

July 13, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Councilman Edward Scott, Councilman Tom Burrall, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea.

Supervisor Knott opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

### **Correspondence**

- A letter from the Public Service Commission regarding the proposed increase in rates for National Grid and the listing of public hearing sites;
- A letter from the Stuyvesant Garden Club requesting permission to plant a bush in memory of Charlene Leach on the grounds of the Town Hall. With Board approval, Cathy Knott will meet with Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler to determine the best placing.
- A letter from NYMIR regarding the new State mandated Paid Family Leave Act. Additional premium costs will begin to be deducted from employees' paychecks. In relation to this, Supervisor Knott announced that the Board will seek bids for the Town's Liability Insurance. It has been 10 years since the service was reviewed and with the recent Audit recommendations, the Board will review costs. Supervisor Knott also announced that he had been notified of a 14% increase in health care costs and the Board will begin to look at alternatives for that as well.
- A report from NYS Ag & Markets regarding the Dog Control Officer, all is good;
- A phone call from the Mayor of the Village of Kinderhook asking the Town to partner with the Village of Kinderhook, the Town of Kinderhook, and the Town of Stockport to apply for a Greenway Grant for improvements along the Creek and to create a canoe trail.

### **Old Business**

*Procurement Policy* – Supervisor Knott read a proposed edit to the procurement policy with respect to the purchase of “professional services”. The Board unanimously agreed to make the proposed change as it will reflect the State Audit’s recommendation of bidding professional services.

*6 Month Budget Review* – Supervisor Knott reviewed the 2017 Budget and discussed where many of the funds were. Several revenue funds are ahead of “schedule”.

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*Fuel Oil Bid* – The County Bid for fuel oil was awarded to KOSCO for 2017-18. We are currently with Valley Energy who had the bid for 2016-17. Supervisor Knott, after speaking with Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli regarding billing concerns, contacted Valley Energy to ask if they would maintain the current rate which is ¼ of a cent higher than the awarded bid price; they agreed. A resolution will be prepared to stay with Valley Energy as the best value, per our Procurement Policy, for the August meeting.

A motion to approve the bills presented was made by Tom Burrall, seconded by Brian Chittenden and was passed by unanimous vote.

### **Reports**

*Town Clerk* – Report on file. Melissa Naegeli announced that the tax collection period for 2017 had concluded and final payments to the County and Town had been made.

She also gave a report on the status of the Ken Hummel Memorial Races; \$400 in sponsorship money had been received to date as well as registrations coming in. Melissa Naegeli requested permission from the Board to purchase new shirts for race participants this year, as new shirts haven't been purchased in 3 years. She provided 3 quotes and recommended that the shirts be purchased from JCB Specialties, having worked with them in past and their having the best value for choice and delivery. A motion to allow 90 shirts to be purchased from JCB Specialties at a cost of \$720 was made by Ed Scott. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

*Recreation Committee* – Kelley Williams reported that a meeting was not held in July due to the Holiday weekend. She also reported that the Summer Program had begun and there were approximately 15 children attending from Stuyvesant.

Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler asked about the deteriorated bases at the Stuyvesant Landing playground, stating that there are steel posts just sticking out of the ground. Kelley Williams will look into ordering replacement bases.

Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler also reported that new signs are needed at the Landing Playground regarding no parking/driving and stating the hours. He will contact the County to replace the signs.

Lee Jamison announced that a workday was planned for Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> to repair the footbridges at Ken Hummel Park. She added that Larry Divney has agreed to mow near the trail.

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*Railroad Station Committee* – Marilyn Burch announced that there would be a Restoration Committee meeting on Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the Station. The Blueberry Festival will be Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Town Hall; grill foods will be available as well as various blueberry foods. Lee Jamison announced that Blue Anderson (Massage Therapist) will be at the Festival giving chair massages.

*Environmental Management Council* – Lee Jamison, in Christian Sweningson’s absence, reported that the Council was reviewing the State Office for Climate Resiliency report on available resources to Towns.

*Dog Control Officer* – No report

*Kinderhook Memorial Library* – Lee Jamison reported the construction project for the “big” addition will be “shovel in ground” in September.

Supervisor Knott announced he had been contacted by the Library to hold a program at the Town Hall on birds but there was a schedule conflict. The Library will find another date to hold the program.

