

APRIL 14, 2011
TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2011 the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance at the meeting were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Brian Chittenden, Councilperson Ronald Knott, Councilperson Edward Scott, and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea.

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 Brian Chittenden and was approved unanimously.

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

REPORTS:

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's Report is on file in her office.

Highway Department

Highway Superintendant Bernie Kowalski reported that town wide clean up day will be May 14th from 8am – 4pm and will be held rain or shine.

Mr. Kowalski also reported that the Town will receive \$17,720 from FEMA from the December 26, 2010 storm.

Mr. Kowalski requested approval to purchase a Gradall machine. He said that there was a used one for sale for \$24,000 and that they cost \$350,000 new. He explained that by purchasing this machine, it will enable the Highway Dept. to work on lower Lang Road annually and to harvest the sand for use during the winter. He said the machine will pay for itself in 2-3 years by enabling the town to get that sand.

Mr. Kowalski reported that there had been discussions about the feasibility of the Highway Dept. taking over the mowing responsibilities of Firwood Cemetery instead contracting out for the work. He requested Board approval to purchase a new mowing tractor and a push mower. He said he can purchase the equipment for \$7442.

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Knott to approve the purchase of the Gradall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden to approve the purchase of the equipment to handle the mowing of the Firwood Cemetery. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edward Scott and was approved by unanimous vote.

Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Gerry Ennis reported that it had been a relatively quiet winter and that he had been recently contacted about two new construction projects in town.

Planning Board & Zoning Board

Shirley Narzynski reported that at the Planning Board meeting in March the Site Plan for the Bed & Breakfast on Hollow Road had been approved. She also reported that the Public Hearing for the Glencadia Dog Camp had been continued to the April 25th meeting.

Greenway Committee

Councilman Knott reported that the committee met on March 24th and discussed plans for a public information session to be held on Thursday, May 19th at 7pm.

The next Committee meeting will be April 28th.

Town Hall Committee

Councilman Knott reported that two of the broken lights in the parking lot are being repaired.

Railroad Restoration Committee

Councilman Knott reported that a meeting with DOT, the architect and engineer regarding grant funding has been scheduled for May 20th.

Town Historian

Supervisor Bertram reminded everyone that Mrs. Knott had been working on an updated History of Stuyvesant Book. Mrs. Knott reported that the book will be 88-90 pages in length. It will contain the information from the previous book with current updates.

Mrs. Knott presented the Board with three price quotes for printing. She requested permission to award the bid to Pro Printers for 200-250 books at a cost of approximately \$3155. The books will have a "perfect binding" which will have the title printed on it.

A motion to accept the bid from Pro Printers and to have 200-250 books printed was made by Councilman Edward Scott. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams and was approved unanimously.

Assessor's Office

Cathy Knott, the Assessor's Clerk, reported that that Howard Gleason was working on the tentative assessment roll.

Supervisor Bertram announced that the Town Assessor had been notified by NYS ORPS that the Town's equalization rate had gone up to 104% - based on their using values from 2 years ago. Mr. Gleason, having discussed the situation with Supervisor Bertram, has decided to reduce all assessments in the Town by 5%. This will put the equalization rate at 100%. The Town's taxable value was \$210,438,440 and will be \$208,262,265 – a \$7 Million decrease.

Recreation Committee

Supervisor Bertram reported that the committee met on Saturday, April 2nd but that there weren't enough people for a quorum. Those in attendance began discussing plans for the summer recreation program and preparing a list of last year's participants to send letters to this year. Supervisor Bertram reported that she had been notified by Kinderhook Supervisor Grattan that the price would remain the same as last year.

Dog Control Officer

Wes Powell reported that there was no activity.

Trails Committee

Sean Cummings reported that he had attended the Trails Conference at CGCC on April 2nd. He had given an update on the intermunicipal trail project.

The April Committee meeting was supposed to have been a working meeting at the Swyer Preserve but was cancelled due to anticipated bad weather. The next clean up will be April 16th at New Hook from 10:00 – 12:00 Noon. Flyers are available in the Town Hall as to the dates of the scheduled clean ups.

Environmental Management Council

Kathryn Schneider reported that the Council is exploring ways to help Columbia County acquire a GIS system to be able to map different areas around the County. Representatives from the Council will attend a meeting in Dutchess County on May 25th to get more information and ideas on funding, etc. Ms. Schneider explained that they are still in the exploratory stage.

Old Business

Supervisor Bertram discussed moving forward with the salt shed portion of the proposed Capital project explaining that the \$250,000 from DEC was still up in the air and the project needs to move forward. Councilman Ronald Knott made a motion to direct the Engineer to go forward with the salt shed portion of the plans for the Capital Project and to table the garage renovations to a later date. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edward Scott and was passed by unanimous vote. Supervisor Bertram will notify the Town Engineers to finalize the plans for the salt sheds and she will start explore funding options.

Councilman Knott reported that only two (2) applications for the ZBA vacancies had been received. The Board agreed to interview the candidates on May 7th beginning at 10:30 following the Recreation Committee meeting. Councilman Knott will contact the candidates and notify them of the date and time.

