

June 13, 2013

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilman Tom Burrall, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea, Highway Superintendent Kowalski and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Councilman Edward Scott was not in attendance.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Tom Burrall to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and it was passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden to approve the vouchers presented for payment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall and was passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

A letter from NYMIR regarding renewing policies.

A press release from NYS DOT regarding the purchase of 296 riverfront acres (Plotkin property) from Stuyvesant south into Stockport.

A letter from NYCOM regarding Summer Planning and Zoning Schools.

A letter from Tax and Finance stating that the Town's 2013 Equalization Rate is at 100%.

An information letter from Two Row Wampum Campaign regarding a historic canoe trip down the Hudson River July 27 – August 10. It is expected that they will go by Stuyvesant Landing around July 29th.

Old Business

Supervisor Knott reported requested a meeting with Councilman Chittenden and Highway Superintendent Kowalski to gather information for the County.

The Stuyvesant Falls Bridge will be closed June 17 through June 21 between 8:00 and 4:30 for inspections. Marilyn Burch asked if the Office of the Aging had been notified because of Meals on Wheels deliveries during that time period. Supervisor Knott said he would call.

Supervisor Knott reminded everyone that the Kinderhook Memorial Library "Big Truck Day" would be the following Saturday.

A letter was received from Christian Sweningson regarding his interest in filling the open position on the Zoning Board of Appeals. A motion to appoint Mr. Sweningson to the position was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden, seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

Reports

Town Clerk: Report is on file. Tax Collection is complete and everything has been turned over to the County Treasurer's Office.

Highway: Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the major paving jobs are complete

ZEO/Building Inspector: Report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

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Railroad Station Restoration Committee: The Strawberry Festival will be held on Friday night (6/14/13). There will also be a meeting on Saturday morning at the station.

Recreation Committee: Councilwoman Williams reported that she has confirmed the dates for the Town of Kinderhook Summer Program to be 7/8/13 – 8/16/13 and that swimming will again be offered at Knickerbocker Lake. The letters to the families that have participated in the past have been mailed out. The registration forms can be downloaded from the Town of Kinderhook website and they are in the Town Clerk's Office. She also reported that she had received confirmation from the County that we will receive \$494 from them toward our summer recreation program. Councilwoman Williams thanked the volunteers who cleaned up the Stuyvesant Falls Playground and reported that the tree was down.

Environmental Management Council: Mrs. Schneider was at a County Training seminar.

Kinderhook Memorial Library: Lee Jamison reported that the Library Board met on Monday and that Fundraising Feasibility Study was complete and overall had received positive feedback. They had received substantial donation pledges and are trying to not ask for tax increases from the Towns. The full report is available at the Library.

Planning/Zoning Boards: Tom Shanahan reported that all was quiet with the Planning Board.

Zoning Revision Committee: Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported that the meetings will be held at the Town Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm. The next meeting will be July 10th.

Historian: Town Historian Juanita Knott was not in attendance.

Dog Control Officer: Report on file.

Cemetery – Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the tree limb that had fallen in the storm has been removed. We will have to wait for the ground to freeze before being able to take the full tree down.

Trails Committee: Sean Cumming asked about the possibility of hiring a contractor to complete the kiosk at the Ken Hummel Park. Mr. Cummings reported that Albany Engineering will no longer consider allowing kayaking and canoeing above the Falls but are looking into more improvements at the Sandbar. Mr. Cummings requested a meeting with Supervisor Knott and Attorney Tal Rappleyea to create an MOU for fundraising. He is currently working on logo ideas for the not-for-profit.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that the renovations at the County Courthouse are moving along well but the project has been extended to January.

A report from the County regarding the homeless – In October 2011 there were 98 individuals being housed by the County, now there are only 8.

A report from the Tourism Office of NYS says Columbia County will receive an increase in the percentage of tourism dollars – up to 15-16%.

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New Business

Supervisor Knott presented Budget Amendment #2 and explained it was due to legal expenses with regard the defense of ongoing lawsuits. A motion to approve the transfer of \$10,000 from the Appropriation Fund Balance to fund code 8010.4 (Zoning) was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The motion was passed by unanimous vote. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli will notify the bookkeeper.

Supervisor Knott reported that Historic Stuyvesant Day will be August 10th and the picnic and festivities would be at the Stuyvesant Falls Sandbar this year and the day would celebrate the Hydro Electric Plant. Albany Engineering is planning a rededication of the plant that day and will have buses shuttling people from the designated parking areas to the plant and to the Sandbar. There will not be any cars allowed to drive to the Plant. The plant will be open but not generating. From noon-2pm shuttles will run and ice cream will be offered at the plant. At 2pm there will be a 45 minute ceremony rededicating the plant. The shuttle will resume but will end at 3:30 at which time the plant will close.

Both turbines are operating at the Plant and Mr. Basha reported to Supervisor Knott that they are replacing the large windows.

Supervisor Knott scheduled a joint Town Board/Planning Board/Zoning Board meeting for Saturday, July 20th at 9:00am at the Town Hall. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli will send a public notice to the newspaper and list on the website calendar.

