

August 8, 2013

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, August 8, 2013 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, Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli.

Supervisor Knott called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and open 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 Tom Burrall and it was passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Edward Scott to approve the vouchers presented for payment. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams and was passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

A resignation letter from Shirley Narzynski. Supervisor Knott announced that they are accepting letters of interest and that 2 letters had already been received.

A letter from National Grid regarding a demand meter at the highway garage.

A letter from Karen Hummel requesting a donation from the Ken Hummel 5K to the Kinderhook Education Grant Fund.

A letter from the NYS Office of Real Property Services notifying the Town of the valuation rate of 100%.

Old Business

Supervisor Knott said he had been notified that the DOT Ice House Road project was scheduled to start in August.

Supervisor Knott explained the report on the bridges that had been discussed at the previous meeting. There was an article in the newspaper that seemed to create some confusion.

Special Guest

Greg Crawford from Monolith Solar explained the steps taken prior to the installation of the solar panels on the Town Hall roof. He said he expected the installation to begin within 2 weeks.

Reports

Town Clerk: Report is on file.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee: Supervisor Knott reported that the grant project had been revised to \$102,000 estimated cost and that the plans had been resubmitted to DOT. They are currently under review.

Marilyn Burch reminded everyone that the Corn Festival would be held on August 9th at the railroad station. She also announced that Lianne Jensen would be there with a children's craft corner.

Environmental Management Council: No report.

Dog Control Officer: Report on file in Town Clerk's Office.

Zoning Revision Committee: The committee is scheduled to meet on August 14th.

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Highway Department: Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that 242 loads had been taken from lower Lang Road. He reported that they had been helping in Chatham and Greenport.

Highway Superintendent Kowalski also reported that there was a continual mess at the Sandbar picnic area in Stuyvesant Falls. He showed pictures of the garbage that the highway dept. had to clean up. He suggested to the Board that if the situation doesn't improve, that the picnic tables be removed. Supervisor Knott asked Councilman Scott about getting signs that said "take in and take out". Supervisor Knott said he would ask the resident Deputy to patrol more often and encouraged residents to report things when they see it happening.

Assessor's Office: Cathy Knott explained the changes to the Basic Star exemptions. She said everyone will have to reapply for the "Basic" and that all homeowners will receive a letter directly from NYS. She reminded everyone that if they are turning 65 years old to contact the office for information regarding exemptions.

ZEO/CEO: Gerry Ennis reported that he is working on contacting the companies responsible for the care and maintenance of the abandoned houses around town to have them cleaned up.

Planning/Zoning Boards: Zoning Board Chair Pat Casey reported that there was nothing on the calendar for the Zoning Board of Appeals for August. Planning Board Member Tom Shanahan reported that there had been a Public Hearing for a site plan application for horse paddocks in Stuyvesant Manor. He also reported that the Board would meet on August 26th and that there was a site plan application for a bed & breakfast on the agenda.

Supervisor Knott reported that there had been a joint Planning/Zoning/Town Board meeting held in July and that it had been a productive meeting.

Historian: Juanita Knott, Town Historian reminded everyone that the Historic Stuyvesant Day festivities would be held on Saturday, August 11th. The day would start with the Ken Hummel 5K Run, the picnic would be at the Sandbar and that the Hydro Electric Plant rededication would follow.

Cemetery – Councilman Edward Scott said everything was quiet and thanked Tony Link for doing a good job in keeping the grounds neat. Supervisor Knott reported that he was working with the insurance to look into coverage for the damaged stones from when the limb fell.

Town Hall: Supervisor Knott reported that he, Councilman Scott, Lee Jamison and Cal Burch had been working around the building to clean up the weeds and bushes.

Recreation Committee: Councilwoman Williams reported that there would be a coloring contest as part of the Historic Stuyvesant Day activities. She said the winners would be announced at the September Board meeting. Councilwoman Williams also thanked an anonymous donor for the new basketball hoops.

Special Guest

Audrey Kropp of the Cornell Cooperative Extension made a presentation to the Board regarding the Hudson River Estuary Watershed Resiliency Project. She said presentation materials would be available in the Town Hall. The Supervisor asked Town Clerk to put their link on the website. Ms. Kropp asked for a list of anyone interested in receiving email updates on the project. Supervisor Knott will work with her on compiling a list.

County Government

Courthouse Renovation Project: Supervisor Knott reported the project was moving along and that National Grid had given approval for the exposed gas line to be moved.

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Farmland Protection Plan: Supervisor Knott reported that at the next Board of Supervisor's Meeting there would most likely be a vote to adopt a County-wide plan.

New Business

Supervisor Knott announced that budget request worksheets would be given out to all Department Heads. He would like to start discussing the preliminary budget numbers at the September workshop meeting.

Supervisor Knott announced that he had been contacted by Chris Palladino about building a kiosk at the Ken Hummel Park as his Eagle Scout project. He also asked for input on what information to include. The project would also have to be approved by the National Boy Scout Council.

Supervisor Knott reported that he been meeting with our insurance representative and the Town would remain in the NYMIR program to receive dividends.

