

January 9, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2014 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, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli and Highway Superintendent Kowalski.

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 Brian Chittenden 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 regarding Farmland Protection funding to update zoning. Supervisor Knott asked Councilwoman Williams to review.

A letter from the Association of Towns regarding the Annual Meeting and training in New York City in February.

Old Business

Ice House Road – Gene Kelly of the DEC asked Supervisor Knott to meet with the Project Manager for the Ice House Road project.

Railroad Station Restoration Project – The project is out to bid. There were 17 contractors at the pre-bid meeting. The Bid Opening is scheduled for January 21st at 10:00 at the Town Hall.

NY Energy Solution – Supervisor Knott is trying to get the Public Service Commission to come give a presentation to the Town regarding the proposed power line upgrade project. The Governor opened the project to competitive bidding and wants it fast tracked. They may be able to bypass some of the review process. Assemblyman Lopez stated that they will still have to do the Article 7 process.

Special Presentation

Ian Soloman of Claverack’s “Farmers & Families for Claverack” made a presentation about the work they are doing in Claverack with respect to the NY Energy Solution Project.

Supervisor Knott read the following proposed Resolution and asked that the Board consider approving:

TOWN OF STUYVESANT RESOLUTION REGARDING THE PROCESS OF EXPANDING THE EXISTING 115-KV POWER LINES TO 345-KV POWER LINES AND ACCESSING ADDITIONAL LAND BY EMINENT DOMAIN

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant acknowledges citizen concerns that the applications of New York Transco, Nextera, Boundless Energy and North America Transmission for the expansion of existing 115-kv power lines to 345-kv power lines and the accessing of additional lands by eminent domain could potentially significantly impact the towns of Stuyvesant, and;

WHEREAS, as the Town Board of Town of Stuyvesant requests both Gov. Cuomo and Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess of the Public Service Commission to review this proposed project and ensure that the project receives the utmost scrutiny and careful consideration, including a close look at laying lines within existing right-of-ways, a close look at alternatives to eminent domain, and a full and transparent cost analysis of placing lines underground to minimize impacts,

January 9, 2014

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant that the town board hereby acknowledges that the alternating 345-kv high voltage proposed upgrade expansion running through the town of Stuyvesant could decrease forest cover and wetlands, reduce agricultural production, disturb historic homes and Properties and urges Gov. Cuomo and the Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, to ensure that this project receives the utmost scrutiny and careful consideration, including an independent and thorough analysis of reasonable alternatives and a close look at alternatives to eminent domain.

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Public Service Commission, Governor Cuomo, Assembly Hon. Peter Lopez, Senator Cathy Marchione,

Reports

Town Clerk: Report is on file in her office.

Recreation Committee: Lee Jamison explained that the annual “Owl Walk” will not be referred to as the “Owl Walk” but a “Night time nature walk”. She explained that there was concern that people would come with owl calls and scare off the owls from the area. The walk is tentatively scheduled for January 18th at 6pm.

Railroad Restoration Committee: The upcoming Pot Luck Dinners will be held on January 10th and February 14th. The next meeting of the Committee will be January 18th at the Town Hall.

Environmental Management Council: No report.

Dog Control Officer: Report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Zoning Revision Committee: Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported that the Committee met on January 8th. They are reviewing the definitions in the Town Zoning Law.

Library: Lee Jamison reported that the Board would meet on the following Monday. They are going forward with the fundraising, they are looking for donations of office furniture for the fundraisers and the Board is considering a request in increased funding from the municipalities.

Assessor: Assessor’s Clerk Cathy Knott reminded everyone that Exemption Forms are due to their office by March 1st.

Highway Department: Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that if we weren’t able to store as much salt as we can with the new salt shed, we would have run out of supplies already this winter. Steve Montie will be out of work until February.

Planning Zoning Boards: Boards Secretary Yvonne Main reported that the Harris/Sullivan matter was referred back to the Planning Board after approval from the Zoning Board.

Historian: Juanita Knott reported that she continues to find information on the Civil War Newspaper. She also reported that she had received a \$75 check as a result of a Columbia County Regrant Application she had submitted to assist with the costs of preserving the original Civil War Newspaper.

Cemetery: Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

Building Inspector/CEO: Gerry Ennis reported that he is working on Annual Reports and organizing the office. He is also working on a 10-year building permit trend report.

January 9, 2014

Town Hall: Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that the County had held their Organizational Meeting and he was appointed the Chair of the County Government Committee. He was also appointed to the Finance and Public Works Committees. He will also be working with the Director of the Soil and Water Conservation District.

New Business

Supervisor Knott reported that he continues to work on an Employee Handbook that incorporates all of the policies.

Supervisor Knott reported that he had had conversations with Assessor Howard Gleason and in reviewing changes to assessments and tax bills, there may have to be a revaluation in the coming years.

Supervisor Knott reported that the 2014 Town & County School Tax Rates per 1,000 had been provided to the Town Board.

Councilman Scott reported that he had heard from residents with concerns about the lack of guardrail on the road between the Stuyvesant Falls Bridge and Route 9 (Route 25) and it appears that the road is falling over the bank. Supervisor Knott said that was a County Highway and he would speak with the County Highway Department.

Public Comments

Lee Jamison asked if there had been any information on the Engineering Report from the study of the Stuyvesant Falls Bridge last summer. Supervisor Knott reported that he expected the findings to be presented to the Public Works Committee at their meeting in February.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Edward Scott and seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Recorded this 9th day of January 2014

Approved this 13th day of February 2014

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Town of Stuyvesant

Town Board Meeting

January 9, 2014

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	CAPITAL	RAIL ROAD
<i>Remaining 2013</i>						
437	National Grid (\$2195.18)	5182.4	1,914.51			
		5132.4	253.62			
		1620.4				27.05
438	Xerox Corp. (\$209.36)	1620.4	66.00			
		1410.4	\$143.36			
439	Monolith Solar	1620.4	363.79			
440	Safeguard	1410.4	8.00			
441	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq. (\$1000)*	1420.4	375.00			
	2014 -- Jan. Retainer	1420.4	625.00			
442	Bernard Kowalski (\$354.75)*	5130.4		108.00		
	2014 -- Billing for January	5130.4		173.26		
		5010.4	73.49			
443	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	68.81			
444	George Knott (\$238.00)	1620.4	120.00			
		6140.4	118.00			
445	Rainbow Distributors (\$16.00)	1620.4	14.00			
		5132.4	2.00			
446	Culligan	5132.4	27.82			
447	Main Care Energy	5132.4	424.54			
448	Mario's Home Center (\$203.90)	5132.4	48.95			
		5130.4		154.95		
449	Terry Haggerty	5130.4		515.00		
450	Carquest of Valatie	5130.4		141.12		
451	Northeast Auto Parts	5130.4		368.57		
<i>2014</i>						
1	Columbia County Treasurer	9060.8	93.22			
2	CDPHP Universal Benefits, Inc. (\$1657.48)	9060.8	414.37	1,243.11		
3	Association of Towns	1010.4	600.00			
4	Scott Alarm Systems	1620.4	211.05			
5	Service Education, Inc.	1110.4	950.00			
6	NYS Assessor's Association	1355.4	85.00			
7	Business Automation Services	1410.4	730.00			
8	Gerry Ennis	3620.4	712.00			
9	NY Planning Federation	8020.4	250.00			
10	County Waste	5132.4	75.00			
11	Fleet Services	5110.4	376.95			
12	Johnson Newspaper	1410.4	34.33			
			9,178.81	2,704.01	0.00	27.05