Public Comments

David Macmillan asked for an update on the CSX Bridge on Schoolhouse Road. Supervisor Knott said the Town had met with CSX and that they are still reviewing and considering the request for a piece of the old railbed to construct an access road. Lee Jamison asked if Congressman Gibson could help get them to pay. Supervisor Knott said he had helped get them to a meeting to discuss the situation. Sean Cummings asked if we could get a grant for the money to build the road. Supervisor Knott said the Town had asked CSX for money but yes, an application could be made for a grant.

A question was raised by Mike Naegeli regarding Eminent Domain of the abandoned railbed to build the road. Attorney Tal Rappleyea stated he hadn't heard of a case of a Town doing that with the railroad but that he would look into it.

Lee Jamison asked about the newspaper story regarding the Town of Stockport and their bookkeeper's practices, since we have the same bookkeeper Mark Fitzgerald. Supervisor Knott explained that our Town is a little different than Stockport in that we don't have municipal services and our Board works more closely with Mr. Fitzgerald. The Board has discussed an audit – although the Board does internal audits every year of every account.

Martin Roby asked Supervisor Knott about the County finances and the \$12-13 Million deficit. Supervisor Knott replied that revenues were down but that there was not a \$12-13 million deficit. He explained that the unpaid taxes are becoming a serious problem in the County. Mr. Roby asked about why the County was hiring an independent title company to do the work. Tal Rappleyea explained that the County has always hired outside contractors for this work to have another "set of eyes" looking at the properties. Supervisor Knott explained that after crunching the numbers it made more financial sense to send the work out.

Dan Barber approached the Board with questions regarding his zoning violations before the Town Court. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea explained that he couldn't discuss the matter with him without his attorney present and recommended that the Board not discuss the matter either.

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A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Brian Chittenden and seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Recorded this 13th day of June 2013

Approved this 11th day of July 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

June 2013

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAPITAL	RAIL ROAD
172	Blue Shield of Northeastern NY (\$3677.70)	9060.8	839.02	2,838.68		
173	Columbia Co. Treasurer	9060.8	93.22			
174	Time Warner Cable (\$1053.08)	1620.4	760.22			
		5132.4	292.86			
175	National Grid (\$1839.82)	5182.4	1,453.85			
		5132.4	137.86			
		1620.4	226.78			21.33
176	Schodack Septic Services (\$324.00)	1620.4				216.00
		7110.4 (KH)	108.00			
177	Marilyn Burch	1620.4				106.91
178	Johnson Newspaper Corp (\$116.35)	1355.4	27.28			
		8010.4	14.32			
		1620.4				74.75
179	Staples (\$612.95)	1110.4	151.22			
		1410.4	148.11			
		8020.4	67.11			
		8010.4	204.29			
		3620.4	42.22			
180	Columbia Co. Sheriff's Office	1110.4	263.28			
181	Donald R. Magill	110.4	37.50			
182	Carrie O'Hare	1110.4	109.98			
183	Colleen Bruno	1110.4	38.44			
184	Business Automation Services	1620.4	59.50			
		1355.4	593.75			
185	Michael J. Naegeli	1355.4	58.00			
186	Derick TaTorre	1355.4	51.00			
187	Paul Chittenden	1355.4	51.00			
188	JoAnn Mistler	1355.4	51.00			
189	Cheryl Trowbridge	1355.4	51.00			
190	Melissa Naegeli	1410.4	64.79			
191	Stuyvesant Post Office	1410.4	135.00			
192	Xerox Corp.	1410.4	142.29			
193	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	1,343.75			
194	Columbia Co. Solid Waste	8160.4	1,831.16			

Town of Stuyvesant

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Town Board Meeting

CLAIM	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAPITAL	RAILROAD
195	Mario's Home Center, Inc. (\$128.71)	1620.4				42.29
		5132.4	36.26			
		5130.4		50.16		
195	Culligan	5132.4	26.75			
196	County Waste	5132.4	96.79			
197	Rainbow Distributors (\$50.98)	5132.4	36.98			
		1620.4	14.00			
198	Madsen Overhead Doors	5132.4	85.00			
199	Fleet Services (\$365.96)	5110.4		165.96		
		8810.4	200.00			
200	Colarusso Quarry	5110.4		25,047.57		
201	Chemung Supply Corp.	5110.4		3,354.60		
202	Carver Sand & Gravel LLC	5110.4		6,386.00		
203	Long Energy	5110.4		1,482.41		
204	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	150.34			
205	Bernard Kowalski	5010.4	64.57			
206	Columbia Tractor, Inc.	5130.4		49.53		
207	Finke Equipment	5130.4		225.00		
208	Unifirst Corp.	5130.4		25.00		
209	Tech Air	5130.4		310.00		
210	Tractor Supply	5130.4		302.94		
211	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		419.23		
212	Lowe's	5130.4		50.29		
213	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		32.70		
			10,158.49	40,740.07	0.00	461.28