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli reminded everyone about the road closures on Saturday morning for the Ken Hummel runs.

Councilman Scott reported that he had been asked by residents in Stuyvesant Falls about the amount of water that has to come over the dam. Supervisor Knott explained that the FERC license has a requirement for minimum flow. Mr. Basha was meeting with Federal agencies for the standards. The water levels and temperatures are still being monitored and tested this year and the numbers may be modified.

Councilman Chittenden reported that the Dutch Hollow Farm Day had been very successful and they received a positive response. It was estimated that over 700 people had been there.

Public Comments

Lee Jamison reported that the Kinderhook Memorial Library activities and summer programs were on their website. She also reported that there would be a Basic Computer Skills class offered in September. She asked if the video regarding the hydroplant would be shown on Historic Stuyvesant Day.

Ms. Jamison asked about the story in the newspaper regarding the recommendations from the County EMC. Supervisor Knott explained that the EMC had brought their report to the County Government Committee and that their chair said they would not accept comments. Ms. Jamison asked if the document was public and Supervisor Knott said it had not been made public yet.

Sandra Funk expressed concern about the speeding and failure to stop at the stop sign at the intersection of Lindenwald Avenue and County Route 25. She said she had spoken with Deputy Bray about the description of the vehicle.

Marilyn Burch thanked the Chittenden Family and Dutch Hollow Farms for opening up on Farm Day.

Sean Cummings said he was excited about Chris Palladino's idea for the project at the Ken Hummel Park.

Martin Roby said he had read in the newspaper about the County hiring a law firm about the airport. Supervisor Knott explained that was to look at the difference between buying the golf course and using Eminent Domain. Mr. Roby asked if the County Attorney's Office should do it. He also asked about hiring outside agencies to do tax searches. Supervisor Knott said they weren't tax delinquencies.

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Cathy Knott requested permission to plan and hold a Town Halloween party again this year. She said the date would be Saturday, October 26th and, if approved, if \$150 could be given for decorations, prizes and refreshments. A motion to approve the requests was made by Councilman Ed Scott, seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote. Mrs. Knott thanked the Board.

Chief Steve Montie announced that the Stuyvesant Fire Co. #1 would be holding a mock evacuation drill in Landing area. It was being planned for late August or September. Supervisor Knott asked that Councilman Brian Chittenden and former Supervisor Valerie Bertram meet to start looking at the Town Emergency Management Plan.

Martin Roby is the Board knew anything about the issues with the telephones. Marilyn Burch said there had been a fire in the wires.

Mike Naegeli said with regard to the question about title searches on the foreclosures and abandoned properties there was a lot of red tape to foreclose and that there was a lot of mortgage servicing going on making it more difficult to find who really holds the mortgage.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden and seconded by Councilman Ed Scott. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Recorded this 8th day of August 2013

Approved this 12th day of September 2013

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

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Abstract of Vouchers presented for payment

TOWN OF STUYVESANT ABSTRACTS**August 2013**

NO.	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAP	RAIL ROAD
250	Blue Shield of NE NY (\$3677.70)	9060.8	839.02	2,838.68		
251	Col. Co. Treasurer	9060.8	93.22			
252	Time Warner Cable (\$350.38)	1620.4	259.39			
		5132.4	120.99			
253	National Grid (\$1869.76)	5182.4	1,345.75			
		5132.4	213.47			
		1620.4	288.94			
		1620.4				21.60
254	Rainbow Distributors (\$111.92)	5132.4	41.96			
		1620.4	69.96			
255	Mesick, Cohen, Wilson & Baker LLP	1620.4				1,928.43
256	Col. Co. Sheriff	1620.4	10.00			
257	Mario's Home Center (\$171.85)	1620.4	129.11			
		5132.4	14.89			
		5130.4		27.86		
258	Crowne Plaza Resort & Golf Club	1110.4	631.95			
259	NYS Magistrates Association	1110.4	50.00			
260	Johnson Newspaper Corp. (\$107.57)	1620.4				46.25
		8020.4	49.03			
		1410.4	12.29			
261	Xerox Corporation	1410.4	145.32			
262	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	1,125.00			
263	Col. Co. Treasurer (Highway Dept.)	3310.4	91.23			

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264	ACP Power Equipment, Inc.	7140.4	150.68
265	Crown Awards	7550.4	233.77
266	Homestead Tree Care	8810.4	1,600.00
267	Fleet Services (\$344.71)	5110.4	200.00
		8810.4	144.71
268	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	64.41
269	Culligan	5132.4	26.76
270	County Waste	5132.4	75.00
271	Main Care Energy	5110.4	1,709.71
272	Gorman Bros., Inc. (\$103.709.47)	5110.4	30,598.24
		5112.4	73,111.23
273	A.H. Harris & Sons, Inc.	5130.4	172.61
274	Tractor Supply	5130.4	11.98
275	Unifirst Corp.	5130.4	25.52
276	Mooradians	5130.4	553.00
277	Power Plan	5130.4	95.27
278	Lowe's	5130.4	29.37
279	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4	43.38