

November 13, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilman Edward Scott, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski, and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Councilman Tom Burrall 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 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 Brian Chittenden and was passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

A Letter from Greene County Bank regarding Bond Payment.

A letter from Freedman, Howard Law Firm regarding a proposed Kinderhook Zoning change.

A letter from Pondview Kennels notifying the Town that contracts will not be renewed.

A letter from the Columbia Greene Humane Society transmitting a proposed contract for 2015. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea will review and advise.

A letter from Burke, Scolamiero, Mortati & Hurd Law Firm regarding the pending Federal Lawsuit. A decision is expected by the end of the year.

Special Guest

Dog Control Officer, Wes Powell, addressed the Board and audience regarding the process for a Dog Enumeration. He explained that every residence in the Town will be visited and followed-up with until it is cleared for either no dog or a licensed dog. Dog owners will be given 10 days to license their dog then a ticket will be issued. Mr. Powell said he would speak with the Town Justices to ensure their cooperation. He suggested that the Town Clerk put a notice in the newspaper before the end of the year notifying residents that the process will begin in January, Citations will start after March 1st.

Old Business

Railroad Station Project – Supervisor Knott reported that the process has been very slow. DOT has agreed to the Federal Requirements but we will request an extension due to the weather.

Stuyvesant Falls Bridge – The engineers (Ryan-Biggs) are preparing a bid package for the repairs necessary.

Ice House Road – Supervisor Knott reported that DEC had poured a slab for the pavilion and that it should be constructed within the next couple of weeks.

Supervisor Knott also reported that he had asked our Representatives to find out about the vacant house on Ice House Road. In a letter from Assemblyman Lopez, it was explained that the State is “actively looking for renters”.

Power Lines – Supervisor Knott reported that he had attended the presentation and shared the specification sheet with the Board of questions that are being posed to the Governor’s Office. Questions included the need for the project and what the benefits will be to affected areas.

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Councilman Brian Chittenden announced that the Dutch Hollow Farm had been nominated for a Master Breeder Award and was put in the Dairy Hall of Fame, at the Dairy Shrine in Ft. Atkinson, WI. This is worldwide recognition and he represents the 3rd Generation in his family to achieve such honor.

Reports

Town Clerk: Town Clerk Report is on file.

Recreation Committee: Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported everything is pretty quiet. She said Supervisor Knott had met with Cal Burch and they discussed a possible ice rink at the playground. The firehouse would be asked to fill it. Cal is looking into a plastic set up.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee: Cal Burch reported that there would be a Holiday Party at the Depot on Saturday, December 13th open to the public. Additional details to come.

The Lincoln Funeral Train committee is hard at work planning activities and working with a wide range of people from Greenport, Claverack, Greene County, City of Hudson. Local Historians were at the last meeting.

Environmental Management Council: Kathy Schneider was not in attendance but notified Supervisor Knott that there would be a guest speaker at the next meeting on Biodiversity.

Dog Control Officer – Report on file.

Zoning Revision Committee: Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported the Committee is currently trying to find a date to reschedule the meeting. They will be getting ideas from the Zoning and Planning Boards.

Library: Lee Jamison was not in attendance but had sent a thank you to the voters for passing the resolution at the November election.

Highway Dept. – Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that the snow fences were up; the trucks were ready and the salt sheds were full. He also reported that there may be problems getting salt later in the season.

Assessor's Office – Assessor's Clerk Cathy Knott reported that the Exemption forms had been mailed and need to be returned to the Office by March 1, 2015.

Planning/Zoning Board: There will be a Zoning Board meeting on November 18th to review a request from Larry Divney.

Cemetery -- Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

ZEO/Building Inspector – Report on file.

Town Hall – Supervisor Knott reported that trees had been donated anonymously. The highway department had worked with the garden club and the trees have been planted. He also reported that he is looking into replacements for the outdoor lights.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that it is Budget time at the County and it is proving to be very challenging.

Ockawamick Auction – The school sold for \$500,000 at public auction.

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Pine Haven Nursing Home – Three bids have been received to purchase the nursing home. A requirement of a sale is that the name and location remain the same. Public presentations from the bidders will be held in December.

