

**May 9, 2013**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilman Tom Burrall, Councilman Edward Scott, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea, and Highway Superintendent Kowalski. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli 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 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 Councilman Tom Burrall and was passed by unanimous vote.

### ***Correspondence***

A letter from NYMIR regarding training on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

A letter from Fairpoint Communications regarding a \$3.00 rate increase to consumers.

A letter from the Columbia Land Conservancy scheduling the annual inspection of Ken Hummel Park. This year will be a ground visit and Supervisor Knott is scheduling the visit for June.

A letter from Christian Sweningson expressing interest in filling the vacant position on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### ***Old Business***

Supervisor Knott reported that he had received confirmation from the NYS DOT that work will begin on the Ice House Road between August and October.

The switchover of phone and internet service from Fairpoint to Time Warner has been completed in the Town Hall. There is still some work to complete at the Highway Garage. Supervisor Knott thanked Justice Carrie O'Hare for her assistance in the process.

Supervisor Knott reported that Bernie Kowalski is working on the Hazard Mitigation plan and asked that Councilman Brian Chittenden also get involved. There will be a County class on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Knott thanked Sean Cummings and the other volunteers involved in the clean-up projects around town.

Karen Hummel gave a report on the Plein Air Art Event that was held at the Hummel Park on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. She reported that 12 artists had attended and that events are continuing around the County. Mrs. Hummel respectfully requested that the Board consider making a donation to the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation – Kinderhook Education Foundation again this year. She reminded everyone that the Board had generously donated proceeds from the Ken Hummel 5K Run last year to this grant for the community.

Mrs. Hummel also announced that there would be a major art event at the (former) Martin Van Buren School building in Kinderhook in October. She said she would keep everyone up to date with information.

Lee Jamison asked if private donations could be made to the Foundation and Mrs. Hummel said yes and to make checks payable to the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation with a notation for the Kinderhook Education Foundation. Donors can also donate online at the Berkshire Taconic website.

May 9, 2013

**Reports**

*Town Clerk:* Supervisor Knott announced that Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli was at a school function for her son. He said she had completed her report and it is on file in her office. He added that she had attended training in April and will give a report at the next meeting. Supervisor Knott also said that he had attended the OSC Finance School and learned about some new changes to filing requirements for municipalities.

*Highway:* Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that Amtrak had dug out the track side of Lower Lang Road and that the Town had taken about 30 loads out. He also reported that rock had been crushed and the process netted approximately 1700 Ton of gravel. Bernie said that the Town had realized a cost savings of approximately \$67,000 by crushing the rock and using the sand.

*Assessor:* Cathy Knott announced that the Tentative Roll was available in the Town Clerk's Office. The Assessor will hold special hours for the public to come in and review the inventory: Saturday 5/11 9-1; Monday 5/13 4-8; Saturday 5/18 9-1. Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and the hours are 4-8pm.

Martin Roby asked for an update on the Townwide Reassessment. Supervisor Knott replied that most assessments have been lowered to reflect market values but that the Town would see a loss of approximately \$19 Million in taxable values. This could result in a tax rate increase which would also affect the School Taxes. Howard Gleason, Sole Assessor, is watching what neighboring towns are doing as well.

Mr. Roby asked if everyone's taxes will be dropped. Supervisor Knott explained how the money is spread out among property owners to balance the tax rate. Cathy Knott explained that both the County and State were involved in the reassessment process.

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

*Planning Bd / Zoning Bd of Appeals:*

*Railroad Station Restoration Committee:* The last pot luck dinner will be held on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the Depot. The summer events will begin on May 10<sup>th</sup> with a Rhubarb Festival.

Volunteers are still working on the station on Friday mornings and welcome more helpers.

*Recreation Committee:* Councilwoman Williams reported that she worked on making checklists for the program inspections that needed to be completed for the insurance liability policy.

Juanita Knott suggested that there be clean up groups organized for the playgrounds and that the work could be done in conjunction with the inspections. Councilwoman Williams asked Melissa Naegeli to put an announcement on the website that the Recreation Committee is looking for volunteers.

*Environmental Management Council:* Mrs. Schneider was not in attendance.

*Highway Department:* Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the snow fences were all down and the roads were being swept. He said they had taken 30 loads from lower Lang Road and that Amtrak was going to be taking over the track side. He also announced the lows and wings would be removed from the trucks during the following week.

Superintendent Kowalski announced that the annual town wide clean up day would be May 11<sup>th</sup> from 8-4 rain or shine. Residents should see Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli to obtain their free 2 trip punch card.

Supervisor Knott added that there would be an additional container this year strictly for electronics. Superintendent Kowalski asked that residents try to be diligent in separating their loads for easier unloading.

**May 9, 2013**

*Planning/Zoning Boards:* Shirley Narzynski announced that there would be a Planning Board meeting on 2 minor subdivisions on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. She also announced that there was no Zoning Board meeting scheduled for April as there was no business.

*Town Hall:* Supervisor Knott reported that he has been looking into the cost of replacing the lights in the parking lots.

*Historian:* Town Historian Juanita Knott reported that Historic Stuyvesant Day will be held on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> and the celebration will be centered around the grand re-opening of the Hydro Electric Plant. Albany Engineering will be having brochures printed and will be hosting tours of the facility. A picnic will be held at the Sandbar. Mrs. Knott is working on a timeline of events since the beginning of the operation of the Plant.

John Freedman has completed a documentary film on the power plant that is approximately 25 minutes long and is now available for viewing. He has requested a screening at the Town Hall for early June.

*Dog Control Officer:* No report.

