

NOVEMBER 8, 2007
PUBLIC HEARING

The Stuyvesant Town Board continued the Public Hearing to take comments on the Franchise Agreement between the Town of Stuyvesant and Time Warner Cable Co. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Valerie Bertram at 6:15 pm. In addition to Supervisor Bertram, in attendance were Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, Councilperson Bradlee Webster, Councilperson Edward Scott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea.

The meeting began with the Clerk reading the public notice:

TOWN OF STUYVESANT
TOWN BOARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 8, 2007
6:15 PM
STUYVESANT TOWN HALL
STUYVESANT, NEW YORK

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 6:15pm the Town Board of Town of Stuyvesant shall continue the public hearing that began on October 11, 2007 for the purpose of taking public comment on the franchise agreement between the Town of Stuyvesant and Time Warner Cable. This public hearing will be held at the Stuyvesant Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant, New York.

Melissa A. Naegeli
Town Clerk

John Mucha from Time Warner returned with answers to some of the questions that had been raised in October during the Public Hearing.

1. To switch a phone account to Time Warner and keep the same number the new account must be set up exactly as the existing account, same name and address.
2. The service address and billing address must match.
3. If an incorrect exchange number had been originally assigned, the error cannot be continued with the new account and a new number must be issued.
4. Time Warner is now offering two phone lines. Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer asked if three lines were possible. Mr. Mucha said he would have to check. (*Mr. Mucha contact the Town Clerk's Office on Friday, November 9th and informed her that Time Warner doesn't offer three phone lines at this time*).

Supervisor Bertram asked about numbers being published in phone books. Mr. Mucha said that regardless of the service provider, the number should be in a phone book as long as it's a listed number.

Councilman Ronald Knott gave a list of names and addresses for residents on the Northern end of Town to Mr. Mucha and asked that Time Warner conduct a survey of the area. Mr. Mucha said Time Warner would be happy to conduct such a survey. Councilman Knott also asked about changing the proposed 15 year contract to remain at 10 years. Mr. Mucha said that wouldn't be a problem for Time Warner.

Supervisor Bertram asked if there were any questions from the public. No questions were posed and Supervisor Bertram closed the Public Hearing at 6:27pm.

NOVEMBER 8, 2007
PUBLIC HEARING

The Stuyvesant Town Board held a Public Hearing to take comments on the Proposed 2008 Budget for the Town of Stuyvesant. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Valerie Bertram at 6:40 pm. In addition to Supervisor Bertram, in attendance were Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, Councilperson Bradlee Webster, Councilperson Edward Scott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea and Town Accountant Mark Fitzgerald.

The meeting began with the Clerk reading the public notice:

**Public Notice
Town of Stuyvesant
Notice of Hearing on
2008 Preliminary Budget**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the preliminary budget for the Town of Stuyvesant for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2008 has been completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk, Melissa A. Naegeli, where it is available for inspection by any interested person at all reasonable hours.

FURTHER NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant will meet and review said preliminary budget and hold a public hearing at the Stuyvesant Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant New York, at 6:30 pm on the 8th day of November 2007, and that at such hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against the preliminary budget as compiled, or for or against any item or items therein contained.

PURSUANT to Town Law, the proposed salaries for hereby specified as follows: Supervisor, \$6,930.00 – Town Board (4) @ \$2760.00 ea. - Town Clerk/Tax Collector, \$21,321.00 - Town Justice (2) @ \$7,725.00 ea. - Highway Superintendent \$47,506.00.00 - Assessor \$15,965.00.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa A. Naegeli
Town Clerk

Supervisor Bertram explained that this was the 2008 Proposed Budget adopted at the October 8, 2007 Workshop meeting. She also explained that there will be an amendment added for the GAR payment of \$55,000.00 for the revaluation.

Supervisor Bertram reviewed the pages and explained the change of the above on page 1. All employees will receive a 3% raise with the exception of the Highway employees who will receive 3.5%. On page 5 – there has been \$10,000 put into celebrations to prepare for the 2009 Quadricentennial Celebration that will be held statewide. There had been \$30,000 put away for the salt shed that will be needed but because of the amendment that will be necessary for the reval payment, this amount will be pulled and put toward that.

Supervisor Bertram then opened the hearing to questions and comments. Sharon Hall asked about the attorney line amount and asked if it wasn't exorbitant. Lee Jamison asked about the actual money spent. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea explained that there is \$7500 in retainer amount per year. Councilman Ronald Knott explained that any big projects (i.e., developments) the fees are actually reimbursed to the town by the applicants. There was a comment from the audience that the Town Attorney gets paid more than the School District attorney gets. Mr. Rappleyea explained that a lot of what the School District handles is paid for by insurance – the Town doesn't have that.

Town Accountant, Mark Fitzgerald explained that he and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli are working on getting the reimbursable amounts of money up to date and that a better system will be in place soon.

