

April 13, 2006

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on April 13th, 2006 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Kenneth Hummel, Councilperson Richard Cummings, and Town Clerk Lori Ennis.

Highway Superintendent Bernard Kowalski and Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer Gerald Ennis were also present.

The February and March minutes were both approved.

**COMMUNICATION:**

- **ABATE of New York, Columbia County Chapter** - Letter to Valerie Bertram to inform the Town that the ABATE annual Poker Run will be riding through Columbia County.
- **Leadership of Columbia County** - Letter from Kathy Sampson confirming the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. use of the Town Hall. The Town Hall will be used for the Leadership of Columbia County Graduation.
- **Notice, Grievance Day** - Informing town residents that Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>. Grievance Day will be Held by the Town Assessor and the Board of Assessment and Review at the Town Hall.
- **April Rabies Clinic** - A free Rabies Clinic will be held at the Gallatin Town Highway Garage Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- **Deputy Youth Camp** - Letter from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. The Columbia County Sheriff's Office Drug Enforcement & Education Unit will host it's annual Summer Youth Camp at the Playgrounds in Columbia County.
- **Job Posting** - State Aid Planning Operations Manager. Date of examination is June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- **Job Posting** - Caseworker. Date of examination is June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- **Bird Flu** - From the New York State Health Department
- **Recreation Program** - Applications for the Stuyvesant Summer Recreation Program are now being accepted. This program is open to all Stuyvesant Children ages 5-12. Applications may be picked up at the Town Hall or Either Post Office. A Director and two counselors will be needed for the Program.
- **Letter of Support** - Letter from Martin Roby supporting Bill Gumaer to fill the Town Board vacancy.

A motion to accept the communications as read, and be brought up under proper heading, was made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, seconded by Councilperson Richard Cummings, carried.

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

Superintendent James Dexter, of Ichabod Crane School was invited by the Town Board to give a presentation regarding the Ichabod Crane school budget and the effects it would have on school taxes.

Mr. Dexter gave a power point presentation explaining the school district and budget. He stated that there are 2374 students at Ichabod, the largest school in Columbia County. Mr. Dexter gave a comparison regarding State testing and showed Ichabod's strong student achievement explaining strong academics was due to an excellent teaching staff.

Mr. Dexter spoke about:

- The competitive athletic program - boasting that every team made sectionals.
- Successful program to meet the needs of students with disabilities.
- Excellent art and music program
- Class size which has been and will remain within acceptable limits
- Well maintained buildings, that allows the community to use these buildings for a variety of programs both extracurricular and adult education.
- Strong business operations and excellent staff in the central office.

He explained that last year 42% came from State Aid compared to 2001 when 48% came from State Aid.

Mr. Dexter went over the budget line by line and fully explained that some of the increases were due to: No child left behind act, Fuel Cost Increases, Diesel Fuel Increases. He spoke about the increases in the retirement system, social security, health insurance, retiree health insurance, dental plan and Medicare.

Mr. Dexter explained that the levy for the school budget is 15.5%. The contingency budget would be at 14.9%. He spoke about the negative impact to the student if the budget was not approved.

The school budget vote will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to 9:00pm in the High School.

**TOWN CLERK:**

- Received \$2367.50 of which \$2179.56 was given to the Town Supervisor.

**HIGHWAY:**

- Superintendent Kowalski stated that there will be a Town-wide Spring Clean-up. Residents may bring items to Sharptown Road on May 13<sup>th</sup> between 8:00am and 4:00pm. No garbage or hazardous materials will be accepted. A limit of four tires per household will be accepted. Please separate appliances and other metals. ID will be required.
- The Town Highway Department will be getting their new truck at the end of April.
- Although the Town Board spoke about the purchase of a new plow to be bought at auction last month, no one made a motion.

A motion to allow the Superintendent of Highways to purchase a plow at auction and to spend up to \$2,000.00 was made by Councilperson Richard Cummings, seconded by Councilperson Kenneth Hummel, carried

A resolution was presented and passed for the County Highway Department:

COUNTY HIGHWAY SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL CONTRACT RESOLUTION ADOPTED  
BY

**THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STUYVESANT**

COUNTY OF COLUMBIA, STATE OF NEW YORK

APRIL 13, 2006

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held at the Town Hall in said Town, County of Columbia and State of New York, on the 13th day of April 2006, at 7:00 P.M., there were

**PRESENT:**

\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Valerie Bertram  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Richard Cummings  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Bradlee Webster  
 X  All the above

**ABSENT:**

X  None  
\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Valerie Bertram  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Richard Cummings  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Bradlee Webster

**AND**

\_\_\_\_ Councilman Richard Cummings  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
 X  Councilman Bradlee Webster

offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Highway Superintendent is desirous of entering into a contract with Columbia County with respect to snow removal and ice control for County roads located within the Town of Stuyvesant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board is supportive of such an arrangement which will be subject to the review and approval of the Town Supervisor and the Attorney for the Town;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED,**

That the Town Highway Superintendent is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the County of Columbia concerning snow removal and ice control for County roads located within the Town, subject to the review and approval of said contract by the Town Supervisor and the Attorney for the Town.

Seconded by

\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Valerie Bertram  
 X  Councilman Richard Cummings  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Bradlee Webster

and duly put to a vote and carried with the following members voting in the affirmative:

X  Supervisor Valerie Bertram  
 X  Councilman Richard Cummings  
 X  Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
 X  Councilman Bradlee Webster

and the following members voting in the negative:

\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Valerie Bertram  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Richard Cummings  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kenneth Hummel  
\_\_\_\_ Councilman Bradlee Webster

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The undersigned, the Clerk of the Town of Stuyvesant, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town at a meeting thereof duly held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006, and is in full force and effect.

**WITNESS** my hand and the seal of said Town this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2006.

LORI ENNIS  
Town Clerk

**CEO/ZEO REPORT:**

- Report is on file with the Town Clerk's Office.

All other reports will be on file with the Town Clerk.

The Public Hearing was opened at 8:35pm. The following Public Notice was read by the Town Clerk:

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWN OF STUYVESANT  
TOWN BOARD**

**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**LOCAL LAW PROPOSAL:  
Amending the Animal Trespass Act**

**April 13, 2006**

**STUYVESANT TOWN HALL  
SUNSET DRIVE  
STUYVESANT, NEW YORK 12173**

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held during the April 13<sup>th</sup>, Stuyvesant Town Board meeting at the Stuyvesant Town Hall to consider a proposed amendment to Local Law No. 1 of 2006, the "Animal Trespass Act".

Copies of the proposed amendments are available from the Town Clerk's Office. Written comments may be submitted and must be received by the Town Clerk by the end of the public hearing. Comments may also be mailed to the Town Clerk at the above address or sent via fax to (518) 758-8077.

**Lori Ennis  
Town Clerk**

The following people spoke against the Animal Trespass Act.

Carl Williams, Chairman of the Town of Stuyveant Agricultural Advisory Committee thanked the board for the open communication they have established with the farming community. He opposed the law and read the report from the Advisory Committee which was previously presented to the Town Board.

Also opposing the law were Lee Jamison, Bill Gumear, Peter Donahoe, and Martin Roby.

No one from the public spoke in support of the law.

Supervisor Bertram closed the public hearing at 8:55pm.

Supervisor Bertram read the following "Repeal of the Animal Trespass Act":

**LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2006  
REPEAL OF  
THE ANIMAL TRESPASS ACT**

**ADOPTED BY**

**THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STUYVESANT  
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA, STATE OF NEW YORK  
APRIL 13, 2006**

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held at the Town Hall in said Town, County of Columbia and State of New York, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006, at 7:00 P.M., there were

**PRESENT:**

- Supervisor Valerie Bertram
- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster
- All the above

**ABSENT:**

- None
- Supervisor Valerie Bertram
- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster

**AND**

- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster

offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of Stuyvesant, at its January 12, 2006 meeting, enacted the Animal Trespass Act (“the Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stuyvesant has historically vigorously supported, and will continue to vigorously support, agricultural land uses, farming, and farming practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has been contacted by members of the agricultural community and the general public, all of whom having expressed a strong objection to the existence of the Act as the result of a potential negative impact to agricultural efforts in the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing in this matter has been properly noticed and duly held on today’s date; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board considered alternatives to repealing the Act including but limited to drafting revisions of the Act, however, following much deliberation and consideration the Town Board has concluded that repealing the Act is appropriate.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant as follows:

The Animal Trespass Act, Local Law No. 1 of 2006 shall be and hereby is REPEALED.

