

**OCTOBER 8, 2009**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held its monthly meeting on Thursday, October 8, 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, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and 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 Columbia County Council on the Arts thanking the Town Board for the support and use of the Town Hall during the Quadricentennial Weekend Art Show.

A letter from Town Historian, Juanita Knott thanking the Town Board and all volunteers for support and help with the Quadricentennial plans and weekend.

A letter from Kate McLeod & Jerry Flint (Town residents) thanking the Town Board and all involved in the Quadricentennial Weekend.

A letter from the Stuyvesant Falls Fire Company thanking the Town Board for support and help during the Quadricentennial Weekend.

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

A motion to approve the bills was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer. The motion was approved unanimously.

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

Town Justice Carrie O'Hare addressed the Town Board and spectators regarding the submission of the latest Unified Court System Grant Application; the installation of the delayed lighting for the exterior lights and thanked Councilman Knott for his help in coordinating the work; that the Town Court for Stuyvesant will be a case study for NYS Courts regarding the scanning and destruction of files; that the Town Court will host a training session on November 6<sup>th</sup>; that she will be presenting her dissertation findings at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State Magistrate's Association Conference on October 19<sup>th</sup>; and that she was recently recognized in the magazine for the State Magistrate's Association for her accomplishments.

Supervisor Bertram congratulated Judge O'Hare on her completion of her doctorate degree and thanked her for her presentation. She explained to the audience that the lights for the sidewalk and parking lot will be on a 20 minute delay from when the switch is turned off.

**REPORTS:**

***Town Clerk***

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

***Highway Department***

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the Highway Department will be paving the Gibbons Road hill and the slide area on Hollow Road.

He also reported that trash day will be October 17<sup>th</sup> from 8-4, rain or shine. He has asked that there be no early birds.

Superintendent Kowalski asked the Board to consider a resolution to extend the snow and ice removal contract with the County of Columbia. Supervisor Bertram read the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Bradlee Webster. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously. The resolution was approved as follows:

***TOWN OF STUYVESANT  
RESOLUTION #09-05***

***THIS AGREEMENT***, made the 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009 by and between ***THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA*** (hereinafter referred to as the “County”) and ***THE TOWN OF STUYVESANT*** (hereinafter referred to as the “Town”);

***WHEREAS***, the County and the Town entered into a Snow and Ice Control Contract dated January 11, 2007, a copy of which is attached hereto, and made a part hereof (hereinafter referred to as the “Contract”); and

***WHEREAS***, ***THE*** County and the Town desire to extend the term Contract for an additional three (3) year period pursuant to ¶15 of the Contract;

***NOW, THEREFORE***, in consideration of the terms and conditions herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

1. The Contract, a copy of which is attached hereto, and made a part hereof, is extended until September 1, 2012.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF***, the County and the Town have executed this Agreement as of the date written below.

A motion to adopt this Resolution was made at the October 8, 2009 meeting of the Town of Stuyvesant Board by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Bradlee Webster. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

<b><u>Town Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Aye</u></b>	<b><u>Nay</u></b>
Valerie Bertram, Supervisor	X	
Ronald Knott, Councilman	X	
Rosalind Gumaer, Councilwoman	X	
Bradlee Webster, Councilman	X	
Edward Scott	X	

*Adopted: October 8, 2009*

*Certified by Melissa A. Naegeli  
Town Clerk - Town of Stuyvesant*

Superintendent Kowalski also reported that work will begin soon on lower Lang Road.

Supervisor Bertram reported that the FEMA funds that were denied are being re-applied for by the State Emergency Management Office.

***Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer***

Gerry Ennis reported that while building permits are slowing down, zoning enforcement is picking up. He also reported that the permit renewal program he established took in approximately \$1000 last month.

The complete 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 members of the Committee and others had participated in a Hudson River sightseeing and informational cruise on *The Riverkeeper* and that it was very interesting.

The Town had applied for a ground water study to be completed by Steven Winkley of New York State Rural Water Association. Thanks to Federal Funds that had been awarded, the study will be conducted at no cost to the Town and should begin shortly.

The Greenway Committee has completed the Survey cover letter and expect that the surveys will be in the mail by the weekend.

***Agriculture Committee***

Brian Chittenden reminded everyone that this is harvest season and the farmers may be moving large equipment on the roads. He asked that other drivers be patient and allow them time to move out of the way before driving around them.

***Town Hall Committee***

Councilman Ronald Knott explained a little more about the delayed lighting system for the exterior lights.

Supervisor Bertram asked if he could take a look at the light by the flag pole because it was on during the day. Councilman Knott said he had noticed that also and thought that the daytime sensor needed to be replaced. He assured her that he would take a look at it.

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

Councilman Ronald Knott reported that the final Farmers' Market will be held on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that the Town had just received the draft copy of the revised Construction Management Plan. The plan has to be reviewed by the Architects then approved by DOT before the job can go to bid.

