

JANUARY 14, 2010
2009 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its Annual Organizational Meeting on January 14, 2010 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Brian Chittenden, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, Councilperson Edward Scott, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Supervisor Bertram began the meeting with reviewing the following Organization appointments:

STUYVESANT TOWN BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 2010

Official Depository – National Union Bank of Kinderhook, First Niagara Bank

Official Newspaper – The Register Star

Official Meeting Night – Second Thursday of each month/7:00 pm

Official Working Night – First Thursday of each month

Official Mileage - \$.50 per mile

Deputy Supervisor –Ronald Knott

Town Attorney – Tal Rappleyea

Building Inspector – Gerald Ennis

Zoning Enforcement Officer – Gerald Ennis

Town Engineer – Morris Associates @ \$85.00 per hour

Budget Director – Supervisor Valerie Bertram

Deputy Highway Superintendent – Jeffrey Altomer

Deputy Town Clerk –

Registrar of Vital Statistics – Melissa Naegeli

Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics – Catherine Knott

Record Management Officer – Melissa Naegeli

Town Historian – Juanita Knott

Sole Assessor – Howard Gleason, Jr. – Cathy Knott, Secretary

Dog Control Officer –

Deputy Dog Control Officer –

Columbia County Traffic Safety Board – Frank Sacco

Columbia County Council of Aging Delegate – Mary Leighton

Assessment Board of Review –

Chairman Planning Board – Gale Bury

Member of Planning Board – Sean Cummings; Marilyn Burch (re-appointment)

Alternate Member of Planning Board –

Chairman Zoning Board – William Vick

Member of Zoning Board – Paul Harpis (re-appointment)

Alternate Member Zoning Board –

Secretary to Zoning and Planning Board – Shirley Narzinski

Custodian of the Town Office – George Knott

Emergency Coordinator– Frank Sacco & Tim Trowbridge

Town Accountant and Bookkeeper – Mark Fitzgerald

Highway Superintendent – Allowed to purchase tools and equipment under \$1000.00 w/o Town Board approval

Highway Superintendent - Allowed to purchase sand and gravel at prevailing rate

Highway Superintendent – Allowed to rent County Equipment at prevailing rate

Supervisor – Ability to invest idle funds in CD's and Money Market Accounts

Supervisor – Upon recommendation of Town Accountant, transfer funds between General and Highway Funds

Supervisor – Able to pay utility bills without approval from Town Board

Official Polling Places – St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Stuyvesant Town Hall

Salaries – Elected and appointed officials to be paid as indicated in the budget

- 1) Sr. MEO \$19.08 per hour
- 2) MEO – 1 \$17.79 per hour
- 3) MEO – 2 \$17.79 per hour
- 4) Per diem \$13.46

Supervisor appointed Town Board Committee Chairpersons as Follows:

RECREATION – Rosalind Gumaer

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE — Brian Chittenden

BEAUTIFICATION CHAIRPERSON – Rosalind Gumaer

PUBLIC SAFETY – Brian Chittenden, Frank Sacco, Tim Trowbridge

TOWN HALL COMMITTEE –Edward Scott, Ronald Knott

CEMETARY COMMITTEE - Edward Scott

GREENWAY COMMITTEE – Ronald Knott

RAILROAD RESTORATION COMMITTEE – Ronald Knott

TRAILS COMMITTEE LIAISON – Edward Scott

Gasoline and Fuel Oil – County Bids

Rules of Procedure at the Board Meeting – (Accept current procedures)

Compensatory Time for the Highway Department – Not more that 120 hrs. can be accumulated per year

- Adoption of:*
- 1. Procurement Policy*
 - 2. Investment Policy*
 - 3. Code of Ethics*
 - 4. Standard Workday*
 - 5. Type Reserve – Highway*
 - 6. Special Reserve – Town Hall*
 - 7. Capitol Reserve Fund – Town Hall*

Dated: January 14, 2010

Supervisor Bertram asked if the Board had any questions or comments. There were no comments or questions from either the Board or the public. Supervisor Bertram closed the Organizational Meeting at 7:07pm.