*Cemeter* – The grounds have been cleaned up and the roof of the small building is being inspected.

### ***County Government***

Councilman Ed Scott asked Supervisor Knott if he could find out about the status of the work and dates of service for the Stuyvesant Falls Bridge.

*CHIPs* – Supervisor Knott announced that there will be an increase in CHIPs funding by about 20%.

Supervisor Knott reported that he was scheduled to attend 26 meetings during the month. One of those would be the “Honor a Vet” celebration for Mario Pelleschi on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am. He also announced that the interviews for the Human Resources position were ongoing.

*Pine Haven Nursing Home* – this is a co-owned nursing home. The County is considering financing to build a new facility.

*Columbia Co. Airport* – the FAA wants more safety area and the County is looking at acquiring additional lands from Meadowgreens. An offer has been made to the owner but there was not been a response. There will be a Public Hearing at the next full Board Meeting.

The Board of Supervisors is currently reviewing the sales tax and whether they should petition the State to be allowed to continue at 8%.

### ***New Business***

A portion of State Route 9J will be closed for approximately 3 weeks beginning on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The routed detour will be over County Route 26A.

Supervisor Knott reported that no other bids had been received in response to the RFP for the photovoltaic system at the Town Hall, other than Monolith Solar Power. Monolith had increased their offer to 50% for the first year (up from 25%).

A motion to enter into a contract with Monolith Solar Power for them to provide a photovoltaic system at the Stuyvesant Town Hall was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

**May 9, 2013**

Councilman Brian Chittenden gave a report from his meetings on Farm Bureau Lobby Day with various Legislative leaders.

Councilman Brian Chittenden also explained that Dutch Hollow Farm has started a pilot program to connect with the community. They are printing and mailing newsletters to the residents letting them know what’s going on on the farm and any up-coming events or programs for the public.

Supervisor Knott reported that he would be attending the Annual Finance School and that he had paid the \$200.00 tuition. He asked the Board to approve his voucher for reimbursement. A motion to approve the voucher was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Supervisor Knott explained that the Glencadia Rod & Gun Club would be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and that they had requested a Certificate of Appreciation fro the Town. Supervisor Knott the Board’s approval to have Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli prepare a Certificate for everyone’s signature. The request was approve by unanimous vote and Melissa will prepare the document.

Councilman Edward Scott made a motion to allow the request by Jim Burke to allow the Glencadia Rod & Gun Club to hold their annual Youth Pheasant Hunt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of November at the Ken Hummel Park. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Councilman Edward Scott asked the Board about the sign in front of the Town Hall. It is starting to deteriorate from the weather. He will contact the sign maker for the signs that are at the Town borders and have another made for the Town Hall. Councilman Scott also asked about the mulch around the building.

***Public Comments***

Lee Jameson (Riverview Street) spoke to the Board and audience about the proposed Library expansion project and the completion of a feasibility plan. She also announced that there would be a Big Truck Day at the Stuyvesant Town Hall on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Jameson also requested that the agendas be more easily accessed on the website. Ms. Jameson concluded with the announcement that Sean Cummings was offering a \$500 reward for information regarding the fire at the gazebo at the riverbank.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Recorded this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2013

Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson

May 9, 2013

## Abstract of Vouchers presented for payment

TOWN OF STUYVESANT ABSTRACTS						
April 2013						
CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAPITAL	RAIL ROAD
99	National Grid (\$2449.18)	5182.4	1,387.97			
		5132.4	785.62			
		1620.4	252.66			22.93
100	Blue Shield of Northeastern NY (\$3677.70)	9060.8	839.02	2,838.68		
101	Col. Co. Treasurer	9060.8	93.22			
102	U.S. Post Office	1355.4	6.85			
103	Fairpoint Communications (\$349.55)	1620.4	233.98			
		5132.4	115.57			
104	Louise Sacco	1620.4	195.00			
105	Rainbow Distributors (\$29.49)	1620.4	17.49			
		5132.4	12.00			
106	Mario's Home Center (\$251.14)	5132.4	28.01			
		1620.4	91.16			
		5130.4		131.97		
107	Xerox Corporation (\$359.93)	1620.4	60.00			
		1410.4	299.93			
108	Col. Co. Sheriff's Dept.	1110.4	285.22			
109	Johnson Newspaper Corp.	1355.4	35.24			
110	Business Automation Services	1410.4	95.00			
111	Staples Advantage	1410.4	76.48			
112	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	1,187.50			
113	Morris Associates	1440.4	557.50			
114	Col. Co. Treasurer (Highway)	3310.4	8.31			
115	VFW Post #9593	6510.4	1,200.00			
116	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	73.22			
117	County Waste	5132.4	96.79			
118	Culligan	5132.4	26.75			
119	Long Energy (\$1582.26)	5110.4		1,305.42		
		5132.4	276.84			
120	Hudson Valley Tree Service	5110.4		450.00		
121	CJ Miner, Inc.	5110.4		165.00		
122	Farrell Oil Co., Inc.	5110.4		53.24		
123	Chemung Supply Corp.	5110.4		1,900.24		
124	Fleet Services	5110.4		323.20		
125	Tractor Supply	5130.4		98.31		
126	Columbia Tractor, Inc.	5130.4		71.92		
127	Van Kleeck's Tire Inc.	5130.4		344.50		
128	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		42.41		
129	John Deere Financial	5130.4		138.72		
130	Lapiner Brothers	5130.4		196.00		
131	Mooradians	5130.4		497.54		
132	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		38.95		
133	Ronald Knott	1220.4	200.00			
134	Colarusso Quarry	5110.4		610.48		
			8,537.33	9,206.58	0.00	22.93