New Business

Supervisor Bertram announced that Robert Freeman from the Committee on Open Government will hold a Public Information Session regarding FOIL and the Open Meetings Law. The meeting will be held on Monday, May 9th from 7-9pm at the Town Hall. The notice will be put on the Town's website and in the newspaper.

Councilman Scott reported that he is still trying to locate the sign that belongs at Overlook Park acknowledging Keith Montie's work on the original project. He will give it another week or so to turn up then he will go to the County Sign Dept. and get a price to have a duplicate sign made.

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli requested that the Board approve the contract to higher ARE Productions for the Ken Hummel 5K Race to be held in August. She explained that the price had remained the same at \$1000. A motion was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott, adding that the race always pays for itself. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and Supervisor Bertram signed the contract.

Public Comments

Mike Naegeli asked for clarification on the proposed revision to the Capital Project and whether both salt sheds were being included. He also asked if the leaking roof at the garage could be repaired. Supervisor Bertram said the Board is going ahead with the salt sheds portion of the project and that minor repairs to the roof could be considered.

Sean Cummings asked why not do the whole project. Supervisor Bertram reiterated that the Board is unsure about the availability of the \$250,000 GE money and that the salt sheds are the most important parts of the project at this time. Mr. Cummings asked what the proposed cost was and Supervisor Bertram said the Engineer's estimate was approximately \$535,000.

Martin Roby asked if the money would still be available at a later date. Supervisor Bertram replied that she didn't know if the money will be available for us to use at all.

Richard Frick asked if there was a Fire Inspector for the Town. Supervisor Bertram indicated that that role had been assumed by the Code Enforcement Officer, Gerry Ennis. Mr. Frick asked about fire extinguishers being inspected. Supervisor Bertram directed him to speak with Mr. Ennis.

Steve Montie asked the Board to please seriously consider repairing the roof at the garage as part of the Capital Project. Councilman Chittenden answered that if the numbers come down on the salt sheds then the roof portion of the garage could be revisited.

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli announced that the Clerk's Office would be closed May 1st – May 4th so she can attend annual training.

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 7:40pm.

Recorded this 14th Day of April 2011

Approved this 12th Day of May 2011

TOWN CLERK

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

APRIL 2011 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

TOWN OF STUYVESANT ABSTRACTS				
	APRIL 2011			
CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
109	Catherine G. Knott	1355	73.87	
110	Unifirst Corp.	9090.9	153.56	
111	Columbia Tractor	5130.4		13.10
112	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		138.86
113	Tractor Supply	5130.4		51.78
114	Lapiner Bros., Inc.	5130.4		75.00
115	JC Smith, Inc.	5130.4		60.80
116	Columbia-Greene Humane Society	3510.4	305.00	
117	Mario's Home Center, Inc. (406.17)	5130.4		51.39
		5132.4	354.78	
118	NexTel Partners	5010.4	47.24	
119	Bernard Kowalski (135.19)	5142.4		129.54
		5010.4	5.65	
120	Chartwell Catering	5010.1	60.00	
121	Main Care Energy (3934.89)	5132.4	948.34	
		5110.4		2,986.55
122	Farrell Oil Co., Inc.	5110.4		667.44
123	Fleet Services	5110.4		339.48
124	Charlene Leach	6140.4	42.50	
125	Culligan	5132.4	26.75	
126	Columbia County Treasurer (6520.82)	9060.8	2,370.94	4,149.88
127	National Grid (2075.07)	5182.4	1,561.67	
		5132.4	243.00	
		1620.4	270.40	

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
128	ARE Event Productions	7550.4	600.00	
129	Cornerstone	1620.4	65.66	
130	Fairpoint Telephone (342.43)	1620.4	234.06	
		5132.4	108.37	
131	Kingston Oil Supply Co., Inc.	1620.4	1,030.55	
132	Rainbow Distributors	1620.4	39.00	
133	Johnson Newspaper (50.32)	1355.4	32.36	
		8020.4	17.96	
134	E Biz Docs <i>(85 Broadway, Menands 12204)</i>	1110.4	900.00	
135	Morris Associates	1440.4	19,270.00	
136	Staples (433.51)	1010.4	26.98	
		1110.4	246.47	
		1410.4	67.90	
		1355.4	91.76	
137	Xerox Corporation (199.43)	1110.4	57.00	
		1410.4	142.43	
138	Melissa A. Naegeli	1410.4	111.00	
139	Business Automation Services	1410.4	90.00	
140	Yacano, LLC	5130.2		24,000.00
141	Stuyvesant Post Office	1620.4	190.00	
142	Howard Gleason, Jr.	1355.4	125.00	
143	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	2,218.75	
144	Columbia Co. Sheriff's Office	1110.4	207.27	
145	Joseph A. Bruno	1110.4	129.99	
146	Mark Kelly	1620.4	180.00	
147	The Columbia Paper	1410.4	6.84	
	TOTAL FORWARD		\$32,425.62	32,511.86