

MARCH 12, 2009
TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance at the meeting were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Edward Scott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea. Councilman Bradlee Webster and Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer were not in attendance.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilman Edward Scott to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott and approved unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

A resignation letter from John DeLong resigning his position on the Board of Assessment and Review,

A motion was made by Councilman Edward Scott to approve and pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott and approved unanimously.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk

Report is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the crews are picking up brush along the roads. Some of the brush will have to wait for the weather to improve. People can still bring their brush to the Ken Hummel park area. Trash Day will be in May and the date will be announced at the April Town Board meeting.

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer

Building Inspector Gerry Ennis reported that he was at school the previous week. He told the Board that he will begin giving public announcements at the Board meetings regarding different zoning requirements that may have had recent changes. This month's announcement was regarding swimming pools – which they need to be completely fenced in. The change to this requirement is that it also now applies to the pools that are only up for the season – the type a person could purchase at WalMart.

Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Bertram read the report from Ms. Carroll and it is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Planning/Zoning Boards

There were 5 minor subdivision applications received. The complete report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Greenway Committee

Councilman Knott reported that Scenic Hudson and the Columbia County Land Conservancy had attended the Committee's last meeting. The Col. Co. Land Conservancy has offered assistance with a new comprehensive plan. Scenic Hudson is working on new maps with soil type overlays.

The Committee doesn't feel it's reached everyone regarding changes to the Comprehensive Plan and is considering another survey by mail. Councilman Knott asked the Board if this was something they wanted the Committee to pursue. Supervisor Bertram said that if the committee thought they were at that point in the process that everyone should be represented. Councilman Knott will look into funding costs and sample surveys. Supervisor Bertram asked him to come back to the April meeting with dollar amounts and survey suggestions.

The next meeting of the Greenway Committee will be March 26th at 7:00pm.

Town Hall Committee

Councilman Knott reported that there was a light pole that had fallen over in the back of the parking lot. It will be repaired when the weather improves.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee

Councilman Knott reported that Richard Moran had noticed the overhang on the Station was pulling away from the building. Mr. Moran and Councilman Knott jacked them up temporarily but they will have to be repaired.

Marilyn Burch reported that there will be a meeting on Friday, March 13th at 7:30 with members from the Agriculture Committee to discuss the Farmers' Market. Supervisor Bertram explained that they will also be discussing the possibility of moving the Market to a more visible location, i.e., the Town Hall, with more room for parking.

The next meeting will be at the Town Hall on February 28th at 9:00am.

Historian

Supervisor Bertram reported that the Town of Stuyvesant Historic Pictures Calendars are in and are selling well. The raffle tickets are also available for the wall hanging in the Town Clerk's Office.

Assessor's Office

Supervisor Bertram reported that Dave Barnett (GAR) had been here and reported that the process was moving along well. She also reported that the State had approved the 100% tentative assessments.

Assessor's Clerk, Cathy Knott, reported that she had attended school. She also reported that the exemptions are all in, that the Assessments Requests would be received until March 17th and that they would be answered within 3-4 weeks. Grievance day will be the 4th Tuesday in May (May 26th).

Recreation Committee

Due to the absence of Councilwoman Gumaer, Michelle Richardson gave a report. At the meeting held on Saturday, March 7th there was a discussion about the hunting regulations at the Ken Hummel Memorial Park. The recommendation that the Committee agreed on was that hunting will be by permit only – for residents only. The permits will have to be obtained prior to October 1st. The property will have to be posted.

Members of the Recreation Committee will attend the T/O Kinderhook Recreation meeting on Monday. Dates for the town clean-ups and trail work will be posted on the website. The next meeting will be Saturday, April 4 at 9am.

Ms. Richardson also reported that the Kinderhook Trails Committee is waiting for a grant to do phase 2 of their trails project that will include a bridge over Kinderhook Creek.

Old Business

Supervisor Bertram reported that the Quadricentennial Committee would meet on Sat, March 14th with the Rod & Gun Club, the VFW and the two fire companies to discuss plans for the celebration weekend in September.

Supervisor Bertram also reported that she is finishing up the paperwork to apply for stimulus money. She will have an update at the April meeting.

Mr. Ned DePew reported that there appeared to be a lot of trash being dumped by the closed bridge on Schoolhouse Road. Supervisor Bertram said she would go up over the weekend to take a look.

New Business

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli asked the Board to review some documentation she provided regarding a Budget Bill before the State Legislature changing Town Clerk positions from elected to appointed. She asked if the Board would do a Resolution against that change. Councilman Knott asked if they could have a month to review the documents. The issue will be revisited at the April meeting.

Supervisor Bertram said that the County Board of Supervisors is looking at a proposal to consolidate all of the Assessors into a county-wide program. There was recently a study conducted and those results are on the County website.

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli reported that she had met with Sean Cummings and they are organizing a Friday Night Fun Run program starting in May and going through September. The runs will be around the 5K loop, Friday nights at 6:30 – beginning and ending at the Town Hall. Everyone is invited to participate – they don't have to run – walking, biking, pushing a stroller, etc. – all are welcome.

Public Comments

Cathy Knott asked to speak regarding the proposed County-wide Assessor proposal. She reminded everyone that they get personal service at the Town level and that would probably not happen at the County-level.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Ronald Knott, seconded by Edward Scott and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

MARCH 2009 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

79	National Grid	2103.67	98	Charlene Leach	66.65
80	Fairpoint Communications	313.23	99	Richard Moran	15.50
81	Col Co Sheriff's Office	10.00	100	Joanne Jakiela	625.00
82	E A Morse Co Inc.	147.63	101	Pro Printers	2928.48
83	Corner Stone Telephone	28.71	102	Bernard Kowalski	31.35
84	Schodack Septic Service	108.00	103	NexTel Partners	46.50
85	Mario's Home Center	308.92	104	Main Care Energy	1758.90
86	Col Co Treasurer	5185.66	105	Northeast Automotive	95.83
87	Col Co Sheriff's Office	167.94	106	CarQuest of Valatie	174.59
88	GAR Associates	15,000.00	107	Mooradians	18.00
89	Sierra Capital	115.00	108	Northern Tool	78.16
90	Howard Gleason, Jr	19.95	109	Columbia Tractor	16.32
91	Catherine G. Knott	130.90	110	Tractor Supply	5.98
92	US Postal Service	382.30	111	Ben Funk, Inc.	78.67
93	The Independent	63.27	112	Unifirst Corp.	94.61
94	Johnson Newspaper	98.72	113	Yaun Company, Inc	3052.00
95	Xerox Corp	55.10	114	Culligan	26.75
96	Staples Business Advantage	101.11	115	Cargill, Inc.	3625.12
97	Tal G Rappleyea	625.00	116	S.V. Moffett Co., Inc.	121.23

Recorded this 12th Day of March 2009

Approved this 9th Day of April 2009

TOWN CLERK

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON