

April 12, 2007  
Town Board Meeting

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its monthly meeting on April 12, 2007 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall at 7:00pm. In attendance were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Edward Scott, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Bradlee Webster, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer and Town Clerk, Melissa Naegeli. Superintendent of Highways Bernard Kowalski was also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott, carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter from Ichabod Crane Central School District with "facts of note" and a newsletter.

A letter from the NYS OGS asking for available sites for a research and education facility site.

A letter from Holly Tanner, County Clerk, with an announcement regarding "Passport Saturday".

A letter from the NYS Department of Parks & Recreation announcing that they are now accepting 2007 Grant Applications. Applications are due by June 29, 2007.

A motion to accept correspondence as read was made Councilperson Bradlee Webster, seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott, carried.

Motion made by Councilperson Ronald Knott to pay bills, seconded by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, carried.

**REPORTS:**

***Town Clerk***

In the month of March, the Town Clerk's Office took in \$689.50 and \$522.98 was given to the Supervisor after bills were paid. The Clerk also reported that approximately 90% of the taxes have been collected and that second notices have been mailed. The complete report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

***Highway Department***

Superintendent Bernard Kowalski reported that during the last snow storm they had vehicles getting stuck and breaking down so it was a long process. He reported that over the winter they were out plowing 30 days.

The Highway Department will receive 1800 ton of material for paving the first week of May.

The Town Trash Day is scheduled May 19<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 20<sup>th</sup>. Postings will be sent around town.

The Highway Department has lost one employee and will be short for about one month.

***Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer***

Report is on file with the Town Clerk.

### **Planning Board**

Secretary Shirley Narzynski reported that the last meeting was March 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a minor subdivision application by Rybka - a Public Hearing is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm.

Gale Bury announced at the Planning Board meeting that there may be a proposal coming in the future for a subdivision that will cross between Stuyvesant and Kinderhook.

There was a discussion about the training requirements.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2007.

### **Zoning Board**

Secretary Shirley Narzynski reported that the Zoning Board met on March 27<sup>th</sup>. The Public Hearing that was scheduled for Kaye's was postponed to April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

There was a discussion about the training requirements.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2007.

### **Greenway Committee**

Councilperson Ronald Knott reported that at the last meeting there was a discussion about economic development in the area and whether the area could support another grocery store. There was a discussion about the need for a gas station in town.

The committee also talked about Senior Citizen housing and possibly putting out a survey for this need. One problem recognized is there isn't enough services available close by for Seniors.

Councilperson Ronald Knott and Committee person Charlene Leach attended a Greenway meeting at the State.

The next meeting will be April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Town Engineer Ray Jurkowski and someone from Smith Well Drilling will be invited since the discussion will be about well drilling and their impact on surrounding agriculture.

### **Recreation**

The recreation committee met on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The committee has offered their assistance in getting the Town Survey out to as many people as possible.

There was a discussion regarding issues with the Summer Recreation Program. They will explore offers from other towns after responses are received to the Town Survey.

The committee is polling area farmers asking to use a bulldozer to help the Highway Department with the road and parking area at the Town property on Sharptown Road. They haven't gotten any responses yet.

The committee is discussing holding a recreation day, possibly in July, at the new recreation site on Sharptown Road. They have also discussed wells and electricity at the park site. Kozmo Jakiela has met with National Grid regarding getting electricity to the park. He has not reported on his meeting yet. Terry Phillips is looking into finding shale either cheap or free. Doctor Asbornsen and Sean Cummings are working on the grant application. Brian Frick is going to walk the property with Dr. Asbornsen. W. Janeway is looking at processes for developing trails.

The Recreation Committee is looking into purchasing new nets for the basketball courts as well as the tennis courts.

The committee would like to pick a date and get volunteers together to clean up along the fence line at the playground in the Landing. Town Clerk, Melissa Naegeli, said when there is a date she will mention it to the Te Ryu Dojo.

The next Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm.

#### **Railroad Committee**

Marilyn Burch reported that the last meeting was held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. They discussed fundraisers and informational events.

The coffee and baked goods are still being provided at the Post Office and is bringing in donations.

The Kinderhook Library Book Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Station.

There is a lecture and book signing by the authors of Hudson Valley Ruins. At the station the lecture and signing will be 3-5pm. There will be a reception at Larry Ashmead's home from 5-7 for the authors. The donation will be \$30/person with a portion going to the Railroad Station Restoration Committee.

Karen Hummel reported there will be a 3-day art show and sale June 8<sup>th</sup> - June 10<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the show is "A River Inspires" and it will be a mixed media show. There are approximately 30 local artists participating. On June 8<sup>th</sup> there will be an opening reception. On June 9<sup>th</sup> there will be the show/sale and a seminar given by John Morra - who will donate all proceeds to the Station. On June 10<sup>th</sup> the show will continue concluding with a reception for the artists at Lee Jamison's home. Each artist will give 2 pieces and 25% of the sales will be donated back to the Station fund.

David McMillan from the Kinderhook Library Book Sale announced that he has hung up a flyer in the Town Hall and has other for anyone who may want them.

The Farmers' Market will open on May 11<sup>th</sup>. This is one month earlier from last year but they wanted to be open before Mother's Day.

Councilperson Ronald Knott reported that there will be a DOT Workshop regarding grants awarded spending. Someone will meet with Councilperson Knott and Supervisor Bertram. This is a reimbursement program of up to 80% and all guidelines must be followed to the letter.

The committee is still waiting for the easement to be signed before proceeding with the electricity.

#### **Cemetery Committee**

Councilperson Bradlee Webster and Highway Superintendent Kowalski reported that the tree removal company cannot get to the trees until the ground dries up. For the trees that are deeper back it may have to wait until the Fall.

#### **Town Historian**

Historic Stuyvesant Day will be held on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> and will celebrate "The History of the Firefighter". There will be open houses at both fire houses. Roy Shannon is working on sketches for the shirts as well as notecards that will be made this year for sale.

Councilperson Bradlee Webster reported that the Stuyvesant Fire Company #1 has formed a committee to work on Historic Stuyvesant Day with the Historian.

### **New Business**

Marilyn Burch presented Historian Juanita Knott with an inscribed copy of the Hudson River Ruins book - "*dedicated to Juanita Knott for her years of service as Town Historian*".

There will be a Public Hearing at the next regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting, Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, to discuss the NYS Uniform Fire and Building Code requirement changes.

A motion was made by Councilperson Ronald Knott to accept a resolution regarding the educational requirements for Planning Board and Zoning Board members. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Bradlee Webster and carried.

Supervisor Bertram read a letter from the Stuyvesant Fire District #1 requesting to remove their fire protective district. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea said that under NYS Law a protective district can be dissolved or lines moved by resolution by the Town Board on its own or by petition from the Fire Company. In that event, a Public Hearing would have to be held. Supervisor Bertram explained that there are three protective districts in the Town. Warren Leiser, on behalf of the Fire Commissioners, explained that there is an inequity in what residents are paying in taxes between the fire district and the fire protective district (those in the district pay much more than those in the protective district).

There is a tentative public hearing scheduled for the June Town Board meeting - June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

### **Old Business**

Supervisor Bertram reported that Councilperson Edward Scott removed the graffiti at the Stuyvesant Falls Playground. He had to use power tools to remove it all. Supervisor Bertram spoke with the Trooper in charge of this case and the offenders will be painting the picnic tables instead.

Supervisor Bertram also reported that there had been vandalism at the Stuyvesant Landing Playground - that there was a picnic table damaged as well as the snow fence. The Sheriff's Department is investigating. Supervisor Bertram said she wants to send a message that this type of behavior will not be tolerated.

Supervisor Bertram gave an update on the survey process. The bulk rate mailing permit has been purchased. A stamp with the mailing information has to be made up. A final draft of the survey will be to the board members by the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. There was an extensive discussion between the board and the audience regarding ways to make sure everyone gets a copy of the survey. Supervisor Bertram has received the labels from Columbia County Real Property to mail them out to all property owners. The surveys will also be made available at both post offices and other public sites throughout the town.

Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer made a motion to purchase a new net for the tennis court and 4 nets for the basketball courts. The tennis net will cost approximately \$165 with a 5-year guarantee and the basketball nets are \$7.50 each. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Bradlee Webster and carried.

Councilperson Ronald Knott made a motion to purchase a new spotlight for the flag pole in front of the Town Hall. The better fixtures are about \$150 each but it wouldn't have to be constantly replaced. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, and carried.

Karen Hummel asked about the clothing bin that was supposed to be put in the parking lot. Councilperson Bradlee Webster said it wasn't here yet but that it is expected.

Supervisor Bertram reported that she has calls into Time Warner Cable and Fairpoint Communications (a/k/a Berkshire Cable) regarding their videotaping of the Town Board meetings and getting them aired on the public access channels. She hasn't heard back yet.

Lori Ennis asked about an updated on the member item money that was discussed at the March meeting. Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer reported that we had definitely been awarded the money with the passage of the State Budget.

Lee Jamison asked what committees new Councilperson Edward Scott has gotten involved in. Supervisor Bertram explained that as a Councilmember he could attend any committee meeting that he wanted to. Councilperson Edward Scott said that he has been riding around the town getting the numbers of lights out so he could contact National Grid and get them fixed. He cleaned up the equipment at the Stuyvesant Falls playground and is working on the getting the "Welcome to Stuyvesant" signs repaired.

Sharon Hall asked when the Assessor would be at a meeting to answer questions about assessments and equalization rates. Supervisor Bertram told her that there will be a presentation at the May meeting.

Sharon Hall also asked about the traffic going through the development to the horsefarm on Eichybush Road. A discussion was held regarding the traffic agreement that was made when the horse farm was approved. Although emergency access was requested there isn't a way to get the traffic to stop. There was also a brief discussion about a new subdivision that is being proposed that will be jointly approved between Kinderhook and Stuyvesant.

Martin Roby asked about the situation with the intersection of Routes 9J and 26A and expressed concern about the condition of Eichybush Road and the "dip" in the road. Supervisor Bertram reported that she has asked the NYS DOT to look at the intersection of Routes 9J and 26A.

Councilperson Bradlee Webster made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

## 2007 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

99	National Grid	2153.02	119	Xerox	367.35
100	Fairpoint Communications	317.55	120	Colarusso Sand & Gravel	155.89
101	Columbia Co. Treasurer (Hospitalization)	4133.96	121	Mooradian Hydraulics	30.00
102	Staples	35.42	122	Tractor Supply	269.53
103	COARC	55.00	123	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	64.95
104	Tal Rappleyea	2187.50	124	Unifirst Corp	163.56
105	Morris Associates	130.50	125	Capital Tractor, Inc.	257.87
106	Schodack Septic	108.00	126	Main Care	3391.99
107	Lang Stamp Co.	22.50	127	Culligan	27.00
108	Kingston Oil Supply	1864.43	128	Mullica Trucking	5431.28
109	Catherine Knott	149.76	129	Bernard Kowalski	34.41
110	New York Planning Federation	150.00	130	Zwack, Inc.	97.50
111	Hudson Valley Newspaper	5.27	131	C.J.Miner, Inc.	17.00
112	Melissa Naegeli	39.00	132	Colarusso Quarry, Co.	3203.18
113	Nova Information System	31.39	133	Ben Funk, Inc.	41.96
114	Matthew Bender & Co., Inc.	74.80	134	Col. Co. Assoc of Highway Superintendents	200.00
115	Col. Co. Sheriff's Office	56.70	135	HSBC Business Solutions	76.32
116	Carrie O'Hare	126.11	136	Carquest of Valatie	76.32
117	George Knott	366.12	137	Mario's	172.31
118	Charlene Leach	77.76			

Recorded this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2007

Approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2007

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TOWN CLERK

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SUPERVISOR

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COUNCILPERSON

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COUNCILPERSON

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