

**Resolution of the Board
Of the Town of Stuyvesant
Regarding Climate Change
December 9, 2021**

Board member William Schneider moved and Board member Brian Chittenden seconded that

WHEREAS, the Town of Stuyvesant believes that climate change and ecological degradation are likely to present real and increasing threats to the people, natural resources, and economic wellbeing of the town; and

WHEREAS, we understand that the effects of climate change are likely to lead to larger and more frequent floods, higher temperatures, droughts, wildfires, severe storms, increases in invasive pests and diseases; the effects of which may adversely impact our farms, orchards, and ecological communities; reduce native biological diversity; threaten fresh water supplies and recreational opportunities; and may pose health treats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Columbia County Natural Resources reports that if worldwide GHG emissions are lowered in the coming years, then the changes we experience will still be significant but reduced from the dramatically increased impacts projected if emissions continue to grow at the current rate; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come; and

WHEREAS we believe that adapting to climate change by fortifying our infrastructure, investing in resilient land stewardship practices, and conserving the ecological integrity of local farms, forests, and watersheds will help make the town more resilient to the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that participation in the Climate Smart Communities program can help reduce energy costs for local government, while also helping to address other existing challenges, such as well conceived renewable energy development, smart growth and increased public access to local trails and open space; and

WHEREAS; we understand that resolving to join the Climate Smart Communities program does not mandate that the town take any specific actions or require the expenditure of town funds without the consent of the town board; and

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Town of Stuyvesant, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, *adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:*

- 1) **Build a climate-smart community.**
- 2) **Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.**
- 3) **Decrease energy use.**
- 4) **Shift to clean, renewable energy.**
- 5) **Use climate-smart materials management.**
- 6) **Implement climate-smart land use.**
- 7) **Enhance community resilience to climate change.**
- 8) **Support a green innovation economy.**
- 9) **Inform and inspire the public.**
- 10) **Engage in an evolving process of climate action.**

CERTIFICATION OF TOWN CLERK

I, Melissa A. Naegeli, Town Clerk, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant on December 9, 2021.

Melissa A. Naegeli

Melissa A. Naegeli, RMC
Town Clerk

[TOWN SEAL]