Supervisor Bertram asked how the Library Talk was on the previous Saturday that was held at the Depot. Ms. Lee Jamison reported that the talk was well attended and very interesting.

Ms. Jamison added that the Farmers' Market had averaged 100 customers each week. She elaborated on the report about the last day of the market by telling everyone that the Market will "close" at 6pm and there will be a pot-luck dinner with the vendors. Everyone is invited to attend.

### ***Cemetery***

Councilman Bradlee Webster reported that the lawn mowing is winding down. He also reported that once the frost gets in the ground there is some tree work that needs to be taken care of. Councilman Webster also said that there are a number of stones that have fallen over and will need to be re-set. He will contact Cantelle for prices of work.

### ***Assessor's Office***

Assessor's Clerk, Cathy Knott, reported that exemption forms will be going out at the end of November.

### ***Recreation Committee***

Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer and Cathy Knott reported that the Childrens' Annual Halloween Party will be held on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 at the Town Hall.

Councilwoman Gumaer reported that the Committee met on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and have a planned a clean up/harvest fest at the community garden in Stuyvesant Falls to be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 3pm. They are hoping to incorporate some community service and rake some of the yards of the surrounding neighbors. Cider and donuts will be provided.

The Committee has discussed preparing a calendar with Town Events to be sent out to residents. Some of the coming events being planned by the Committee include Saturday morning trail hikes, an ice skating party, a snowman building contest, another snowshoe walk, more bird walks and hope to incorporate photos of past events into the calendar.

Ms. Lee Jamison asked the Board to consider naming the trail at the Ken Hummel Memorial Park after the Asbornsen Family to recognize their contributions to the community. A motion was made by Supervisor Bertram and seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott to approve a resolution to name the trail at the Ken Hummel Memorial Park the "*Asbornsen Trail*". The motion was voted on and approved unanimously. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli will prepare the resolution.

Councilwoman Gumaer reported that she and Mr. Bateman (the architect who had prepared the preliminary sketches of the proposed pavilion) went to the Ken Hummel Park to look for the best site for the pavilion. Mr. Bateman suggested the field behind the parking lot for the site. Councilwoman Gumaer explained that we cannot get an accurate estimate of cost until the final site is decided. Supervisor Bertram asked that when Councilwoman Gumaer planned to meet with Scott Longe for the concrete that she contact either Councilman Knott or Councilman Scott to also attend. Councilman Knott asked if there was enough equipment detail to start getting cost estimates and Councilwoman

Gumaer responded that there wasn't. There was a discussion about who would do the excavation and Supervisor Bertram explained that the Highway Department should be able to do that part of the job.

Supervisor Bertram asked Councilman Scott about the status of the kiosk for the Ken Hummel Park. Councilman Scott said he had spoken with Mr. Romanchuck who said he would start it as soon as he could. Councilman Scott said he would ask if the materials should be covered.

Supervisor Bertram reminded Councilwoman Gumaer that the Land Conservancy needed to be contacted regarding the plans to build a pavilion. Jerry Ennis added that he should be involved in the meetings with concrete contractor and any other builders.

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Bertram reported that she hosted an Informational Meeting regarding establishing a neighborhood watch program in Stuyvesant Falls. The meeting was held on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Stuyvesant Falls Firehouse. There were 14 people in attendance and a presentation was given by Deputy Wendy Guntert of the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. Another meeting will be scheduled for November to determine if there will be enough interest in establishing this type of program.

Councilwoman Gumaer added that some of the important points discussed were speeding and an enhanced patrol program to try to stop the speeders. Supervisor Bertram said that the Town would have to pay for the enhanced patrols.

Councilman Knott asked if we could look into purchasing, renting or borrowing the speed signs again because they seemed to be a deterrent. Supervisor Bertram said she would look into it.

Supervisor Bertram reported that there has been sufficient response from DOT regarding the FOIL request sent regarding the CSX Bridge issue. She has been in continual contact with the Attorney General's Office although now the AG's Office claims they will not be able to assist the Town with this issue. Ms. Jamison asked if there was stimulus money available. Supervisor Bertram replied that the Town had applied but hasn't heard yet.

Mr. Geoff Johnson asked how Chatham was handling the issues with the bridges in their Town. Attorney for the Tal Rappleyea (also the Attorney for Chatham) answered that CSX also ignored Chatham's requests for bridge repair and/or replacement. He said that they began the process about 12 years ago and have now been told that they are at least 2 years away from receiving any grant money.

Supervisor Bertram also reported that she had been contacted by Susan Falzone of Friends of Hudson regarding the recent article in the Register Star about the mercury findings by Ward Stone. Ms. Falzone has requested the use of the Town Hall for an informational meeting on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm.

