existing hamlets or villages. May have sidewalks, narrower pavement width. County Planning recommends 16 – 22 feet. We recommended 28 feet.

Councilman Ramsey asks for clarification if the roads include parking.

Michelle Greig...28 feet includes parking. Every single residential home is required to have 2 parking spaces per lot. Most of the parking is off the road. There is also a difference on the roads between designed speed and posted speed. Designed speed should only be 5 mph higher than the posted speed. Narrower roads have fewer pedestrian fatalities.

Councilman Ross asks what the width was that was worked out at the Planning Board Meeting.

Michelle Greig...can't recall.

Councilman Ross...What kind of road is in Anderson Commons to Innishannon?

Michelle ... collector road because there is some through traffic. Michelle recommends 24 feet with parking on one side of the road. There is no parking on a 22 ft wide road. For commercial or industrial highway roads there is more parking.

Councilman Ross...has Wayne gotten any information on the 18 foot? The Highway Superintendent recommends 24 feet minimum in our present highway specs.

Michelle... there are financial plusses to Developers. Would recommend 20' for an access street, 22' for the rural collector roads.

Councilman Ramsey will give Wayne the information. The Highway Superintendent had another engagement for this evening, apologized for him not being there.

Supervisor Blum Bump...we are not demanding this – if it is in the specs, the developers can decide what suits them, then they can go to the Planning Board. The Planning Board would consult with the Highway Superintendent. All of our present roads are referred to as highways.

Councilman Ross asks who decides the Planning Board or the Planning Board with the Highway Superintendent.

Supervisor... we make the Highway Specifications and the Highway Superintendent enforces them.

Councilman Ross...if we change the highway specs we should put it as “Planning Board in consultation with our Highway Superintendent would determine the name or type of street this particular thru road would be called”.

Councilman Ramsey would like the Highway Superintendent in the know before the Public Hearing.

Councilman Ross wants Wayne on the next workshop agenda and wants to make sure we give him the information ahead of time.

Supervisor Blum Bump agrees and said that everything goes into his box.

Councilwoman Bordewich asks which roads require curbing. Traditional neighborhood streets require curbing. Suggests we get information to Wayne.

Michelle Greig suggests deleting “avenues” and “alleys” – agrees with Wayne on the Highway Specs.

Supervisor Blum Bump introduces Clay Laugier of “A Crazy Idea”, who gives a talk on his new company and showed video trailer of a movie of theirs “coming soon to a theater near you”.

Supervisor Blum Bump discusses a resolution supporting the Community Preservation Act.

Councilwoman Bordewich ... Robert McKeon is working on it. The bill passed in the Senate, but Legislature wanted to make minor changes. We need to decide tonight on scheduling an emergency meeting for Friday evening. Meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 18, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Ross asked if the threshold changes

Councilwoman Bordewich answered no. They are on a tight deadline. If we want to move this through. Do we want a high threshold and high tax rate. Tax above the typical reassessment.

Robert McKeon states that the median price was \$342,000 last year in Dutchess County.

Councilman Ramsey is concerned with locking into this number.

Councilwoman Bordewich stated that amending an existing law is easier to do than to get a law to pass.

Councilman Ross...we can charge whatever tax we want up to 2 % - makes no sense.

Councilwoman Bordewich ...we can go back and say that the Town wants the median price adjusted annually. Want to use State language for Red Hook Language

Robert McKeon...the state wide bill has a language

Councilwoman Bordewich asked what their number was.

Robert...\$350,000

Councilman Ramsey ... won't lock in. He will not vote for a locked in number.

Councilwoman Bordewich... we can choose our rate, amendments, tax

Supervisor Blum Bump... we could make an amendment accordingly.

Councilman Ramsey is concerned that WE cannot adjust it, the State can.

Councilwoman Bordewich does not like the lack of flexibility

Robert...we should have the bill the way we want

Councilman Ross... Why compromise?

Robert recommends a fall back position.

Supervisor Blum Bump... since we can make amendments, she's willing to be flexible.

Councilman Ross feels we should push for what we wanted

Supervisor states we should have a back up plan.

Councilman Ross... go back to the drawing board to get what we want.

Scheduled emergency meeting for Sunday, June 18, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

BOAT CLUB

No quorum – two council members must recuse themselves. Councilman Ross and Supervisor Blum Bump are members of the boat club.

FEE PROPOSAL FOR A CONTAINED REPORT FOR THE PURCHASE OF RECREATION LAND

Supervisor Blum Bump... Pete Hubble's proposal is OK. Agree to terms and conditions of the appraiser. Take action.

Councilman Ramsey motions to accept the proposal as stands, Councilman Ross seconds provided the attorney approves. All in favor.

No vote.

Councilman Ross motions to accept the proposal as stands subject to our attorney's approval. Seconded by Councilman Ramsey.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
Nay 0

FISCAL ANALYSIS STUDY

Councilwoman Bordewich ... recommends hiring Fairweather Consulting to do the Fiscal Impact Study and would like to finalize the contract. Would like the approval of the Town Board.

Bob Mitchell ... The Economic Development Council was hoping they would have been included in the search for a consultant.

Councilwoman Bordewich said we spent 2 months and we need to proceed.

Councilman Ramsey asked who was overseeing.

Councilwoman Bordewich responds that the Mayors of the two Villages, Jean Bordewich herself and a School Board member. Recommends a steering committee. The Town is the lead agency for the project.

Councilwoman Bordewich moves that we agree to hire Fairweather for the Fiscal Impact Study. Supervisor Blum Bump seconds. All in favor.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
 Nay 0

Councilman Ross suggests that it now be turned over to the EDC

ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Bordewich would like to appoint the Zoning Review Committee at the next meeting in July.

MORATORIUM – HARDSHIP LETTERS AND DATE OF FILING.

Supervisor Blum Bump... set Public Hearings for July 11 or July 18, 2006. Would like to have meetings on July 10th and 11th. The 10th would be a special meeting. Then have meetings on the 18th and 26th.

Board decided to set the Public Hearing for the hardship applications for 7:30 p.m. for the Hanson's and 7:45 for the Murphy's.

Supervisor Blum Bump motions, seconded by Councilman Ross to set a Public Hearing, for the applications from Mr. & Mrs. Hanson at 7:30 pm. and Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Murphy at 7:45 p.m. on July 18, 2006. All in favor.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
 Nay 0

Supervisor Blum Bump...in regard to hardship, they must meet certain conditions.

Councilman Ramsey... as far as the applications for hardship per the moratorium law, will we give them direction? Is the law self explanatory? Are we going to stipulate what constitutes a hardship case?

Supervisor will talk to Joel Sachs.

Councilman Ross...he has heard of discussions of possible zoning changes of the Ag Committee and so on and wants to be informed of any discussion about any of our zoning, by any Committee.

Next, he has been on this Board for a long time and he's never walked away from a meeting embarrassed until our May 22 Public Hearing on this entire issue. Yes, he was strongly opposed to the moratorium because he doesn't think it makes any sense, it was just another way to hit people. However, for it or against it, the way it was handled was wrong. We've had minor issues at Public Hearings where we've gone and taken all the written comments and thought about it before we passed it. Here it was the first public hearing we had on this proposed moratorium which is a very controversial subject and we had, I don't know how many pages of comments handed to us that evening, the law itself was changed that evening, the resolution itself was changed that evening, and yet we felt a need to vote on it as if we totally disregarded any of that paperwork that was handed before us with a number of legal questions, right or wrong, that were presented to us that night. We chose to go ahead and vote on it and it upset him to no end to conduct business in that manner. It was not giving the public their just hearing. It was the wrong thing to do. That being said, he is afraid that the moratorium legally, in a number of ways will wipe out the PDR program, just by the way the moratorium can change the value of the Ag land. Which is another reason in his mind not to have the moratorium.

