

**Town of Stuyvesant
Public Hearing
Proposed Local Law #1 of 2021
June 10, 2021**

The Town Board held a Public Hearing for the purpose of taking public comment on the proposed Local Law #1 pertaining to parking restrictions within the Town of Stuyvesant.

Supervisor Knott opened the Hearing at 7:05pm and reviewed the proposed Local Law. He explained the intent of the proposed Law was to enable the Board to establish parking restrictions within the Town of Stuyvesant.

Kathryn Schneider said a process should be defined how the no parking areas are to be decided.

Supervisor Knott explained that if a resident brought a complaint the Board would consider each situation individually. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea added that a specific, delineated process could be established.

There was a question about State laws regarding parking, i.e. Handicapped Parking spaces. Tal Rappleyea explained that the police prefer there to be local parking restrictions for reinforcement.

Robert Gibbs asked about the issue on County Route 25. Supervisor Knott explained that there had been 2 major complaints with respect to parking for the Rail Trail. One was on Sunnyside Road and the other was on County Route 25B (New Street) with people parking on the shoulder of the roads. The County couldn't put up no parking signs without a Town Law. Mr. Gibbs asked how many roads are in the Town. Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler replied there are 26 miles of road in Stuyvesant. Mr. Gibbs asked how many complaints had been received. Mr. Stiffler replied we had received complaints on Riverview St., Sunnyside Road, and Smith Road. Mr. Gibbs summarized with a comment that there had been mostly no problems. Supervisor Knott commented that a lot has been corrected since the complaints.

Mr. Gibbs asked where will people be able to park. Supervisor Knott explained that they may have to work further but there is more parking around, he added that parking access for the trail has been a problem.

Mr. Gibbs asked if the intent of the Law was to prohibit parking on Lindenwald Avenue. Supervisor Knott said that is not the intent.

Lee Jamison read a statement from Christian Sweningson (not in attendance) that said he felt this Law was political in nature and that the Republicans were throwing their weight around. He also asked about whether there was notice on the website. He asked that an amendment be added to the Law to require a public hearing for every sign.

Lee Jamison said in 40 years she knew 3 times when people have complained about parking. She added that we already have rules for no parking in the Winter. She said the problem on Sunnyside Road has been fixed with a new parking area made by the Greenway. She said this was an urban solution to a rural problem. Ms. Jamison said the issues have been corrected. She thinks the law is unnecessary and added that the 1st Section was vague and targeted the Electric Trail for being too popular. She added that people on the trail are considerate. She continued that she had an issue with the fact that the trail goes around Sunnyside to accommodate Williams Farm.

Robert Gibbs asked what the definition of road was. Tal Rappleyea explained for this purpose it was the paved and driveable part. A road is 49.7 ft. wide, 25 ft from the center of road is the right-of-way. Mr. Gibbs asked if the right-of-way goes into his property and he's parked on his grass could he get a ticket. Supervisor Knott said only if there was a "No Parking" sign there.

There was further discussion about how the Law should outline the process for complaints and review. Tal Rappleyea explained this could parallel other laws referred to as "prior written notice laws" and explained that there are a lot of laws on the books that aren't used. This law is an analogy. The flashpoint may have been the trails but the County has said no enforcement can be done without a local law.

There were questions about laws in other Towns. Supervisor Knott explained that Schodack has similar problems but didn't know how Kinderhook was handling parking issues. There was a suggestion of signs directing people to other parking areas. There was a comment that there are more important problems, a growing graffiti problem and speeding trucks.

A motion to close the Hearing was made by Tom Burrall. The motion as seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

Councilman Schneider said regarding the parking problems on Sunnyside, we had worked with the State to put in additional parking spots. There is no sign because it's not an official trailhead. The spots were put in with permission from the landowner.

Tom Burrall explained that the Town of Kinderhook has designated specific roads for no parking.

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Town Board Meeting
June 10, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly meeting on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 7:00pm. In attendance were Supervisor Knott; Councilmembers Kelley Williams, Tom Burrall, and Bill Schneider; Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler; Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli; and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea. Councilman Brian Chittenden was not in attendance.

The meeting was held at the Town Hall, and was a hybrid meeting. Supervisor Knott called the meeting to order opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Tom Burrall. The motion was seconded by Bill Schneider and was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the bills presented was made by Kelley Williams. The motion was seconded by Tom Burrall and was approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Town Hall Telephone System -- Supervisor Knott reported that he has been working on getting the new system installed and the company is expected to begin next week.