JANUARY 14, 2010 TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance at the meeting were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Brian Chittenden, Councilperson Rosalind Gumaer, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Edward Scott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 7:08pm 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 Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer and was approved unanimously..

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter from the 2010 Census seeking candidates to be data collectors in Town. The information has been posted on the Town website and will be posted in the lobby of the Town Hall.

Supervisor Bertram read the Annual Report of the Historian.

A motion was made by Councilman Edward Scott to approve the communications as read and to place them under the proper heading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott and was approved unanimously.

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

REPORTS:

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli read her report for the month of December and it is on file in her office. Mrs. Naegeli requested permission from the Board to rent a safe deposit drawer at the Kinderhook Bank to store a set of the microfilms of files off-site. Mrs. Naegeli reported that a 5x10x21 box would be \$65.00 per year. A motion to approve the Town Clerk's request was made by Ronald Knott and seconded by Rosalind Gumaer. The motion was voted on and was approved unanimously. Supervisor Bertram asked Melissa to make the arrangements with the bank.

Highway Department

Highway Superintendant Bernie Kowalski asked the Board for permission to purchase new tires for the loader. He said that if the casings were okay the tires would be approximately \$1200 each. However, if the casings need to be replaced the tires could be \$2000 each. Councilman Edward Scott made a motion to approve the request for up to \$8000 to purchase tires for the loader. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and was approved unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski asked the Board to consider increasing the \$1000 cap for spending without approval to \$2000 since prices are going up and it would make it easier for him to continue the work of the Highway Department. Supervisor Bertram said the number would be considered by the Board.

Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Gerry Ennis reported that he had been working on a complaint about a falling-down garage in Stuyvesant Falls. He said that the Town Engineer had been to look at the property and that the structure was taken down this week. He reported that there are other properties in the Town that he is looking at as well.

Gerry also reported that another illegal pool was found this week. He reminded everyone that a building permit is needed to install any pool that holds more than 2 feet of water. He also said that any pool that doesn't have sides of at least 4' high the pool needs a fence. These are NYS requirements and Mr. Ennis wants to make sure everyone understands that the law also applies to the "portable" inflatable pools.

Planning Board & Zoning Board

Shirley Narzynski reported that there was no meeting in December. Mrs. Narzynski reported that the Planning Board has requested a joint meeting with the Town Board and the Zoning Board to discuss some issues that have come up. Supervisor Bertram asked Shirley to get some proposed dates for a Saturday afternoon and to get back to her.

Greenway Committee

Councilman Knott reported that there was no meeting held in December. He also reported that the survey results are being compiled. Supervisor Bertram asked how many had been returned. Councilman Knott responded that about 120 or about 10% had been returned.

The next meeting will be January 21st at 7:00pm and Steve Winkley from NYS Rural Water Assoc. will be in attendance.

Town Hall Committee

No Report.

Railroad Restoration Committee

Marilyn Burch reported that there was no meeting in December but they had held the Holiday Party. She reported that the next meeting will be Saturday, January 16th at the Town Hall. Mrs. Burch also reported that John Morra had acquired the crossing arm from CSX when they replaced it at the Landing Crossing.

Mrs. Burch also reported that the Station needs to be cleaned out in anticipation of contractors coming to give bids.

Assessor's Office

Howard Gleason reminded everyone that the exemption forms are due back to his office by March 1st.

Mr. Gleason announced that the new public computer station was up and running in the Conference Room. There is an instruction book available and he and Cathy will be able to help with questions when they are in the office. The computer is available to the public anytime the building is open.

Councilman Knott added that the computer will be a great tool for the Planning and Zoning Boards. He said that it will aid in neighbor notification requirements for those Boards. Councilman Knott said that if a resident puts in their address the abutting neighbors are listed.