**NOVEMBER 8, 2007
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its monthly meeting on November 8, 2007 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Edward Scott, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Bradlee Webster, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 7:27pm and the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the October minutes was made by Councilperson Edward Scott, seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Robert Cullen, long-time Town resident, presented a new flag to the Board to replace the flag he had originally presented when the Town Hall opened. The flag was donated to the Town in memory of his father, former Town Supervisor Richard E. Cullen. Supervisor Bertram accepted the gift with thanks.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ✧ Letter from NYS DOT regarding a traffic survey conducted at the intersection of Routes 9J and 26A. The survey was conducted in response to a request made by Supervisor Bertram at meeting she attended with Councilman Ronald Knott with NYS DOT. The survey found that it was not considered “a dangerous intersection” but that signs would be erected on Route 9J letting drivers know that they are approaching an intersection. Supervisor Bertram reported that she had asked DOT to consider moving the green box located on the pole at the intersection to improve visibility from Route 26A looking north.

Councilman Ron Knott reported that DOT will also cut some trees south of Route 26A to remove some of the shadowing that occurs during different times of the day.

- ✧ Letter from Justices Carrie O’Hare and Joseph Bruno regarding the resignation of Court Clerk Suzanne Chabot. They have requested the Board appoint Colleen Bruno effective December 1, 2007.

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 Bradlee Webster and seconded by Councilperson Ronald Knott. Motion was carried.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk

Report is on file in the Clerk’s Office.

Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the crews are putting up the snow fences and getting the trucks ready for winter with the plows. They have also started to receive salt deliveries. They are waiting for the bulldozer to begin working on the road and parking area at the Sharptown Road property. Supervisor Bertram said that as soon as the work was done they could submit the receipts to Assemblyman Gordon’s Office for the member item money.

Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Dog Control Officer

There was no report filed.

Planning Board & Zoning Board

Report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Greenway Committee

Councilman Ron Knott reported that they are reviewing the list from the surveys.

Agriculture Committee

No report.

Town Hall Committee

Councilman Ronald Knott suggested that the Emergency Plan should be updated.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee

Marilyn Burch reported that the Haunted Station was held on October 27th and was success. Since there is now electric in the Station, moving the coffee and baked goods on Monday morning to the station.

Councilman Ronald Knott met with an architectural firm to make a work plan to enable the Town to move forward for the grant. The list will be prioritized.

The next meeting will be held on November 17th and the Town Board members have been asked to attend.

Cemetery Committee

Councilman Brad Webster reported that although Fred Cohn resigned from mowing the grounds, he is willing to work out the differences. Councilman Webster will meet with Highway Superintendent Kowalski to discuss the removal of additional trees. Cathy Knott has offered to help Brad with the cemetery job and Councilman Webster is still trying to reach Ray Hempstead to get the keys, the deeds and to ask about the sign.

Town Historian

Mrs. Juanita Knott reported that they still have shirts available for purchase. The committee is considering having Roy Shannon's old pictures put on note cards.

Mrs. Knott also asked for any and all ideas that people may have for the 2008 Historic Stuyvesant Day theme that could lead into the 2009 Celebration.

Supervisor Bertram and Councilman Ron Knott told everyone that Mrs. Knott has had three (3) articles published in the Columbia County History and Heritage Magazine. The magazine can be purchased at the Columbia County Historical Society.

Recreation Committee

Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer started her reported by thanking Cathy Knott for doing a wonderful job with the Halloween Party. The day at the park was held on November 3rd and there were a lot of members of the committee and guests – Willie Janeway and the CLC.

Councilwoman Gumaer asked if posting the warning sign announcing the hunting season increased the Town's liability. Lee Jamison asked if the CLC had given suggestions for safe hunting procedures. Councilwoman Gumaer suggested everyone sit down and discuss safe procedures for hunting season.

Councilwoman Gumaer said that the committee has been reviewing the surveys and will give a report at the December meeting.

An extensive discussion with the public ensued regarding the hunting on the town property. Supervisor Bertram told everyone that there will be an open discussion at the next Recreation Committee meeting scheduled for December 1st.

Old Business

Councilman Ronald Knott made a motion to give Supervisor Bertram permission to sign the Franchise Agreement with Time Warner Cable. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer. The motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Bradlee Webster made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment of \$55,000 for GAR. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster to pass the 2008 Budget with the changes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott and carried unanimously.

New Business

Cheryl Trowbridge's term on the Board of Assessment and Review has expired. A motion was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster to reappoint Cheryl Trowbridge to the BAR. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer and was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bertram announced that the County is working on an Intermunicipal Hazard Mitigation Plan and are looking at infrastructures. The towns that do not participate will not be to get money for damages. Supervisor Bertram read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #07-06
TOWN OF STUYVESANT TOWN BOARD
COLUMBIA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PROGRAM
NOVEMBER 8, 2007**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant supports the Columbia County

Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Plan Program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant hereby agrees to participate in the Columbia County Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Plan Program and to further participate with the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted "Aye" or "Nay" for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Valerie Bertram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Councilperson Ronald Knott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Councilperson Edward Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Councilperson Bradlee Webster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay

The Resolution, having been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared duly adopted by the Supervisor of the Town of Stuyvesant.