Hummel Park Site Visit – Supervisor Knott met with CLC and visited the Park. They discussed a new driveway. We are proposing to put the new road at the south end near the property line for new allowance. Ray Jurkowski (Town Engineer) is working on maps and drawing in the road. Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler is working on cost estimates.

Lee Jamilson asked where the parking area would intersect. Supervisor Knott explained it would be between the trees and the kiosk and that the kiosk may

have to move a little bit. Councilman Schneider asked for a copy of the map when it was done.

Bike Safety Rodeo – Melissa Naegeli reported that after being asked at the May meeting to contact the Sheriff’s Department to set this up, an event is scheduled for June 26 at 11am at the Church of St. Joseph’s. This will be a free event open to the public.

Reports

Town Clerk – Report is on file

Recreation Committee – Supervisor Knott reported that Tom Burrall and Steve Montie will have the fire companies work together to get the tennis courts cleaned. Kelley Williams reported that work was being done at the playgrounds; the basketball nets had been changed in Stuyvesant Falls and that the backboards needed to be painted. Supervisor Knott added that he had been contacted by a new resident, R. DePrima requesting the backboards be reinstalled at the tennis courts, it would be 2 pieces of plywood.

Railroad Station Committee – Supervisor Knott reported that the Committee hadn’t planned a festival for June since there was always a lot of competition for strawberry festival. They are considering different ideas: blueberry festival, musical events, repair café.

Environmental Management Council – Lee Jamison gave a report in Christian Sweningson’s absence. Good House Keeping Awards decisions have been made, there are 110 people enrolled in “meatless Mondays” in Kinderhook, Chairman O’Hara recognized Ed Simon for his years of service. Supervisor Knott added that the energy projected completed in 2020 and they had worked with Climate Smart and the State. They are working on compiling the data of savings.

Dog Control – Report on file.

Kinderhook Memorial Library – Lee Jamison reported that the Library has reopened with limited hours and added that curbside pickup was still being used. Regular hours will resume on July 6th. Masks will be required inside but not at activities held outdoors. They are working on organizing many outdoor events.

Volunteers raised money for a \$10,000 grant to purchase “decodable readers” for kids with dyslexia. They will coordinate with ICC.

The Friends of the Library have scheduled a local garden tour for 8/14 as a fundraiser. They are also planning to resume the book sale in the Fall at the McNary Center. The pop up book sales are going well. Flyers for parking areas are available on the Greenway website.

Office for the Aging – Supervisor Knott reported that lunches have begun again at the church was reported as being very busy. Melissa Naegeli reported that the Stuyvesant-Stockport Senior group had scheduled the Town Hall to restart their monthly meetings in June.

Highway Department – Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler reported:

- 3 new picnic tables have been installed;
- They are on their 2nd round of mowing on the road sides;
- A paving project will be done on Eichybush Road; from County 21 to Hollow Road;
- A new person was hired to replace Steve Montie after his retirement, he will start on June 15th;
- The new grass is coming up along the new road in to the Sand Bar;
- The project at Ferry Road is set to begin in September.

Assessor's Office – Cathy Knott, Assessor's Clerk, reported that the Board of Assessment Review had met on May 27th ("Grievance Day"). There were 5 stipulations, 1 parcel was removed, and there were no grievances. Supervisor Knott reported that he has had compliments about working with Lynn Hotaling.

Town Historian – Cathy Knott, Deputy Historian, reported that barring any changes to COVID restrictions, currently Historic Stuyvesant Day will be celebrated on August 14th with a picnic at the Landing playground at noon. As in past years, the Town will provide hamburgers and hotdogs and ask that attendees bring a dish to share. She asked if the Highway Dept. could bring additional tables and said we will need someone to cook. There is no theme yet although "hooray" seemed to be a good idea.

Cemetery – Cathy Knott said there will be a stone cleaning day and she will be contacting people who volunteered at Historic Stuyvesant Day in 2019. They will start in Butler Cemetery.

ZEO/Building Inspector – Peter Bujanow reported that his reported was on file and there were 8 new permits in May, 6 in June so far. He added that there were 2 new homes being built. Supervisor Knott told Mr. Buijanow that the new owners of the mobile home park had requested a meeting.

Broadband – Councilman Bill Schneider reported that while no meeting has been held yet, he had been contacted by 3 people interested in being on the Committee. He said he will be reaching out to the people who are interested to schedule a meeting. Carol Leiberman asked that she be included as well.

The County is entering into a contract for \$30,000 going through CEDC to do a County-wide audit of not good coverage and no coverage. Spectrum only company not sharing coverage maps. Mid-Hudson has expressed interest in coming in to Stuyvesant. There is 90 day turn around time for the information from the audit.

County Business

Supervisor Knott reported that the Board had passed a resolution for Hazardous Waste Day to be held on May 7, 2022. There is a Paint Care Program being established by the State.

Fuel Bids have been updated for the July 1st start date: Main Brothers Oil Co. was the low bid for Fuel Oil and Nolan Bottle Gas Co., Inc. continued to be the vendor for LP Gas. The Town will go with the low bid and Chuck Stiffler will contact them.

Federal Stimulus Funding – the County is slated to receive \$5.5Million over the next two years. The money will sit in a savings account while the Board works to interpret the laws. They are being rewritten and will be done by the end of July, they are very strict.

The Town will receive some money. NYS has the money and has 30 days to pass it on to the Towns, they can request an extension of up to 30 days. The funding allocation is not determined yet but the money will go in to a separate account when it's received.

New Business

A joint workshop with the Town Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, and Building Inspector was held on June 3rd. The majority of the session was dedicated to solar projects. The new solar laws we adopted in 2018 will be revisited has there have been major changes in large scale solar

projects in the last 3 years. Language from NYSERDA is will be reviewed by the Zoning Revision Committee and considered for modifications to our Law.

There was a question about establishing a moratorium on large scale solar projects. Tal Rappleyea said one could be done with a grandfather clause to allow projects that have already begun the process. There could also be a hardship clause, more than financial, could also allow projects to go under the old law. Councilman Schneider asked if the project would be affected. Tal said it could be if the Board wanted it that way. He further explained that we are a “vested right state” so a project may not need full approval but be able to prove they’ve spent money to get to this point. It would be up to the Board to allow the project or not.

Supervisor Knott said the Law we have gives the Planning Board flexibility to allow limitations. Decommissioning, for example, is not included in our current law and could be added by the Board.

Lee Jamison stated that the projects currently before the Planning Board straddles Stuyvesant and Kinderhook. Supervisor Knott said that would be another reason to allow it under a proposed moratorium. Kinderhook is the lead agency on that project.

Supervisor Knott said other projects are a long way off but developers are hungry for land near the power lines. He added that projects over 25kw, the State takes over and the Town has no say.

Supervisor Knott asked the Board if it wanted to propose a Local Law for a Moratorium on projects over 25 MW for 6 months. A motion was made by Bill Schneider to establish a moratorium for 6 months for projects over 25kw. Tal Rappleyea said a proposed law will focus on storage facilities, fencing, and decommissioning. The motion was seconded by Tom Burrall and was approved by unanimous vote. There will be Public Hearing held on July 8, 2021 at 7:00pm, ahead of the Town Board Meeting.

Supervisor Knott said were short some members of the Zoning Revision Committee and said Amy Abatti has offered to help. Ron Knott made a motion to appoint Amy Abatti to the Committee. The motion was seconded by Bill Schneider and was approved by unanimous vote.

Supervisor Knott reported that he had been contacted by a resident regarding difficulty in mail delivery problems. He said the area of 26A between 9J and

Riverview Street had formerly been known as Kinderhook Street. Ron will reach out to other residents on the street about the change.

County Board

Supervisor Knott reported that Jack Mabb, Director of the Health Dept. reported that they are caught up. They are working to identify homebound people and establishing small group vaccination events. For additional information on vaccination sites, there is a hotline at the Health Dept.

Public Comments

Cathy Knott thanked Joe Scrum for putting the new bench donated by the Garden Club together.

Cathy Knott requested permission to hold the annual children’s Halloween party on October 23rd. The Board agreed unanimously.

Cathy Knott wished Melissa Naegeli well on her upcoming surgery.

With no further business before the Board, Bill Schneider made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.

