

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2015 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, Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea.

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

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Councilman Edward Scott, seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall and approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the bills presented was made by Councilman Tom Burrall, seconded by Councilman Ed Scott and was approved by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

Letter from Columbia County Department of Public Works regarding the bridge in Stuyvesant Falls.

A letter of interest with respect to the Planning & Zoning Boards secretary vacant position.

Old Business

Ice House Road – The ribbon cutting ceremony, as planned by NYS DEC, was held in June.

Stuyvesant Falls Bridge – Supervisor Knott reported bids had been received to make necessary repairs to raise the weight restrictions. The apparent low bidder was Piasecki and there is hope for a contract in August. October 31st is the expected completion date.

Railroad Station – The down payment for the contractor has been paid and work is beginning. Money that was donated to the 501c “Pathways” is being used for the last 2 windows. Lew Hotaling built the wood sashes.

Reports

Town Clerk: Report on file. Ken Hummel 5K Race/Walk and Kids’ 1 Mile Chicken Run will be held on Saturday, August 8th, to kick-off Historic Stuyvesant Day.

Recreation Committee: There was no meeting in July due to the Holiday. There are 18 resident children that registered with the Town Clerk and are enrolled in the Kinderhook Playground. There is a new picnic table in Stuyvesant Falls and the swing

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at the Landing playground has been repaired. Councilwoman Williams thanked the Highway Department for their help.

Railroad Restoration Committee: Marilyn Burch reported that the corn festival will be held on Friday, August 14th at the Town Hall.

Environmental Management Council: Kathy Schneider reported that at the June meeting, the EMC gave out their Good Housekeeping Awards. She also reported that Council was recommending the Board of Supervisors pass a Resolution regarding Climate Change. Ms. Schneider announced there would be a free talk on July 24th at the Hudson High School at 7pm regarding Climate Change.

Dog Control Officer: No report

Zoning Revision Committee: Tom Shanahan reported that the revisions had been completed and the Committee was choosing a date to meet.

Library: Lee Jamison reported Big Truck Day was a success. She also reported that the newsletter was out and their website was up to date with summer events.

Office for the Aging: Ida Leiser, Town Delegate, reported that there would not be a meeting until September.

Highway Department: Chuck Stiffler reported the Department had cleaned up and planted grass around the Town Hall; the picnic table for Stuyvesant Falls had been complete at a cost of \$160 for materials; and that everyone's OSHA training was completed for the year.

Assessor's Office: Cathy Knott reported the Final Roll was filed with the Town Clerk on July 1st. She reminded everyone that if they are turning 65 or are a Veteran, or if they knew someone in Town that met those criteria, they should contact the Assessor's Office.

Planning & Zoning Boards: It was reported that the meetings have been quiet.

Historian: Juanita Knott reported that someone had donated a bottle with a label "Staats House", she will research more information. She reminded everyone about the covered dish picnic on August 8th to celebrate Historic Stuyvesant Day. The picnic will be 12-3pm at the new pavilion on Ice House Road. Supervisor Knott said he would extend a special invitation to Scenic Hudson for Historic Stuyvesant Day. Lee Jamison asked if there would be shuttles due to the limited parking. It was suggested that people park at the Town Hall and carpool.

Cemetery: Councilman Edward Scott reported that all was quiet.

Building Inspector/CEO: Report is on file.

Town Hall – Supervisor Knott reported that the Monolith sign had been removed.

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Special Guest

Geoff Johnson, Asst. Chief at Stuyvesant Fire Co. No. 1, addressed the Board and audience regarding the upcoming Firemen's Convention being hosted and held in Stuyvesant. He told everyone that it was the 90th Convention and the 65th Anniversary of the Stuyvesant Fire Company #1. Friday, July 24th there would be an open to the public event on the grounds of the Fire Company beginning at 6:30pm. There would be food vendors and a free concert by The Refrigerators.

July 25th is the date for the annual Parade. He left copies of the parade route and related road closures. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli replied that she had also put the information on the Town's website and facebook page. There will be a celebration at the firehouse at the conclusion of the parade. Parking will be available at the playground and a shuttle bus will run – both Friday evening and Saturday.