Dated: November 8, 2007

Melissa A. Naegeli
Town Clerk
Town of Stuyvesant

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Knott to approve the resolution as read. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edward Scott and it was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster to appoint Colleen Bruno as the Court Clerk. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer and was carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Ned DePew asked if there had been any progress on the Air Quality monitoring and the request to have the Permit to LaFarge revoked. Supervisor Bertram told him that the Town Board discussed the issue at the October meeting and agreed to leave the issue to DEC.

There was a question about the status of the Schoolhouse Road Bridge closure. Supervisor Bertram reported that Senator Saland's office is in contact with the Engineers from CSX.

Andrew DiGiacomo asked about the DEC sign at Icehouse Road and whether or not there should be another sign about the railroad tracks. Supervisor Bertram asked if the gate was closed most of the time. She also reported that she and Councilman Knott met with DEC and Chris DeCinto (Encon Officer) regarding a gate at Ferry Road because there have been discussions about putting in a picnic area. They left the meeting thinking there won't be a gate put in right away.

There was also a discussion about people driving down to the beach at the Landing and the Boat Launch project. CSX doesn't want anyone using the easement to construct a launch.

Dr. Asbornsen told the Board that he supports everything Ned DePew has said with regard to the LaFarge Plant. He said that it's not a political issue that it's a health issue. He urged Supervisor Bertram to be more proactive at the County level.

There was a question regarding the bridge on Ridge Road. Supervisor Bertram responded that DOT had done an inspection and that the bridge was not red-flagged and there were no plans to close it. There has not been an update.

Dr. Asbornsen offered congratulations to the Board for the recent election.

Warren Leiser spoke as a Commissioner of the Stuyvesant Fire District. The District is in the process of applying for a loan to purchase a new truck and they must hold a public hearing. Mr. Leiser requested that the Public Hearing be held before the next Town Board meeting.

Sharon Hall asked about the ambulance situation in the county. Supervisor Bertram explained that the problem in the County was available ambulance squads. The idea is to fund an extra ambulance crew that would float around the county and be available in the event that they are needed to cover for another one that is busy.

The County would have to own the “Certificate of Need” from the Dept. of Health to have a “floating squad”. “On Call” duties would float between squads. Councilman Brad Webster asked if the ambulance companies have mutual aid procedures similar to the fire companies. Steve Montie, Chief of the Stuyvesant Fire Co. #1 said that instances where an ambulance has been dispatched to a scene, if another one is needed 911 cannot automatically send another one.

Ned DePew asked about the \$290,000 figure reported in the paper. Supervisor Bertram said that \$120,000 was budgeted this year and the details are being worked out as to how to reimburse the companies.

Lee Jamison asked why the Valatie Rescue Squad is worried. Supervisor Bertram said that the Valatie Board of Directors did not have any problems when the idea was presented. She added that it’s still a work in progress.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster and seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott. The motion was carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

NOVEMBER 2007 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

356	National Grid	1931.24	379	Work Zone Safety	148.25
357	KOSCO	653.85	380	Bonded Concrete, Inc.	405.00
358	COARC	22.00	381	Lisa’s Silkscreen	529.15
359	Empire Alarms	21.95	382	Fred Cohn III	700.00
360	Col. Co. Treasurer	4421.23	383	NexTel Partners	46.19
361	Association of Towns	600.00	384	Colarusso Quarry Co.	1108.50
362	Assoc. of Towns	150.00	385	Main Care Energy	910.11
363	Safeguard	94.94	386	Mulica Trucking	2705.03
364	Xerox Corp.	124.92	387	Mario’s	337.34
365	Business Automation Svc.	400.00	388	Unifirst	106.56
366	Col. Co. Sheriff’s Office	113.40	389	Rich Mulica	1000.00
367	Nova Information System	30.00	390	Bernard Kowalski	106.92
368	Carrie O’Hare	15.33	391	Mooradian Hydraulics	451.91
369	US Postal Service	232.60	392	E.A. Morse	96.00
370	Howard Gleason, Jr.	95.00	393	Hudson Valley Gas	102.00
371	Catherine G. Knott	154.76	394	CarQuest	241.52
372	Rapport, Meyers, et.al.	520.00	395	Cargill, Inc.	3073.83
373	Rainbow Distributors	43.74	396	Chemung Supply Corp.	545.80
374	Culligan	26.00	397	Partners In Safety	45.00
375	Johnson Newspaper	241.56	398	Col. Co. Solid Waste	1332.71
376	The Independent	51.46	399	Kinderhook Bank	50.00
377	Graphix Plus	800.00	400	Schodack Septic	216.00
378	Col. Co. Highway	17.61	401	Fairpoint Communications	321.31

Recorded this 8th day of November 2007

Approved this 27th day of December 2007

TOWN CLERK

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON