

October 11, 2012

**PUBLIC HEARING  
LOCAL LAW #2  
LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX CAP**

Supervisor Ron Knott Opened the Public Hearing at 6:30pm and asked the Town Clerk to read the public notice. Supervisor Knott read the proposed local law and Councilman Edward Scott made a motion to open the meeting for comments. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Thomas Burrall and the floor was open to comments. Supervisor Knott asked first if the Board had any comments or questions. He explained for the reasons of the override. He said having the full cost of the Capital Project included in the 2013 Budget could have resulted in a 19% increase. He went on to explain that with the cuts that the Board had made, the increase had been reduced to 6% and that the Board was still looking at additional options.

Councilman Chittenden said he had supported the Tax Cap law and that it is ironic that he is now considering an override. He said that costs have increased such that small towns have no choice but to have increases that are more than 2%, that the tires alone for the trucks for the highway department can cost upwards of \$13,000. While the percentage sounds like a lot, we have a small budget so the actual dollar amount doesn't equal a lot.

The floor was then turned over for public comments:

Lee Jamison said she objected to local law #2. She added that a lot of people have gone without raises and while the highway department does a good job, salary increases shouldn't be considered. Supervisor Knott explained that there were no increases in salary included in the tentative 2013 budget.

Christian Sweningson asked about the budget timeline document that Supervisor Knott has distributed and why the adoption of the local law must be made prior to the budget hearing. Supervisor Knott and Attorney Tal Rappleyea explained that the Tax Cap Override Local Law could be passed just prior to the budget being adopted, but that it had to come first.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The Hearing was closed at 7:00pm.

---

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, October 11, 2011 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilman Tom Burrall, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Councilman Edward Scott, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Highway Superintendant Bernie Kowalski, Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli.

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

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the bills was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

**Correspondence**

A letter from the Columbia Land Conservancy announcing a workshop and presentation on their 5-year plan to be held on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**October 11, 2012**

A letter from the Stuyvesant Falls VFW asking for an increase in their budgeted amount of \$400.

**Old Business**

Capital Project -- Supervisor Knott reported that the garage is about done – only work remaining is the bay door and paving repaving the driveway & apron.

Ferry Road Meeting – Supervisor Knott reported that there would be another public information meeting on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Town Hall hosted by DOT. Next steps will be discussed.

Stuyvesant Falls Bridge – Supervisor Knott reported that the bridge had been renovated in mid 1990s and that the bridge was owned by the County. It had previously been flagged by DOT for issues with the supports. The Board of Supervisors have agreed to hire an engineering firm to study the bridge and make recommendations. The cost of the study is \$82,000.

Town Website – Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli reported that the website is coming along. The offices of the Town are providing information to the website design team for inclusion in the website. It is expected that the website will be live within a couple of months.

LaFarge Cement Plan – Supervisor Knott reported that there was new literature available regarding the plan upgrades.

**REPORTS**

***Town Clerk/Tax Collector***

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

***Assessor's Office***

Assessor's Clerk Cathy Knott reported that the Agricultural Worksheets would be going out in the mail and they needed to be returned to the Assessor's Office by March 1, 2013. The exemptions would be mailed out in November. The office will be open on Monday evenings, Thursday and Saturday mornings.

***ZEO/Building Inspector***

Gerry Ennis reported that there had been a slight increase in the zoning complaints and that he is following up on those. Mr. Ennis also reported that the Monkshood Nursery will be receiving grant money and will be looking to expand their operations. It is expected that they will come to the Planning Board soon.

***Railroad Station Restoration Committee***

Marilyn Burch reported that the Harvest Dinner would be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm. The Committee is working on the plans for a Holiday Party in December. The volunteers continue to work on the station and have a question on appropriate colors.

Supervisor Knott reported that the Architect's new plans for the Grant Proposal have been submitted to DOT for approval.

***Recreation Committee***

Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported that she completed an old Grant proposal that we had been notified we had been approved for several years ago. The package was sent to the Department of State. She also completed the package for reimbursement for the summer recreation program and that documentation has been sent to the County.

***Environmental Management Council***

Town representative Kathy Schneider reported that there had been a forum with David Carpenter, a TCI representative, who said a report would be coming. At their next meeting they will discuss the Evaluating

**October 11, 2012**

and Protecting Biodiversity presentation. They will determine what should be done with the comments from the forum.

***Highway Department***

Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the garage is basically done with the exception of the garage door, the repaving and some new lights. The parking lot is being regarded as well. They will be working with the crusher at the end of the month to crush the rocks that had been screened out of the sand. This process will save the Town approximately \$50,000.

Superintendent Kowalski said they had 3 slate chalk boards that had come from the Schoolhouse on Route 26A. He offered them to the Railroad Station Committee for use in the Railroad Station.

He also reported that he has listed the insulation removed from the garage (for replacement) on the auction site. He also thanked Councilman Scott for painting the new bay.

***Planning/Zoning Boards***

Zoning Board Chairperson Patricia Casey reported that there would be a Zoning Board meeting on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> regarding the Glencadia Dog Camp.

***Town Hall***

Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

***Town Historian***

No report

***Dog Control***

Report is on file.

***Trails Committee***

Sean Cummings gave a brief history of the idea of a non-profit organization being formed to be able to solicit and receive donations for the trail projects in Town. Open Space Institute could serve as an oversight agency and would receive 8% for their administration fee. An application has been drafted but a Board of Directors has to be named. The trails volunteers would work with that Board. It has been suggested that Ron Knott, Mark Young and Mary Janeway serve as the Board of Directors. Supervisor Knott reviewed the application with the Board and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Cummings added that he would like to have the railroad station committee included so donations could be accepted for that project as well. Members of the Railroad Station Committee had concerns that all money would have to go through the non-profit. Mr. Cummings suggested the name of the non-profit be "Glencadia Pathways".

It was reported that the Columbia Land Conservancy had assisted with sketches for structure placement for Mike Locker's proposal for the Ken Hummel Memorial Park. There was a suggestion that a pullover be formed at the top of the park on Sharptown Road with enough room for 3 cars with a handicapped accessible path to the park below. Mr. Locker then presented the proposed site plan to the Board.

Supervisor Knott said that with recent changes to ADA Requirements, the pullover would probably be okay but a path probably could be compliant. He also told Mr. Cummings and the Board that he preferred the name "Stuyvesant Pathways" and the Board agreed. A motion to submit the application was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

***County Government***

Supervisor Knott reported that the Board of Supervisors is working on the 2013 Budget and that there are a lot of wish lists to consider.

October 11, 2012

**New Business**

Supervisor Knott reported that there were copies of the Tentative 2013 Budget available for the public to review. He then discussed the proposed and actual changes that had been made. The unexpended funds balance has been decreasing each year because it's been used to offset increases. The Board is considering using \$100,000 of the fund this year. The Board is reviewing alternate Health Insurance options for the employees that get health care coverage now. There is a potential savings of about \$10,000. Supervisor Knott then showed a chart that had the budget numbers from 2000 vs. the proposed numbers for 2013 (the 2000 numbers were before the Town Hall was being used). With the tentative budget, the increase is approximately 6% which will result in approximately a 1% increase on the total tax bill (provided there are no increases from the County). Supervisor Knott added that with a Town total Assessment of approximately \$202 Million we have about \$27 Million in exemptions.

Councilman Scott said he had been getting questioned about the Hydro Electric Plant and how it contributed to the Town. Supervisor Knott said that the Town is a co-licensee of the plant. The Town should see some revenue when it's up and running and that it could possibly be a revenue line eventually but not on the 2013 budget. There was a question about a PILOT agreement with the plant. Supervisor Knott said it was never established but that it's being looked at. There was a question as to whom, then, was the PILOT referenced on the Tentative Budget. Supervisor Knott explained that was BioMedica. They had been given a 5 year plan then they would be out of the PILOT program.

Supervisor Knott asked the Board if the Public Hearing for the Budget could be held on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, prior to the Town Board Meeting. The Board was in agreement and the Hearing was scheduled for 6:30. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli will send the notice to the paper.

**Local Law #2**

Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea explained to the Board that the Local Law to Override the Tax Cap must be adopted prior to the adoption of the budget. The Board agreed to table the vote on Local Law #2 until the next meeting. They would further review the budget for additional savings.

**Public Comments**

Cathy Knott reminded everyone that the Town Halloween party would be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall from 1-3pm. She said volunteers were needed to help the day of the party, to bake and to decorate. She added that they would be decorating the afternoon and evening before the party.

With no further comments, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Recorded this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 2012

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2012

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Knott

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

October 11, 2012

**Abstract of Vouchers**

The following vouchers were submitted to the Board for approval and payment:

#	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAP	RR
316	National Grid (\$1701.66)	5182.4	1,362.84			
		5132.4	142.49			
		1620.4	171.27			25.06
317	Columbia County Treasurer (\$5722.32)	9060.8	1,306.07	4,416.25		
318	William J. Better, P.C.	8020.4	3,625.00			
319	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	1,000.00			
320	Whiteman Ousterman & Hanna	8020.4	15,000.00			
		1990.4	5,000.00			
321	Stuyvesant Postmaster	1355.4	180.00			
322	Morris Associates	5132.2			400.00	
323	Melissa Naegeli	1410.4	21.60			
324	CornerStone Telephone	1620.4	3.48			
325	Looseleaf Law Publications Mesick, Cohen, Wilson & Baker	1410.4	11.25			
326	Architects, LLP	1620.4				724.20
327	Apex Software	1355.4	215.00			
328	Fairpoint Communications (\$332.11)	1620.4	227.18			
		5132.4	104.93			
329	Johnson Newspaper Corp. (\$170.84)	1620.4				104.65
		8010.4	39.98			
		1010.4	26.21			
330	Xerox Corporation (\$343.11)	1410.4	283.11			
		1110.4	60.00			
331	T & L Construction	5132.2			4,367.55	
332	Col Co Treasurer	3310.4	28.98			
333	Columbia Tractor, Inc.	5130.4		9.84		
334	Long Energy	5110.4		3,147.75		
335	Power Plan	5130.4		887.86		
336	Kimball Midwest	5130.4		97.99		
337	Chemung Supply Corp.	3310.4	260.20			
338	Col Co Solid Waste	8160.4	367.50			
339	County Waste - Ulster	8160.4	87.99			
340	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	68.26			
341	Peter Morelock	5132.4	400.00			
342	International Salt Co., Inc.	5142.4		8,025.38		
343	Unifirst Corp.	5130.4		216.01		

**Town of Stuyvesant**

**October 11, 2012**

**Town Board Meeting**

<b>#</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>A/C#</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>HIGHWAY</b>	<b>CAP</b>	<b>RR</b>
<b>344</b>	Rainbow Distributors (\$26.00)	5137.4	12.00			
		1620.4	14.00			
<b>345</b>	Fix Family Enterprises	5132.4	270.00			
<b>346</b>	Culligan	5132.4	26.75			
<b>347</b>	Mario's Home Center	5132.4	499.28			
<b>348</b>	Van Kleeck's Tire Inc.	5130.4		132.68		
<b>349</b>	Mooradians	5130.4		535.00		
<b>350</b>	Carquest of Valatie	5130.4		68.78		
<b>351</b>	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		5.83		
<b>352</b>	Lowe's	5132.4	148.47			
<b>353</b>	Tractor Supply	5132.4	48.66			
<b>354</b>	Fleet Services	5110.4		628.57		
<b>355</b>	Russ Freeman Excavating, Inc.	5142.4		5,250.00		
<b>356</b>	Colarusso Quarry Co.	5110.4		1,512.81		
<b>357</b>	Farrell Oil Co., Inc.	5110.4		685.43		
	<b>TOTAL FORWARD</b>		<b>31,012.50</b>	<b>25,620.18</b>	<b>4,767.55</b>	<b>853.91</b>