Lee Jamison reviewed the list of programs being offered over the summer.

*Office for the Aging* – Ida Leiser reminded everyone that the County bus was available and to call the Office for the Aging to arrange trips.

Lee Jamison asked about the process saying she hadn’t had luck finding information on the website. Supervisor Knott reported that the County IT staff was working on streamlining all Department websites.

*Highway Department* – the Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler reported

- That paving was done;
- That shoulders would be done soon;
- They were mowing the road sides;
- They had been helping in Stockport and Kinderhook with their paving projects.

Mr. Stiffler also announced that he had heard on the news that the County was going to receive FEMA money from the last snowstorm.

*Assessor’s Office* – Cathy Knott reported that the final roll had been filed in the Clerk’s Office on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Planning/Zoning Boards* – ZBA Chair Jeff Jensen reported that there was a Public Hearing scheduled for the evening of the July meeting.

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Mr. Jensen reported that the ZBA had a lot of conflicts with meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month and asked the Board's permission to change the regular meeting night to the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday instead. With the Board's approval, Mr. Jensen will discuss with the ZBA members and notify the Clerk when the changed date will begin. The new schedule will also have to be noticed in the newspaper.

*Historian* – Cathy Knott reported that flyers were now available and asked everyone to post them all around. Following the Ken Hummel Run, a ceremony and picnic will be held at the Sandbar Picnic Area in Stuyvesant Falls. The VFW will be honoring all Veterans and highlighting WWI Vets. Everyone is encouraged to attend and bring a dish to share (dessert or salad) and a chair or blanket. Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact Town Historian Juanita Knott.

Councilman Scott reported he had spoken with Town Historian Juanita Knott and will take care of purchasing the grill foods and utensils. Councilman Burrall will bring his large grill to cook.

Marilyn Burch reminded everyone that following the picnic, there would be a free movie showing at the Railroad Station at 4pm.

Lee Jamison said she had been doing research on the Women's Land Army and would like to do a display with the information she has found. She will contact Juanita Knott.

*Cemetery* – Councilman Ed Scott reported that another tree had fallen and that the mowing was hard to keep up with because of the weather.

*ZEO/Building Inspector* – Report is on file.

*Town Hall* – Supervisor Knott announced that Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler had received three quotes for a project to seal the cracks in the parking lot around the Town Hall in preparation of paving next year. Those are from Gorman Brothers (\$4600), Copeland (\$5200), and Valley Paving (\$2400). A motion was made by Ed Scott to accept the bid from Valley Paving for \$2400. The motion was seconded by Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote. Chuck Stiffler will contact them to schedule the work.

### **County Government**

Supervisor Knott reported that the Shared Services Panel had been meeting and discussing various ideas that would be included in the report to the State for the mandated shared services plan.

Supervisor Knott reported that he had met with Robin Reynolds regarding Clean Energy Communities Program.

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Supervisor Knott reported that the Board of Supervisors had voted to move forward with final negotiations to purchase land in the Commerce Park for a County Fire Training Facility to be built.

**New Business**

Supervisor Knott announced that the County had passed a new Veteran’s Tax Exemption Law increasing the amounts. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea prepared a proposed Local Law for the Board to review. Supervisor Knott reported that the last time our Local Law had been updated was 2008. He also discussed the changes that would be seen in tax bills, as determined by a financial analysis completed and provided by Suzette Booy, Real Property Services Director.

A motion to schedule a Public Hearing on a Local Law regarding Veteran’s Exemptions was made by Ed Scott. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 7pm.

Cathy Knott encouraged the Board to pass the Local Law increasing the amounts for the Veteran’s Exemptions. Supervisor Knott added that there would be a new classification for exemptions for “Gold Star Mothers”.

Ida Leiser reported that money was available through the Office for the Aging for seniors to install air conditioning. If they are qualified for HEAP and have a recommendation from a doctor, they can get A/C.

Supervisor Knott provided the Board with proposed Budget Amendment #3:

General Fund	Increase	Decrease
Appropriations		
DA3501 S/A CHIPS	\$12,274.25	
DA5112.2 PERM HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$12,274.25	
DA5110.4 STREET MAINT.	\$9,276.15	
		\$9,276.15

The Amendment was approved unanimously and is filed in the Town Clerk’s Office.

**Board Comments**

Tom Burrall announced that he Columbia County Firemen’s Convention would be July 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> in the Town of Stockport and that Route 9 would be closed. Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler reported that the Northbound lane between County Route 25 and Day Road would be closed starting at 3pm. At 4pm the road will be completely shut off to traffic until the conclusion of the parade.

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**Public Comments**

Lee Jamison said she had received an email from “Connect Columbia” that asks people to encourage the Public Service Commission to hold Fairpoint and Time Warner to the new Broadband requirements.

Supervisor Knott replied that he and Tal Rappleyea are reviewing the proposed Franchise Agreement contracts from Time Warner/Spectrum. He added that the Franchise Agreement is only for cable services and not internet.

Lee Jamison asked if there was an update on the Stuyvesant Fall Bridge. Supervisor Knott said he is still waiting for the County Engineer’s report.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa A. Naegeli, RMC*

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Vouchers presented at the July 2017 meeting for approval:

	<i>July 2017</i>			<b>LIGHTS</b>		
<b>CLAIM #</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>A/C#</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>LND/FALLS</b>	<b>HIGHWAY</b>	
272-17	CDPHP Universal Benefits (\$3512.79)	9060.8	600.48			2,912.31
273-17	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	519.00			
274-17	Stickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill, CPAs	1320.4	10,290.00			
275-17	Time Warner Cable (\$402.79)	1620.4	279.44			
		5132.4	123.35			
276-17	Columbia Co. Treasurer (Solid Waste)	8160.4	25.00			
277-17	Staples, Inc.	1410.4	34.21			
278-17	National Grid	5132.4	93.20			
279-17	National Grid (\$1056.95)	5182.4		515.74		
				541.21		
280-17	Johnson Newspaper Corp.	1410.4	24.84			
281-17	National Grid	1620.4	21.34			
282-17	National Grid	1620.4	22.28			
283-17	Constellation (\$147.72)	5182.4		71.05		
				76.67		
284-17	Marlin Business Bank	1620.4	114.00			
285-17	NYS Town Clerks Association	1410.4	75.00			
286-17	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	750.00			
287-17	Paychex of New York LLC	1320.4	214.22			
288-17	Constellation (\$73.51)	1620.4	1.29			
		5132.4	72.22			
289-17	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	86.00			
290-17	Charles Stiffler	5010.4	382.00			
291-17	Rainbow Distributors	5132.4	19.49			
292-17	County Waste	5132.4	93.58			
293-17	Peckham Industries, Inc.	5110.4				20,600.39
294-17	Satern Associates, Inc.	5110.4				60.00
295-17	Bob Boll Excavating	5110.4				219.41
296-17	John Deere Financial	5130.4				202.45
297-17	AirGas USA	5130.4				26.10
298-17	Lowe's	5130.4				90.12
299-17	Max S. Wood Equipment, Inc.	5130.4				32.26
300-17	Share Corporation	5130.4				128.50
301-17	Mario's Home Center	5130.4				111.07
302-17	Morton Salt	5142.4				6,704.72
	<i>July 6 2017</i>		<i>13,840.94</i>	<i>1204.67</i>		<i>31,087.33</i>

**Town of Stuyvesant**

**Town Board Meeting**

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303-17	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	917.00		
304-17	SMG	1620.4	257.57		
305-17	Business Automation Svcs (\$134.75)	1620.4	29.00		
		7510.4	10.50		
		1220.4	19.05		
		1410.4	19.05		
		1355.4	19.05		
		3620.4	19.05		
		8020.4	19.05		
306-17	Staples, Inc. (\$94.44)	1620.4	46.72		
		1410.4	22.31		
		3620.4	25.41		
307-17	Culligan	5132.4	28.93		
308-17	Crown Awards	7550.4	209.54		
309-17	Valley Paving (\$108,550.40)	5112.2			92,274.25
		5112.4			16,276.15
310-17	Valley Energy	5110.4			2,262.93
311-17	Wex Bank	5110.4			233.24
312-17	Columbia Tractor, Inc.	5130.4			178.03
313-17	Airgas USA LLC	5130.4			25.40
		13-Jul-17	1,642.23	0	111,250.00
		<b>July Total</b>	<b>15,483.17</b>	<b>1204.67</b>	<b>142,337.33</b>