The following is an abstract of vouchers presented to the Board for approval:

| | <i>June 2021</i> | | | LIGHTS | |
|----------------|---|-------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| CLAIM # | PAYEE | A/C# | GENERAL | LND/FALLS | HIGHWAY |
| 21-175 | CDPHP Universal Benefits, Inc. (1841.13) | 9060.8 | 613.71 | | 1,227.42 |
| 21-176 | National Grid (\$1299.00) | 5182.4 | | 632.60 | |
| | | | | 666.40 | |
| 21-177 | National Grid | 1620.4 | 24.58 | | |
| 21-178 | National Grid | 5132.4 | 70.48 | | |
| 21-179 | National Grid | 1620.4 | 22.70 | | |
| 21-180 | Constellation New Energy, Inc. (\$118.26) | 1620.4 | 2.31 | | |
| | | 5132.4 | 115.95 | | |
| 21-181 | Paychex of New York LLC | 1320.4 | 277.70 | | |
| 21-182 | Columbia Co. Assessor's Association | 1355.4 | 25.00 | | |
| 21-183 | Marlin Business Bank (\$264.99) | 1410.4 | 87.25 | | |
| | | 1620.41 | 177.74 | | |
| 21-184 | Johnson Newspaper Corp. (\$155.81) | 1010.4 | 76.55 | | |
| | | 8020.4 | 40.16 | | |

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|--------|---|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 8010.4 | 42.10 | | |
| 21-185 | Repeat Business Systems (\$34.81) | 5132.4 | 5.45 | | |
| | | 1620.41 | 29.36 | | |
| 21-186 | Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq. | 1420.4 | 1,375.00 | | |
| | <i>3-Jun-21</i> | | 2,986.04 | 1,299.00 | 1,227.42 |
| 21-187 | Columbia County Treasurer (Office of Aging) | 6140.4 | 2,500.00 | | |
| 21-188 | Stuyvesant/Stockport Senior Citizens | 6772.4 | 3,000.00 | | |
| 21-189 | Stuyvesant-on-Hudson Garden Club | 6772.4 | 150.00 | | |
| 21-190 | Michael J. Naegeli | 1355.4 | 48.00 | | |
| 21-191 | Paul Chittenden | 1355.4 | 48.00 | | |
| 21-192 | Cheryl Trowbridge | 1355.4 | 48.00 | | |
| 21-193 | Mario's Home Center | 5132.4 | 94.53 | | |
| 21-194 | County Waste | 5132.4 | 170.09 | | |
| 21-195 | Culligan | 5132.4 | 30.09 | | |
| 21-196 | Wex Bank | 7110.1 | 72.60 | | |
| 21-197 | Rainbow Distributing Co., Inc. | 5132.4 | 37.47 | | |
| 21-198 | Verizon Wireless | 5010.4 | 62.66 | | |
| 21-199 | Matthew Tuczynski | 7110.4 | 900.00 | | |
| 21-200 | Madsen Overhead Doors | 5132.4 | 147.25 | | |
| 21-201 | Visa (\$44.82) | 1355.4 | 7.50 | | |
| | | 1410.4 | 17.32 | | |
| | | 3620.4 | 20.00 | | |
| 21-202 | Time Warner Cable | 1620.4 | 389.32 | | |
| 21-203 | Time Warner Cable | 5132.4 | 285.90 | | |
| 21-204 | Tolls by Mail | 5110.4 | | | 3.27 |
| 21-205 | Salem Farm Supply | 5130.4 | | | 87.48 |
| 21-206 | Valley Energy | 5110.4 | | | 819.71 |
| 21-207 | Inter City Tire | 5130.4 | | | 772.12 |
| 21-208 | Abele Tractor | 5110.4 | | | 1,675.00 |
| 21-209 | CarQuest of Valatie | 5130.4 | | | 205.36 |
| 21-210 | Share Corporation | 5130.4 | | | 152.85 |
| 21-211 | Mario's Home Center | 5130.4 | | | 9.54 |
| 21-212 | Bob Boll Excavating | 5110.4 | | | 437.58 |
| | <i>10-Jun-21</i> | | 8,028.73 | - | 4,162.91 |
| 21-213 | SL Empire Solar I, LLC | 1620.4 | 202.32 | | |
| 21-214 | Sickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill CPAs | 1320.4 | 114.30 | | |
| 21-215 | Catherine G. Knott | 7550.4 | 27.06 | | |
| 21-216 | Air Gas USA, LLC | 5130.4 | 58.00 | | |
| | <i>10-Jun-21</i> | | 401.68 | - | |