Supervisor Bertram told the Board that she had received the insurance policy renewal from Metz Wood Harder and that the premium had gone down by \$1400. A motion to allow Supervisor Bertram to sign the new policy was made by Councilman Ronald Knott and was seconded by Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

Supervisor Bertram told the Board that she had asked Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli to get estimates for having the carpets cleaned in the town hall. Melissa responded that she had contacted the only 2 companies in the area and only one had called back. Supervisor Bertram said that the estimate was from Aaron's Carpet Cleaning and included the meeting room, the hallway, the conference room and the Town Clerk's Office. And was for \$212.00. A motion to approve the estimate and hire them to clean the carpets was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster and seconded by Councilman Edward Scott. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

Councilman Ronald Knott asked if the porta-potties at the playground and Ken Hummel Park had been removed. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli said that both had been removed. Supervisor Bertram asked what would be the last function at the train station so that porta potty could be removed as well.

A Budget Workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Supervisor Bertram asked if the Board would approve a donation to the Valatie Rescue Squad since they come to all of functions. A motion was made by Councilman Bradlee Webster to donate \$100.00 to the Valatie Rescue Squad and his motion was seconded by Councilman Edward Scott. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sean Cummings thanked the Board for establishing the Town Trails Committee. He said that there will be a meeting with a slide presentation of the trails around Town on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall at 7:00pm. He also reported that we should be hearing about the results of the Intermunicipal Grant Application submitted soon.

Karen Hummel thanked the Board and the community for coming together and putting differences aside to make the Quadricentennial Celebration a success. Supervisor Bertram added that it was a great weekend and a good time for the community. She added that she would like to plan something every year to bring the community together. Councilman Bradlee Webster suggested we find a sponsor so we can continue to have fireworks.

Charlene Leach said a lot of credit has to be given to Juanita Knott, not just for the Quadricentennial Weekend but for all of her hard work over the years.

Michael Naegeli thanked the Board for allowing the Self Defense Seminar to be held in the Town Hall. He said it had been well attended and that there would be another one on October 25<sup>th</sup> in the Kinderhook Village Hall.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Ronald Knott and seconded by Councilman Bradlee Webster. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Recorded this 8<sup>th</sup> Day of October 2009

Approved this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of November 2009

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TOWN CLERK

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SUPERVISOR

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COUNCILPERSON

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COUNCILPERSON

TOWN OF STUYVESANT ABSTRACTS				
OCTOBER 2009				
CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
369	Fairpoint Communications (\$489.52)	1620.4	229.72	
		5132.4	259.80	
370	National Grid (1446.12)	5182.4	1,177.34	
		1620.4	268.78	
371	Schodack Septic (\$431.73)	1620.4	108.00	
		7140.4	323.73	
372	Hudson Valley Enterprises	1620.4	240.50	
373	Sheriff Electric	1620.4*	950.00	
374	Corner Stone Telephone Co.	1620.4	35.37	
375	Mark J. Kelly	1620.4	150.00	
376	Columbia County Treasurer	9060.8	1,818.94	3,170.28
377	Metz Wood Harder Inc.	1910.4	16,826.59	
378	Williamson Law Book Co.	1110.4	72.99	
379	Tech Partners	1355.4	267.49	
380	NYS ORPS	1355.4	34.00	
381	Xerox Corp. (203.09)	1110.4	51.00	
		1410.4	152.09	
382	Melissa Naegeli ( <i>petty cash</i> )	1410.4	100.00*	
383	Melissa Naegeli	1410.4	29.00	
384	Staples Business Advantage	1410.4	55.72	
385	Columbia Greene Town Clerk's Association	1410.4	150.00	
386	Tal G. Rappleyea	1420.4	3,031.25	
387	Morris Associates, PLLC	1440.4	1,824.50	

388	Richard Moran	6140.4	118.35	
389	Charlene Leach	6140.4	68.20	
390	County Outhouses & Septic Services, Inc.	7110.4	100.00	
391	New man Signs	7110.4	134.77	
392	Stuyvesant Falls Fire Company	7550.4	592.10	
393	Lisa's Silkscreen	7550.4	2,908.35	
394	ProPrinters (926.13)	7550.4	566.38	
		1010.4	359.75	
395	Satch Sales	7550.4	510.00	
396	Andrew Broockmann	8810.4	700.00	
397	Columbia County Highway	3310.4	62.71	
398	NexTel Partners	5010.4	47.53	
399	Northern Safety	5132.4	263.21	
400	Culligan	5132.4	26.75	
401	Montano Equipment Co., Inc.	5110.4		1,695.00
402	Fleet Services	5110.4		163.40
403	Main Care Energy	5110.4		2,512.38
404	Colarusso Quarry Co.	5110.4		640.64
405	Frank Clemente	5110.4		35.00
406	Otsego Iron & Metal Co.	5110.4		580.00
407	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		495.29
408	Mario's Home Center, Inc. (246.01)	1620.4	24.68	
		5132.4	169.50	
		5130.4		51.83
409	Van Kleecks, Hudson	5130.4		757.40
410	Marchese Ford	5130.4		461.93
411	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		119.76
	<b>TOTAL FORWARD</b>		<b>\$34,709.09</b>	<b>10,682.91</b>