

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2007  
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its monthly meeting on September 13, 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, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also in attendance.

The meeting opened at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the August minutes was made by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, seconded by Councilperson Bradlee Webster and was carried unanimously.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- ✧ Letter from NYS Troopers – a recruitment letter and flyer. Flyer has been posted on bulletin board.
- ✧ Letter from NYS Department of Environment Conservation – a cover letter transmitting a copy of a letter they sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service requesting they complete their review of the boat launch..
- ✧ Letters of interest from Bob Green and Pat Casey to be the Town Representative to the County Environmental Management Council. The candidates will meet with the Board for interviews on Wed., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

Motion made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster to approve the communications as read and seconded by Councilperson Edward Scott. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the bills was made by Councilperson Edward Scott and seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott. Motion was carried.

## **REPORTS:**

### ***Town Clerk***

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli reported that the Office took in \$1796 and after expenses turned over \$1353.30 to the Supervisor. Complete report is on file in the Clerk's Office.

### ***Highway Department***

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that we have received about \$28,000.00 of the \$50,000.00 we are expecting.

The Gypsy Rock Road repairs are underway.

Fall Trash Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2007 from 8:00am – 4:00pm – rain or shine – at the Sharptown Road site.

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

Report was read by Supervisor Bertram and is on file with the Town Clerk.

### ***Dog Control Officer***

Report was read by Supervisor Bertram and is on file with the Town Clerk.

### ***Planning Board & Zoning Board***

Report was read by Councilperson Ronald Knott and is on file with the Town Clerk.

### ***Greenway Committee***

At the August 24, 2007 meeting the committee was reviewing the Comprehensive Plan page of the Town Survey. They were having some difficulty interpreting the answers. At the next meeting the committee will work to summarize the concerns from the survey.

The Committee would like to address the Board at the October meeting to discuss the survey results. This discussion would be followed up by scheduling a public meeting to further discuss the specific concerns with the residents.

The next Greenway Committee is scheduled for September 27, 2007.

### ***Agriculture Committee***

No report.

### ***Town Hall Committee***

Councilman Ronald Knott reported that new light bulbs had been installed outside.

### ***Railroad Station Restoration Committee***

Marilyn Burch reported that since the last meeting the Railroad Station Committee had taken in \$35.51 from the coffee/baked goods sale on Mondays and \$157.00 from the Farmers' Market.

The conduit for the electric has been put in and Councilperson Ronald Knott has contacted Jack Scheriff to get the work started.

The Railroad Station Committee would like to hold a classic movie night at the station when the electrical work is completed. Painting is being done.

Marilyn Burch asked if it would be okay to run an ad in the newspaper reminding everyone about the Friday night Farmers' Markets and that the last one will be on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board approved her request to place an ad by a motion made by Councilperson Ronald Knott and seconded by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer. There was a question raised about Marilyn paying for a previous ad and the Board explained that she had to submit a voucher to be reimbursed.

Tim Gordon will be at the Farmers' Market on September 28<sup>th</sup> to hear constituent concerns.

Supervisor Bertram asked if there were plans to hold the Halloween Party at the Railroad Station this year. Marilyn Burch answered that a lot depended on whether or not there was electric and that the Committee was considering something similar to last year where the party was held at the Town Hall and people to take a hay ride to the "haunted station". The discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

### ***Cemetery Committee***

Councilman Bradlee Webster reported that there was no activity.

### ***Town Historian***

Town Historian Juanita Knott reported that there was another very successful Historic Stuyvesant Day. Thanks go out to both Fire Companies and there was a lot of good feedback – especially about the old pictures. The committee is considering starting to reference the 2009 Celebration with next year's Historic Stuyvesant Day.

Mrs. Knott has been contacted by the Historic Kinderhook Committee to find out if there are any dates set yet for the 2009 Celebration so things can be coordinated. Mrs. Knott replied that the only date planned so far is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in August as Historic Stuyvesant Day.

Supervisor Bertram reminded everyone that if there is any interest in participating in the Committee for the Quadricentennial plans to contact Juanita Knott.

### ***Recreation Committee***

Recreation Committee Chair, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer read some of the feedback she had received from parents of the children who participated in the playground program over the summer. The final number was 67 participants from the Town of Stuyvesant. The final figure will be \$7925.00 and the Committee has asked the Board to pay for the 67 kids – which results in an additional \$250 over what was budgeted for a playground program in the budget. Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer recommended that the Town pay for the additional kids over the originally approved 52. Supervisor Bertram explained that there really wasn't ever a question whether or not the Town would pay for all of the kids.

Trail building was held on Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> and there are pictures in the Town Hall. The next work day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

There was a meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup> that not a lot of people attended so there was a shared discussion regarding putting up signs at the trails. Supervisor Bertram will ask Don Lavalley from the Sportsman's Federation will attend the Recreation meeting in October to discuss hunters' issues.

The next Recreation Committee will be October 8<sup>th</sup>.

There were questions regarding the ADA issue for the Sharptown Road property in relation to how to interpret the CLC document. The discussion was tabled so CLC could be contact for an interpretation. Several people have been in contact with the CLC regarding the issue of the parking lot and road location. The determination was that the ADA does not include driveways, parking lots, fields or sports fields. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea has been preparing the SEQRA short form and Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer asked him for an explanation of what happens next.

Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea gave a synopsis of the process for the SEQRA preparation and the finding of a negative declaration. It was decided that Mr. Rappleyea go over the SEQRA form with an explanation of what happens next. Whenever a Town or municipality takes an action that may have an environmental impact the first step is to do a short form environmental assessment form. Because of the scope of this project – a short form is appropriate. The project description was “new town park – phase 1”. Based on the measurements and drawings from Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski and Councilman Ronald Knott and the knowledge that the parking lot and road do not have to be within the 5 acres, we can basically put it where we think it is most advantageous. Mr. Rappleyea read through part 2 of the SEQRA form with the answers he recommends that would enable the Board to make the negative impact declaration. Tal wanted to make sure that it was understood that at some point it could be argued that by looking at just this small part of the projection it be segmentation. NYS Regulations require that the entire project be looked at as soon as possible but these are the only things we can complete right now on this project.

A motion was made by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer to declare a negative impact for the driveway and roadway project at the Sharptown Road property, the motion was seconded by Supervisor Valerie Bertram and the Board voted unanimously and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Bertram then directed Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski to move forward with the road and parking lot at the Sharptown Road site.

Tal Rappleyea will prepare the resolution for the Board to sign.

Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer also reported that the Committee started to review the comments from the Survey and they will look at them further and present findings to the Board at a later date.

Supervisor Bertram asked if the Railroad Station Restoration Committee had completed their review of the survey results yet and Councilman Ronald Knott responded that they haven't.

### ***Old Business***

Supervisor Bertram told everyone that the 1<sup>st</sup> Budget Workshop scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup> had to be changed to September 19<sup>th</sup> due to Primary Day. The meeting will begin at 8:00am.

There will be a Public Hearing at the October 11<sup>th</sup> before the Board meeting regarding the franchise agreement and coverage areas with Time Warner. Councilperson Ronald Knott asked that if anyone has any questions or concerns about the services provided please contact any Board member or come to the Public Hearing and ask Time Warner directly.

There will not be a Town Board Workshop meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> due to scheduling conflicts.

### ***New Business***

Councilman Ronald Knott asked if there is a key for the utility building at the playground. Supervisor Bertram said she has a key and will give it to him.

Councilman Edward Scott reported that the new signs are in and will start to go up in the next couple of weeks. He wants to paint the posts before hanging the signs. There has to be something added to the back of the signs to hang them without damaging them.

Supervisor Bertram asked Highway Superintendent Kowalski about the New Street sign in Stuyvesant Falls. He told her that it was a County sign. She asked if we could contact the County to replace it.

Supervisor Bertram reported that there had recently been a fire in town and a family was burned out – the house completely burned to the ground. There will be a collection of clothing, money, etc. with Steve Montie, Chief of Stuyvesant Fire Company #1 acting as the point person. If anyone has any ideas for fundraising please contact him.

