

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2009  
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held its monthly meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance at the meeting were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilman Bradlee Webster, Councilman Edward Scott, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski, and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, was not in attendance.

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

A motion to approve previous minutes was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Bradlee Webster. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter from the NYS Department of Public Service regarding lifeline and linkup programs.

A letter from Cari Watkins-Bates, Scenic Hudson, thanking the Board for the opportunity to give their presentation at the August meeting.

A letter from the Columbia Land Conservancy regarding a site visit on June 30<sup>th</sup>. There were no conflicting activities noted. The Conservancy reminded the Board that any changes to the property should be preceded by contacting them.

A letter from Marilyn Berry, the Columbia County Council on the Arts thanking the Board for the \$500 matching funds contribution approved at the August meeting.

A motion to approve the correspondence as read was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster and seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

Mr. Marvin Bubie gave a power-point presentation on his book On the Trail of Henry Hudson and our Dutch Heritage – through the municipal seals in New York. Mr. Bubie chose a picture of the quilt made by Mrs. Barbara Brown for the cover of his book.

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Ms. Cari Watkins-Bates of Scenic Hudson presented the Board with a new Scenic & Natural Treasurers Print and gave an update on the land conservancy accomplishments in Stuyvesant.

Supervisor Bertram thanked both guests for their presentations.

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**REPORTS:**

***Town Clerk***

Melissa Naegeli read her report and it is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Melissa Naegeli also reported that there would be a Personal Safety Seminar held in the Town Hall on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and was free and open to the public. The seminar is being held in conjunction with the Kinderhook Memorial Library, the Town of Kinderhook and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office.

***Highway Department***

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the Department had put over 1000 lbs of material over the bank on Gibbons Road to shore it up. He also reported that there had been another wash out by Bob VanAlstyne's and that they had rented a County loader to repair. Repairs are also be made on Gibbons Road. The Department is also working on shoring up the slide area on Hollow Road.

The Fall Clean Up Day will be Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 8-4 rain or shine. Superintendent Kowalski has requested that there be “no early birds”. There will be a separate bin for metal this time to avoid the issue of a pile sitting after the clean up day. *(this date was modified following the meeting due to the realization that the 10<sup>th</sup> was a holiday weekend – new date is October 17<sup>th</sup> – 8-4 rain or shine)*

Superintendent Kowalski asked for approved to purchase a new backhoe. The equipment can be purchased on State Contract for \$57,977 with a trade in. Normal list price is \$135,000. He explained that there was money still available in his budget. A motion to authorize the purchase was made by Councilman Ronald Knott and seconded by Councilman Bradlee Webster. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

***Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer***

Report on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

***Dog Control Officer***

No Report.

***Planning/Zoning Boards***

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

***Greenway Committee***

Councilman Ronald Knott reported that the survey will be going out soon and that the Committee is working on the labels. A program is available to tally the results of the survey. Councilman Knott also asked the Board to consider a couple of hundred dollars to hire someone to input the information from the survey and to run reports of the results.

***Agriculture Committee***

No Report.

***Town Hall Committee***

Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

***Railroad Station Restoration Committee***

Marilyn Burch reported that there are a couple more events scheduled for the Farmers’ Market: 9/11 will celebrate Patriots’ Day with a flag ceremony; the 18<sup>th</sup> will be a kick-off to the Quadricentennial Celebration with a movie night and the 25<sup>th</sup> will be Historic Stuyvesant Dairy Day with a celebration of Gumaer’s Dairy.

Mrs. Burch also reported that the vendors have requested to keep the market open for 2 weeks into October and that the additional dates will be October 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> being the last day with a pot luck harvest dinner.

Mrs. Burch reported that she had turned in \$1597.50 since June from various fundraising events.

***Cemetery***

Councilman Bradlee Webster reported that all is quiet.

***Historian***

Supervisor Bertram reported that Juanita is working on the 2010 calendars.

The Quadricentennial Weekend is shaping up and now we just have to hope for good weather. There will be pins and shirts available for sale during the weekend as well as other Stuyvesant paraphernalia.

Karen Hummel showed a sample of the shirts and colors that will be available this year. She also explained how the Art Show will be set up. She reported that out of the 100 artists that submitted work 50 were chosen for this show.

Supervisor Bertram explained that there are schedules of events for the Quad. Weekend available all over town...in the Clerk’s Office, in the Town Hall, in the Post Offices, etc.

***Assessor’s Office***

Assessor’s Clerk, Cathy Knott, reported that she will begin her new hours on Monday evening.

### ***Recreation Committee***

Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer that there were 61 children that participated in the Town of Kinderhook Summer Playground program from Stuyvesant. She also reported that the Committee is preparing the parents' feedback letters.

Councilwoman Gumaer presented a preliminary sketch done by Mr. William Bateman of a proposed pavilion for the Ken Hummel Park. The proposal is a 30' x 40' pavilion that would accommodate 16 3x6 tables.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

### ***Quadricentennial Celebration Update***

Supervisor Bertram reminded everyone that on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Riverview Street will be closed to traffic beginning at 3:00pm. She was asked by the Fire Company to request property owners to keep from parking cars along the roads – in case there was a need for an emergency vehicle to get through. She also reported that the vehicle access to the boat launch will be closed by the Fire Commissioners beginning on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Once the fireworks are being set-up there will be no access to the launch area.

Councilman Edward Scott asked about the parade line up and how people should get in line. Fire Chief Steve Montie explained that they should go in through Feltner Road around to West Ghent Road. He also explained that Falls Road will be closed beginning at 9:00am and Route 25 will close when the parade starts – approximately 11:00am.

Supervisor Bertram announced that she had attended a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Joe Stevens of Stuyvesant Falls. She presented Mr. Stevens with a Certificate of Congratulations from the Town Board. Mr. Stevens will be the Grand Marshall of the Quadricentennial Peoples' Parade.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Supervisor Bertram reported that DOT was gathering the information from other towns in NYS regarding their CSX Bridges and reported back that according to CSX, they've inspected their bridges and all are okay. Tal Rappleyea is rewriting the FOIL Request to DOT to ask for more specific information.

Supervisor Bertram also reported that Tal Rappleyea is researching what other towns are doing in response to the health considerations of the outdoor wood burning furnaces.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Bertram asked that everyone attend the workshop on Thursday, October 1 where they would begin budget discussions.

Councilman Knott reported that the Intermunicipal Grant Application that Sean Cummings had been authorized to prepare has been completed and submitted for consideration.

The Boy Scouts are almost finished with the work at Overlook Park in Stuyvesant Falls. Supervisor Bertram reported that former Supervisor Richard Frick asked if it would be possible to rehabilitate the original sign and place it at Overlook Park.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Charlene Leach reported that there had been a chicken in her yard for several days. She was concerned that it was someone's "fancy" chicken and asked if anyone knew who it belonged to.

Mrs. Karen Hummel thanked everyone who had been involved in the Ken Hummel Memorial Park dedication.

Mr. Michael Naegeli commended Sean Cummings and the Intermunicipal Trails Committee for a job well done. He suggested that the Town Committee meet before the larger group meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Lee Jamison asked if there had been any information on the spike from the air quality monitored mentioned at the August meeting. Supervisor Bertram reported that DEC didn't have an answer.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster and seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott. The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Recorded this 10<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2009

Approved this 15<sup>th</sup> Day of October 2009

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TOWN CLERK

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SUPERVISOR

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COUNCILPERSON

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