

October 10, 2013

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, October 10, 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 and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski was not in attendance – he was called out for the weather.

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 Councilwoman Kelley Williams 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.

Old Business

Supervisor Knott reported that he had been in contact with the architects regarding the railroad station renovation project. The work has begun to put the project out to bid.

Schoolhouse Road bridge – Supervisor Knott reported that a meeting has been scheduled for the following week with CSX.

Town Hall Solar Project – Supervisor Knott reported that the first reduced bill from National Grid had been received and it was \$34.68 vs. the previous approximately \$250.00. We are still waiting for a bill from Monolith.

Special Guests

Councilwoman Kelley Williams presented Certificate of Achievements and Gift Cards to the 5 participants in the Historic Stuyvesant Day coloring contest.

A presentation by National Grid regarding the NYS Energy Product Solution was made regarding the new power lines proposed.

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Supervisor Knott reported that due to the previous resignation of Shirley Narzynski, applications had been received for the position of Planning Board & Zoning Board Secretary. After an interview process, Supervisor Knott made a motion to appoint Yvonne Main to the position. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edward Scott and was passed by unanimous vote.

Supervisor Knott read a resolution from Town Justice Carrie O'Hare to apply and accept (if awarded) the Justice Court Assistance Grant to scan 3 boxes of files, destroy those 3 boxes and to purchase a desktop computer. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Councilman Edward Scott, seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

Reports

Town Clerk: Report is on file.

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Recreation Committee –Councilwoman Kellie Williams reported that that we had received the \$488 reimbursement from the County for the summer program. She is continuing to work on the grant with the State. Councilwoman Williams reminded everyone that the Halloween Party would be held on October 26th and that help was needed for tail work.

Cathy Knott reminded everyone that the Halloween Party would be 1-3 pm and asked for help with decorating, baking, running games and cleaning up.

Councilman Scott reminded everyone that the Youth Hunt would be held November 9th and 10th.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee -- A potluck dinner will be held on October 11th at 6pm.

Environmental Management Council: Kathy Schneider was not in attendance but asked Supervisor Knott to report that the County Committee was working on a list of potential man-made hazardous businesses.

Zoning Revision Committee – Patricia Casey reported that the Committee is working on the Home Occupations portion of the Zoning Law. The next meeting will be October 16th at 7pm.

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

Kinderhook Memorial Library – Lee Jamison reported that the Oktoberfest on September 28th was successful. She also reported that the Better Family had been recognized for an \$8,000 donation for new carpeting. Ms. Jamison reminded everyone that the library offers technical training on computers.

Highway Department – Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that a used sander had been purchased for \$1600. They are calling around for tree service and are still short-handed.

Assessor's Office: Cathy Knott reminded everyone that they have to re-register for basic STAR exemptions by December 31st.

Planning/Zoning Boards: Shirley Narzynski reported that the Flood application was approved at the September meeting. The next Planning Board meeting will be October 28th at 7pm. There will be a Zoning Board meeting on October 22nd for an Application for Interpretation.

Cemetery – Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

ZEO/Building Inspector – Report on file in Town Clerk's Office.

Town Hall: Supervisor Knott reported that Councilman Scott had cleaned up the brush around the building .

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Supervisor Knott presented the Board with a Budget Amendment of \$6300. He explained that the Highway Department had received a lower percentage increase of CHiPs money than anyone else in the County and that Highway Superintendent Kowalski was looking into it. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that October 7th was the roll out date for a new SEQRA form. He attended a training program and will schedule an information training session with the members of the Planning Board.

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New Business

Budget -- Supervisor Knott reported that the Town had received a request from the Valatie Rescue Squad for a 2% increase in funding (\$250). A motion to approve the requested increase was made by Councilman Edward Scott and was seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Councilman Edward Scott asked for a moment of silence in memory of Robert Frick (Stuyvesant Falls).

2014 Tentative Budget – Supervisor Knott reported that the Public Hearing on the 2014 Tentative Budget would be held on Thursday, November 7th at 6:30pm. Supervisor Knott reviewed some highlights of the proposed budget:

- The amount to be raised by taxes will decrease by over \$1,000.
- The offset amount from the unexpended fund balance is \$70,000 (much lower than in the past)
- Pay raises of 3% for the Highway Department and 2% for everyone else was included.
- There have been minor adjustments to the .4 accounts.
- A proposed increase to the Meals on Wheels amount to help pay for the meals delivered to residents.
- There was an increase request from the VFW. Once again, Tal Rappleyea will donate the requested increase amount.
- There was a slight increase in Refuse and Garbage to do a second clean up day in 2014.
- The Retirement number is predicted to be slightly down.
- The Bond Payment amount has been lowered to reflect the actual cost.
- An increase in franchise fees under Revenues is due to the HydroElectric Plant annual payment for co-licensee.

Supervisor Knott explained that the Town’s total assessed value was decreased by quite a bit.

Councilman Tom Burrall announced that there would Veterans’ Day Ceremonies at both the VFW in Stuyvesant Falls and at the American Legion in Valatie on November 11th at 10:45.

Public Comments

Sharon Hall asked Supervisor Knott if he had gotten any additional information on Kinder Farm’s use of Kinder Drive. Supervisor Knott said he had met with the head of the Kinderhook Planning Board and that it doesn’t look like they are in violation and that the “road” in question is actually their driveway. Ms. Hall expressed concern about the size and number of vehicles that are coming through and Supervisor Knott replied that there had never been a documentation of the number of cars. There was never a primary/secondary designation for the property use.

Lee Jamison remarked that the Tentative Budget should have been made available prior to the meeting. Supervisor Knott explained that the tentative budget had not yet been officially filed and that changes were still being made. He added that he could give her a copy following the meeting if she would like one. She expressed concern about the bookkeeper and had questions about the \$2000 grant.

Councilman Edward Scott commented that there had been 2 public budget workshops and that no one other than Cathy Knott and Mike Naegeli had attended either.

Cathy Knott asked the Board to thank Akiko Weid for the donated plants in the Town Hall meeting room.

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Councilman Scott made a motion to the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and the meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Recorded this 10th day of October 2013

Approved this 14th day of November 2013.

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

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Abstract of Vouchers presented for Payment

#	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAP	RR
313	Blue Shield of NENY (3677.70)	9060.8	839.02	2,838.68		
314	Columbia County Treasurer	9060.8	93.22			
315	Marilyn Burch	1620.4				143.31
316	Time Warner (\$379.97)	1620.4	261.21			
		5132.4	118.76			
317	Tech Partners	1620.4	390.00			
318	National Grid (1696.440)	1620.4	34.68			21.50
		5132.4	221.71			
		5182.4	1,418.55			
319	Business Automation Services	1620.4	99.75			
320	Columbia County Treasurer	1110.4	131.64			
321	US Postal Service	1110.4	54.00			
322	Xerox Corp. (224.52)	1110.4	224.52			
		1410.4	158.52			
323	Staples Business Advantage (203.44)	1410.4	26.64			
		1355.4	176.80			
324	Apex Software	1355.4	215.00			
325	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	750.00			
326	Metz Wood Harder	1910.4	18,323.70			
327	Richard Collins	7550.4	15.00			
328	Kelley Williams	7550.4	75.00			
329	Johnson Newspaper Corp.	8020.4	18.37			
330	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	64.89			
331	Yaun Co.	5132.4	3,767.47			
332	Culligan	5132.4	27.82			
333	D & W Diesel Inc.	5110.4		745.96		
334	Colarusso Blacktop	5110.4		701.78		
335	Colarusso Quarry	5110.4		689.40		
336	Main Care Energy	5110.4		1,388.60		
337	Fleet Services (271.73)	8810.4	100.00			
		5110.4		171.73		
338	County Waste	8160.4	75.00			
339	Mario's Home Center (\$252.72)	1620.4	26.88			
		5132.4	68.76			
		5130.4		157.08		
340	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4		104.31		
341	Kivort Steel	5130.4		224.18		

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342	Kimball Midwest	5130.4		419.00			
343	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		43.04			
344	Columbia Tractor, Inc.	5130.4		132.19			
345	Mark Fitzgerald	1220.4		170.80			
				27,947.71	7,615.95	0.00	164.81