Seconded by

- Supervisor Valerie Bertram
- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster

and duly put to a vote and carried with the following members voting in the affirmative:

- Supervisor Valerie Bertram
- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster

and the following members voting in the negative:

- Supervisor Valerie Bertram
- Councilman Richard Cummings
- Councilman Kenneth Hummel
- Councilman Bradlee Webster

This repeal shall take effect upon filing with the Department of State and in accordance with the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

The undersigned, the Clerk of the Town of Stuyvesant, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town at a meeting thereof duly held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006, and is in full force and effect.

**WITNESS** my hand and the seal of said Town this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2006.

LORI ENNIS  
Town Clerk

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion to approve the **resolution** to allow the Supervisor to authorize the transfer of \$125,000.00 to establish a reserve for tax stabilization in the General Fund was made by Councilperson Kenneth Hummel, seconded by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, carried.

- Marilyn Burch, a Stuyvesant resident has scheduled a "Farmer's Market" to be held on Friday evenings at the Stuyvesant Railroad Station. The market is scheduled to begin on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Burch will keep the Town informed. Supervisor Bertram thanked Marilyn for all the research she has done on this project.
- Mario Nistico had a petition that he asked the residents of the Town of Stuyvesant to sign. This petition was in protest to the rise in cost in our electric service provided by National Grid. He explained that our bills have increased approximately 35%, yet it is the same unreliable service. Mr. Nistico was also going to the surrounding towns to ask for their signatures. Mr. Nistico will then take this petition to National Grid and demand a reduction in cost.
- There will be a Railroad Station Committee meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Spring Clean-up is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup>. A schedule is posted at the Town Hall. Volunteers are needed.
- Lee Jamison stated that the Stuyvesant Democrats are sponsoring a picnic after the spring clean up at the beach area in Stuyvesant Falls. The picnic will begin at 12:00.

## **APPOINTMENTS:**

- Due to the resignation of Councilperson Faith Robertson, a seat on the Town Board was vacated. Supervisor Bertram stated the Board would like to appoint Ronald Knott as the new member. Supervisor Bertram spoke about Mr. Knott and stated that he has a lot of experience to bring to the board.
- The Town Board would like to appoint Bill Gumear to fill the seat on the Zoning Board.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Councilperson Richard Cummings, seconded by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, carried.

**2006 ABSTRACTS**

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

81	Stuyvesant Fire	968.31	100	Morris Assoc.	470.40
82	Nextel	52.38	101	Carrie O'Hare	12.20
83	Staples	205.13	102	Tal Rappleyea	1075.00
84	Treasurer	3889.43	103	Gerald Ennis	23.20
85	Dell Marketing	1442.88	104	Long Oil	897.98
86	CDW-G	304.79	105	B. Sutherland	51.80
87	Independent	32.72	106	Calarusso	22392.28
88	Xerox	479.32	107	Unifirst Corp.	154.80
89	National Grid	1937.68	108	Mario's	284.02
90	NOVA	46.05	109	Carquest	92.95
91	Lori Ennis	334.96	110	Mooradian	80.98
92	Berkshire Tel	281.63	111	Northern Safety	152.30
93	Empire Alarms	21.95	112	VanKleeck's	55.25
94	E. A. Morse	50.04	113	T & T Sales	153.30
95	Schwaab	34.24	114	Fastenal	84.86
96	COARC	22.00	115	Kivort Steel	250.00
97	Williamson Law	52.05	116	Tractor Supply	456.72
98	Sausbier's	321.00	117	Rainbow	5.94
99	Charlene Leach	73.92			

Recorded this 13th day of April 2006

Approved this 11th day of May 2006

\_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON

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COUNCILPERSON

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