### ***Public Comment***

Karen Hummel thanked Councilman Edward Scott for his help in replacing the lights on the electric pole near her house.

Steve Montie told everyone to keep in mind when considering the all-in-one service from Time Warner that the phone service is a cable phone and when the power goes out so will the phone. Also, the County 911 will not read the address from the digital service.

Martin Roby asked which signs were being replaced by the new signs.

Pat Casey told everyone that there are a lot of t-shirts left from Historic Stuyvesant Day. The sweatshirt order has been placed and she will notify everyone when they come in.

Jane Jessup-Mayer extended cheers to Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer and the Recreation Committee for their work on the summer program and on the park.

Andrew DeGiacomo asked if the Board was doing anything in light of more accidents at the intersection of State Route 9J and County Route 26A. Supervisor Bertram reported that she had been in contact the NYS DOT last year and that had they came and did a review and determined at that time that they wouldn't put a stop light on 9J. She contacted them again after the last accident and hasn't gotten a response yet.

A resident from Stuyvesant Falls reported that there has again been vandalism at the Stuyvesant Falls playground. Supervisor Bertram said that this had been discussed at the last workshop meeting. There were ideas discussed between the board and public as to how to discourage the vandalism, some of those ideas were a "fake camera", a sign posting a fine amount and putting up another light. It was agreed that the police should be contacted as soon as it's discovered and the people who live in the area should be more vigilant. Councilperson Edward Scott said he would go to the playground the next day to sand off the graffiti from the tables. Lee Jamison expressed concern that there were no consequences from the last time this happened and the Board explained that the offenders had moved from the area before anything could be done.

Lee Jamison asked about the resolution that Ned DePew had proposed previously regarding the LaFarge Tire Burning issue. Supervisor Bertram had given the Board members copies of the resolution to review. Councilperson Ronald Knott said that while he is concerned with the same issues, he is not comfortable in telling DEC they were wrong in issuing the permit. Supervisor Bertram said that she will work on a letter to DEC regarding better monitoring of the air quality.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster and was seconded by Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, the motion was carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

**SEPTEMBER 2007 ABSTRACTS**

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

273	National Grid	1833.35	295	Chemung Supply Corp.	1345.37
274	Fairpoint Communication	318.16	296	Colarusso Quarry Co.	2545.07
275	Columbia Co. Treasurer	4421.23	297	Colarusso Blacktop Co.	1520.60
276	COARC	44.00	298	Mooradians	84.24
277	Main Care Energy	1319.73	299	Unifirst Corp.	63.04
278	Empire Alarms	21.95	300	Northeast Auto Parts	31.60
279	Johnson Newspaper Corp.	53.34	301	Van Kleeck's Hudson	21.75
280	Carrie O'Hare	9.93	302	Tractor Supply	35.38
281	CDW Government, Inc.	1259.55	303	Columbia Tractor	238.34
282	Columbia Co. Sheriff's Office	200.34	304	CarQuest of Valatie	49.64
283	NOVA Information Systems	17.74	305	Sausbier's Awning Shop	30.50
284	Global Industries – Kimberly Scott	466.46	306	Mario's	155.38
285	Xerox Corporation	124.92	307	Rainbow Distributors	32.62
286	Melissa Naegeli	87.38	308	Culligan	26.00
287	Staples	247.52	309	Northern Supply	125.32
288	Tal Rappleyea, Esq.	3625.00	310	Juanita Knott	124.38
289	Rapport, Meyers, Whitbeck, et.al.	262.50	311	Lisa's Silkscreen	710.60
290	Morris Associates	1805.50	312	Fred Cohn, III	700.00
291	Gerald Ennis	332.02	313	Albany Running Exchange Event Prod.	350.00
292	Nextel Partners	49.36	314	Schodack Septic Service	108.00
293	Farrell Oil Co., Inc.	696.80	315	Gorman Bros., Inc.	1100.00
294	Bonded Concrete, Inc.	405.00			

Recorded this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 2007

Approved this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 2007

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TOWN CLERK

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SUPERVISOR

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COUNCILPERSON

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