The Town Board was invited to sit on the reviewing stand.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that the Real Property Tax Sale would be held on July 30th. A listing of properties is available on the County Website and closed bids must be received by that date.

A Resolution from the CEDC was adopted providing for Authority's Budget Office review. Payments have been suspended.

New Business

A budget amendment to create a line item #3501 for CHiPs funding in the amount of \$74,728. A motion to pass was made by Councilman Ed Scott, seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and was passed by unanimous vote. The CHiPs will be used toward the \$172,000 paving costs.

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**RESOLUTION
TOWN OF STUYVESANT TOWN BOARD
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WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant entered into a grant application with NYSDOT for phase II of the Stuyvesant Railroad Restoration. In 2003 Phase II was designed to allow the town to use the station as a place of public assembly or any other use appropriate to the structure.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant in 2007 resolved to revise the original scope of work of Phase II thus creating a new Phase II (Revised) to be partially funded under the present grant.

WHEREAS, The restoration and reuse of the station will reclaim, for the hamlet of Stuyvesant Landing, a significant component of its historic townscape, while enabling visitors and residents alike to take full advantage of the proposed Greenway trail system and the Hudson River. Pedestrian river access for all will be enhanced, the hamlet will gain focus as a recreation area, tourism will result in the hamlet's economic revitalization, and the use of the station will discourage vandalism.

WHEREAS, This grant application has been reviewed and supported by previous boards and committees as well as agencies such as Columbia County Health Department, NYS Department of Transportation, State Historic Parks and Recreation

WHEREAS, Volunteers have committed countless hours maintaining the station and fundraising to offset the town's cost for the matching portion of this grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Stuyvesant Town Board hereby resolves to authorize the Supervisor to sign the EBO (Equitable Business Opportunities) request form to allow all involved to view data/reports for the contract involving restoration of the Stuyvesant Railroad Station.

<u>Town Board Members</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Ronald Knott		X	
Kelli Williams		X	
Brian Chittenden	X		
Edward Scott		X	
Thomas Burrall	X		

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A motion to allow Supervisor Knott to sign an agreement between an employee and the Town regarding how to handle excessive time accrual was made by Councilman Ed Scott, seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote.

Board Comments

Councilman Ed Scott reported that he had received an estimate from Sheriff's Electric regarding the replacement of lights in the parking lot at the Town Hall. For all posts, lights and work the estimate is \$14,000. Councilman Scott will get other bids.

Public Comments

Lee Jamison reminded the Board of a discussion regarding a land management plan for Hummel Park. She suggested that it should be discussed at the next Recreation meeting and that Marie Allen, Kathy Schneider, Board members meet at the August 1st meeting. Councilman Scott will contact Ms. Allen.

Richard Moran asked if anyone knew what the construction project on County Route 26A was. Chuck Stiffler replied that National Grid is working on the gas line that goes through town and that it is a multi-million dollar project.

Tom Shanahan asked about the proposal discussed at the June meeting to change the Supervisor's term from 2 to 4 years. Supervisor Knott replied that the discussion had been tabled.

Mr. Shanahan asked if Mr. Rappleyea had gotten any information on the process for changing a term of office for a seated Town Judge. Mr. Rappleyea replied that the situation is addressed in a Section of Town Law. There are two options: 1) abolish one position for a period of time to the middle of the other's term, then create a new 4-year position. This would leave a Town with only one Justice; and 2) one of the Justices could resign then get reappointed to run for their own unexpired term. Either option would require cooperation of the Justices. Supervisor Knott suggested we wait until someone retires. Tal Rappleyea added that abolishing a Justice position would be a mandatory referendum.

Councilman Ed Scott said with respect to the 2 year vs. 4 year term for a Supervisor position, he was in favor of a 2 year term.

Lee Jamison expressed concern over the low number of children attending summer camp. She asked how we could get the word out more effectively. After a discussion, it was determined that numbers are down all over.

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

Recorded this 9th day of June 2015

Approved this 13th day of August 2015

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