Was very upset the way this was handled by this entire Board.

ROAD AND TRAFIC SAFETY

Supervisor Blum Bump asked Councilman Ramsey to handle the residents concerns about road and drainage issues.

Councilman Ramsey said that both are being handled now by the Highway Superintendent. The 55 mph speed limit is on a county road. As far as the drainage issue, it's not a town road. Wayne Hildenbrand hasn't heard about any drainage issues.

Al Trezza states that it is a town road that was accepted.

Councilman Ross...this road was accepted 20 years ago.

Councilman Ross suggests having the Highway Superintendent deal with it.

Supervisor Blum Bump asks if maybe the Road and Traffic Safety Committee can get it together.

Councilman Ramsey said they had no pull. If people have complaints, bring them to us and we will look at them.

Councilman Ross ... suggests we accept Glen Ridge /Innishannon subdivision road.

Supervisor Blum Bump suggests waiting until the problems are solved. Would like our attorney to check and make sure everything has been taken care of.

Al Trezza ... the issues were addressed. Will make sure Christine Chale gets the file on that.

Supervisor defers until their July meeting.

RHCSD SPACE NEEDS STUDY

No comments

LARGE ASSEMBLIES

Supervisor Blum Bump ... review large assemblies law

Christine Chale ... revised version of local law. What is the definition of large assemblies, 1000 people, and/or 8 hours? Questions parts of the provisions. She revised the Town's version. See underlined sections.

There was much discussion regarding the number of people and the time factor.

Supervisor Blum Bump motions to set a Public Hearing to amend Ch 44 of local law of the Town of Red Hook code governing public assemblies. Seconded by Councilman Ross. Public Hearing set for July 11, 2006 at 7:15 p.m. All in favor.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
Nay 0

Supervisor Blum Bump moves to approve Part I of the full Environmental Assessment Form connected with the law as it stands today. Second by Councilman Ross. All in favor.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
Nay 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Ross reports on the ZBA, Planning Board.

Councilman Ramsey reports on the Highway Dept. bids. Requests to accept the lowest bid by Blacktop Maintenance Corporation.

Councilman Ramsey moves to accept Blacktop Maintenance Corporation as the lowest bidder. Second by Councilman Ross.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
 Nay 0

Supervisor Blum Bump would like to see the bid. She is not comfortable approving bids without seeing the paperwork.

Councilman Ramsey... NYSERTA had a solar energy forum – would be a good idea for the garage

Supervisor Blum Bump ... we should also get a bid on the cost of tearing down the Highway Garage.

Councilman Ramsey continues with report. The parking signs are in for Jefferson Road. On August 1, at Abrams Park the Rhinebeck Legion Band will be performing from 7 – 8:30 p.m. the Hardscrabble Committee has been meeting and is looking for donations.

Councilwoman Bordewich... new shirts for the recycle center employees. We should re-advertise for the Recycle Center job. There was a dog control issue regarding what police can do with pick ups in the off hours.

Councilman Ramsey suggests getting the dog control officer a cell phone to be available.

Supervisor Blum Bump gives water report

Councilman Ross ...in regard to St Margaret's Home – we have to start managing it.

Supervisor Blum Bump will ask the Task Force to organize a cleanup and she will also talk to Wayne about it.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Linda Keeling pointed out that we should not have telephone numbers printed in the agenda.

Clay Laugier said that there are three grants for cell phones for employees and regarding trails, there are preventative programs through the Pete Seeger Fund. Will give trail money for community outreach.

Supervisor Blum Bump motions to go into Executive Session at 11:20 p.m., seconded by Councilman Ramsey. All in favor.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
 Nay 0

Executive Session closed at 11:40 p.m.

Board meeting opened then closed at 11:45 p.m. on a motion by Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey.

Adopted Aye 4 Blum Bump, Ross, Bordewich, Ramsey
 Nay 0

Respectfully submitted by: Claire W. Horst, Deputy Town Clerk