Supervisor Bertram told the Board that the Senior & Limited Income Disability Exemption Rates were due for renewal. She said that the cap had been increased by \$1000. A Public Hearing was scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 6:30pm.

Assessor Howard Gleason explained that property owners are eligible for the Senior Exemption if they will be 65 years of age before December 31, 2010 and that they should contact his office.

Recreation Committee

Councilwoman Rosalind Gumaer reported that the Committee met on January 9th. Councilwoman Gumaer reported that the application for the member item funds from Assemblyman Gordon has been sent in again.

Councilwoman Gumaer thanked Chief Steve Montie and the Stuyvesant Fire Company for putting in the skating rink at the Landing playground. She also thanked Chief Brian Gay and the Stuyvesant Falls Fire Company for filling the rink at the Stuyvesant Falls Playground.

Councilwoman Gumaer reported that the Committee is working on a calendar of events. She said that there will be full moon snowshoe walk & owl walk on the evening of January 29th at the Ken Hummel Park. The Columbia County Soil & Water will be loaning the snowshoes again and if anyone is interested in borrowing a pair they should contact Michelle Richardson.

Councilwoman Gumaer also reported that there are plans for a Valentines' Day/Snowman Contest party on February 13th.

Councilwoman Gumaer also asked if anyone was interested in participating on the Rec. Committee as their numbers seem to be dwindling. The next meeting will be Saturday, February 6th.

Trails Committee

Sean Cummings reported that the Kinderhook Group met the previous week and that they are working on choosing a consultant to work on the trail along the National Grid lines.

Sean reported that the Town Committee had met 3 times and had had a trail walk last Fall. He reported that he had met with Pete Ennis (DEC) and Chris DeCientio (Ranger) regarding access to a trail along the river. Mr. Cummings said he was told by Pete Ennis that the boat launch project was "dead" according to DEC. Supervisor Bertram said she will contact the Regional Director, Gene Kelly, and discuss that with him. Mr. Cumming went on to report that there are many barriers to pedestrian access to the river. He said there are options for access by boat to existing trails.

Sean asked if the Trails Committee could meet with the Town Board at a workshop meeting to formulate a response to DEC or to come up with an alternate plan. Councilwoman Gumaer asked if the Board could write a letter asking DEC to put in writing the decision about the launch project. Supervisor Bertram reiterated that she will first speak with Mr. Kelly.

Mike Naegeli said that the project is still listed on the DOT website. Charlene Leach asked about the money that had been awarded to the Town to develop the launch project at the River. Councilman Knott said that money is with the Greenway Council waiting to be tapped.

Old Business

Councilman Knott reported that he had recently attended a NYS Training for Elected Officials in Albany. He gave an explanation about the increase in the Town's Retirement contribution.

Councilwoman Gumaer reminded everyone that the Association of Towns will hold an annual meeting and training in NYC in February. She also said that there will be budgeting seminars held in May. Supervisor Bertram said that there is a list of seminars on the Association's website.

New Business

A Public Hearing is scheduled for February 11th at 6:30pm to review the Senior and Limited Income Disability Exemptions.

Supervisor Bertram told the Board that there had been a lot of responses to the advertisement in the paper regarding the housekeeping, dog control officer, planning board and environmental council positions. Interviews will be held on Saturday, January 23rd at 10:00. The Board will split and meet with the candidates.

Supervisor Bertram told the Board that the Accountant's Books were available for audit.

Councilwoman Gumaer reported that there had been a burglary on Ferry Road and that the Historic Marker sign for Newton Hook had also been stolen. The matter is being handled by the Columbia County Sheriff's Office.

Public Comments

Larry Klein asked the Board if there was anything that could be done about the street lights near his house. Mr. Klein said they continually blink off and on. Councilman Edward Scott said that the problem had been reported to National Grid but that he would send the information again. There was a

question as to whether or not the lights could be removed. Supervisor Bertram said it would have to be put out to the people who live in the lighting district and that she would only be comfortable with the removing the lights with an unanimous decision by the residents to do so. Supervisor Bertram asked Councilman Scott to get the list of pole numbers to her and that she would take the list to her contact directly.