Supervisor Knott reported that Patrice Perry notified him that NYS had approved the Greenway Grant for ground water study work.

New Business

Supervisor Knott reported that the 2015 Adopted Budget had been filed with the County on November 13, 2015 following the Public Hearing on November 6, 2014. The Budget reflected a .75% increase.

Supervisor Knott reported that he is currently reviewing electric rates and services through a program with the Association of Towns that will group towns for better rates and assist with billing problems.

The Hydro Electric Plant has proposed an agreement with the Town. The Board will discuss at their workshop meeting on December 4.

There will be two meetings in December. The regular business meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2014 and the end of year meeting will be held on Monday, December 29, 2014.

Public Comments

Councilman Ed Scott asked if Ginsbergs would leave the County in light of the Ghent/Claverack Planning Boards decision. Supervisor Knott said there was a consensus of County Supervisors that they cannot get involved with Town decisions. They can write letters of support to keep Ginsbergs in the County. This was a bipartisan agreement.

Rich Moran asked if there had been a decision to sell Pine Haven. Supervisor Knott responded “not exactly”. The County Board is looking for interest in privatizing the service.

Cathy Knott reported that the Halloween was well attended. She thanked everyone who helped.

The Courthouse Dedication will be held on November 14, 2014. There will be an Open House and the building will be dedicated to Judge Miner.

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

Recorded this 13th day of November 2014

Approved this 11th day of December 2014

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa A. Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

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Abstract of vouchers approved for payment at the November 2014 meeting

CLAIM #	PAYEE	A/C#	GENERAL	HIGHWAY
369	CDPHP Universal Benefits, Inc.	9060.8		512.45
370	Columbia County Treasurer	9060.8	93.22	
371	Stuyvesant Postmaster	1410.4	98.00	
372	National Grid (201.11)	1620.4	59.34	
		5132.4	141.77	
373	Time Warner Cable (432.62)	1620.4	284.64	
		5132.4	147.98	
374	National Grid (1717.37)	5182.4		
375	Rainbow Distributors (\$26.00)	1620.4	14.00	
		5132.4	12.00	
376	Business Automation Services	1620.4	59.50	
377	Maple Lane Nursery	1620.4	965.00	
378	Mesick, Cohen, Wilson & Baker Architects	1620.4	896.20	
379	Columbia Greene Media Corp.	1010.4	24.99	
380	Catherine G. Knott (\$193.01)	7550.4	175.00	
		1355.4	18.01	
381	Staples, Inc.	1410.4	198.00	
382	Xerox Corporation	1410.4	146.55	
383	Melissa Naegeli	1410.4	51.00	
384	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	625.00	
385	Morris Associates	1440.4	440.00	
386	Mario's Home Center (\$301.34)	1620.4	28.72	
		5132.4	176.99	
		5130.4	95.63	
387	Columbia County Treasurer	7550.4	30.00	
388	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	53.34	
389	Culligan	5132.4	27.82	
390	County Waste	5132.4	82.50	
391	Lapiner Bros., Inc.	5132.4	50.00	
392	Valley Oil., Co.	5110.4		1,631.99
393	Hendersen's Tree Removal	5110.4		1,200.00
394	Fleet Services	5110.4		210.23
395	Dinosaw Inc.	5130.4		20.50
396	Cryo Weld Corp	5130.4		41.08
397	Mooradian's Hydraulics	5130.4		7.50
398	Ben Funk Inc.	5130.4		116.00
399	Zwack, Inc.	5130.4		142.22

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400	John Deere Financial	5130.4		159.83
401	Sam's Club	5130.4		100.00
402	Kivort Steel	5130.4		125.00
403	Bernard Kowalski	5130.4		229.32
404	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4		136.16
405	Northeast Automotive	5130.4		76.25
406	ACP Power Equipment	5130.4		8.16
407	Lowe's	5130.4		117.24
408	Unifirst Corp.	5130.4		25.52
409	A. H. Harris	5142.4		122.88
410	C.J. Miner, Inc.	5142.4		115.00
			4,995.20	5,097.33