Mike Naegeli asked if the Census letter information could be put on the website because local residents would probably be more comfortable with a local person doing the interviews. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli explained that the information had been on the website since Monday.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Ronald Knott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.

Recorded this 14th Day of January 2010

Approved this 11th Day of February 2010

TOWN CLERK

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

JANUARY 2010 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
	2009 VOUCHERS			
1	KOSCO	1620.4	588.35	
2	Fairpoint Communications	1620.4	112.64	
3	National Grid (1870.95)	5182.4	1,563.85	
		1620.4	307.10	
4	Corner Stone Telephone Co.	1620.4	32.04	
5	Xerox Corporation (148.29)	1110.4	54.00	
		1410.4	148.29	
6	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq. (\$625 is for 2010 retain.)	1420.4	3,375.00	
7	Staples Business Advantage (263.38)	5010.4	26.59	
		1110.4	34.44	
		8020.4	46.14	
		8010.4	46.14	
		1355.4	57.49	
		1010.4	29.31	
		1620.4	23.27	
8	Gerald Ennis	3620.4	652.80	
9	Charlene Leach	6140.4	79.75	
10	Shirley Narzynski	8020.4	70.01	
11	Meltz Lumber	5130.4		43.20
12	Ben Funk, Inc.	5130.4		133.12
13	Direkt Force LLC	5130.4		571.72
14	Tech Air	5130.4		216.81
15	Monroe Tractor & Implement Co.	5130.2		3,000.00
16	Culligan	5132.4	26.75	
17	Rainbow Distributors	5132.4	7.00	
18	Tractor Supply	5130.4		201.60

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
19	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		99.99
20	Mario's Home Center, Inc. (306.44)	5130.4		145.36
		5132.4	75.10	
		1620.4	85.98	
21	All Lifts	5130.4		294.92
22	Terry Haggerty Tire	5130.4		579.76
23	Cargill, Inc.	5142.4		1,830.58
24	Columbia Co. Highway Dpt. - Treasurer (320.13)	3310.4	157.36	
		7140.4	162.77	
25	Main Care Energy (2698.77)	5110.4	2,316.60	
	(*722.96 in fund 5110.4 is for 2010)	5132.4		1,223.72
26	Unifirst Corp.	9090.8	118.89	
27	NexTel Partners	5010.4	46.87	
	2010 VOUCHERS			
28	Columbia County Treasurer (5745.87)	9060.8	2,086.32	3,659.55
29	Fairpoint Communications (334.01)	1620.4	221.68	
		5132.4	112.33	
30	Association of Towns of the State of NY	1010.1	600.00	
31	Service Education, Inc.	1110.4	800.00	
32	NYS Magistrate's Association	1110.4	130.00	
33	Carrie O'Hare	1110.4	8.70	
34	Colleen Bruno	1110.4	35.00	
35	NYS Assessor's Association	1355.4	85.00	
36	Johnson Newspaper Corp.	1410.4	17.41	
37	NYSATRC Membership	1410.4	25.00	
38	Business Automation Services, Inc.	1410.4	660.00	
39	Ron Knott	8010.4	150.00	
40	NY Planning Federation	8020.4	175.00	
41	Columbia Co. Assoc. of Town Superintendents	5010.4	200.00	
42	Bernard J. Kowalski (175.98)	5010.4	94.71	
		5130.4		81.27
43	Partners In Safety, Inc.	5110.1		158.00
44	Fleet Services	5110.4		468.21
45	Farrell Oil Co., Inc.	5110.4		565.85
46	Lowe's	5130.4		308.24
47	Carquest of Valatie	5130.4		349.84
48	Sausbier's	5132.4	87.00	
49	Mooradians	5130.4	114.10	