

**TOWN OF STUYVESANT  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2022**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2022, it was a hybrid-format meeting. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott; Councilmembers Kelley Williams, Brian Chittenden, and Tom Burrall; Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli; Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler; and Attorney-for-the-Town Tal Rappleyea.

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to pay the vouchers as submitted was made by Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

***Old Business***

*Solar Law* – Supervisor Knott reported that minor modifications had been made to the document and it was sent to the County Planning Office. A Public Hearing on the proposed Law will be held on April 14, 2022 at 7pm. A copy of the proposed Law will be available on the Town website.

*ARPA Funding* – The Board is working on a “wishlist” and taking recommendations. Some ideas have been playground and building upgrades. The guidelines will be on the Town website.

*LED Lighting Project* – Supervisor Knott reported that the project in the Town Hall is complete.

*COVID Tests & Masks* – they are available in the Town Hall. The tests have an expiration date in July.

***Reports***

*Town Clerk/Tax Collector:* Reports are on file. Melissa Naegeli gave an update on the upcoming Community Night & Cruise In to be held on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

*Recreation Committee:* Kelley Williams reported that there will be a meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in April.

*Environmental Management Council:* Christian Sweningson gave an update and the full draft minutes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Some highlights were:

- The County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on February 9<sup>th</sup> adopting the Countywide Community Solar Campaign. Two providers were selected Neighborhood Sun and Nexamp.
- Drinking water advisory at the New Lebanon Jr/Sr High School and they are buying bottled water until a treatment system can be installed;
- The Village of Valatie public water supply exceeded allowed limits and they had to shut off a well. They are currently operating on Well #2 and #4;
- Columbia County DOH will offer free rabies clinics for cats, ferrets, and dogs – detailed flyers are in the Town Clerk's Office.

*Dog Control Officer:* No report. Melissa Naegeli reported they are working on trying to bring a free rabies clinic to Town.

*Kinderhook Memorial Library:* Lee Jamison reported that they will be accepting book donations on Wednesdays and Saturdays 2-4pm at the McNary Center. She said they are asking people call ahead.

Two new Trustees have been appointed. The Board is reviewing the by-laws and term limits are being established of 9 years . There are 3 seats represented by people from Stuyvesant.

*Office for the Aging –* Melissa Naegeli reported that the Stuyvesant-Stockport Seniors will resume their monthly meetings/lunches at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Knott reported that there would be a special Supervisor meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> to receive information on the new kitchen and new offices proposed at the Commerce Park.

*Highway Department:* Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler reported:

- They had been out to plow 8 times in February;
- Catch basins have been cleaned out; and
- That plowing snow in to the road is a violation of Law.

*Assessor's Office:* Cathy Knott reported all exemptions are done. The BAR will meet in May. People can schedule an appointment with the Assessor ahead of Grievance Day.

*Planning / Zoning Boards:* No reports

*Historian:* Cathy Knott reported that the 2023 Planning Committee will meet on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

They are working on getting a date to clean cemetery stones with the volunteers that had signed up at the last Historic Stuyvesant Day.

Juanita Knott is applying for a Grant to purchase metal shelving for additional storage in the attic of the Town Hall.

*Cemetery* – No report

*Building Department:* Peter Bujanow submitted his report and it's on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Three permits were issued in February.

Peter reported that he is transitioning out of the position and thanked the Board for the opportunity. He had worked through difficult times and issued a record number of building permits. He thanked Supervisor Knott specifically for his help and support. He said based on the applications the upcoming year would be interesting.

*Broadband Committee:* Chairman Bill Schneider reported that there was nothing new. They were waiting for the State to do a survey and there had been no replies from providers.

## **County Government**

Supervisor Knott reported that they are looking at building a new Office for the Aging building and kitchen.

## **New Business**

Erich Schmidt has been appointed to the Board of Assessment and Review. The appointment was voted on at the public Workshop due to the requirement of Mr. Schmidt to complete training.

Supervisor Knott presented the following Resolutions for Board consideration:

**Town of Stuyvesant**  
**Resolution March 10<sup>th</sup> of 2022**  
**RESOLUTION REGARDING NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act: H.R. 4677**

*WHEREAS, New York Congressman Tonko has proposed the NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act, a unique federal investment program to authorize \$50 million of federal funds to protect and restore all watersheds, including the Hudson River Watershed, that flow into New York-New Jersey Harbor and*

*WHEREAS, The Act has unanimous support among the Hudson Valley's Congressional delegation; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Act would provide benefits to diverse stakeholders such as the protection of fisheries and wildlife, conservation of natural resources and public and private lands, critical urban greenspaces, ocean and coastal resources, and various opportunities to improve the quality of life for community members throughout the region; and*

*WHEREAS, The Town of Stuyvesant waterfront leads to the most densely populated and economically important regions in the country, the proposed NY-NJ Watershed Act will provide enormous economic and environmental benefits locally, regionally and nationally; and*

*WHEREAS, watersheds provide drinking water, tourism and outdoor recreation, economic opportunities, as well as sustain fisheries, critical wildlife and provide vital infrastructure from flooding and rising sea levels; and*

*WHEREAS, the Act would provide matching funds to achieve the goals of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program, a state program that has greatly benefitted Hudson Valley communities; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Act would fund shoreline management and restoration within the watersheds,*

*WHEREAS, as an elected body tasked with protection and safeguarding irreplaceable water-connected resources and nature-based flood hazard mitigation measures that are essential to protect human life and infrastructure; and*

*WHEREAS, this Act would direct the Secretary of the Interior to enhance collaboration and coordinate restoration activities at all levels of government to protect fish and wildlife habitats, endangered species, improve water quality, increase public access to the estuary, mitigate flood risks, and develop public outreach and educational activities; and*

*WHEREAS, many residents of the region of the NY-NJ Watershed live in communities lacking access to waterfronts and enjoyment of fish, wildlife, clean water, and other natural resources have been impaired or compromised, federal funding is necessary to mitigate these long overdue environmental and social issues; and*

*WHEREAS, Scenic Hudson would benefit from the Act as it would establish beneficial programs and award grants to help fund valuable restoration projects in our local community; and*

*WHEREAS, Scenic Hudson is a cornerstone in which its residents depend on and the region relies on for its resources to provide prosperity throughout the state, therefore, Scenic Hudson must uphold its duty to protect the community's access to drinking water and natural resources; and*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Town of Stuyvesant supports the passing of the NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act.*

A motion to adopt the above Resolution was made by Tom Burrall. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was passed with a unanimous vote.

***Town of Stuyvesant Resolution 3/10/2022***

*Whereas, the town board of the Town of Stuyvesant supports the Columbia County Board of Supervisors Resolution 244-2021 regarding Hate;*

*Now therefore be it resolved; that Town Board of the Town of the Town of Stuyvesant does hereby on behalf of the town of Stuyvesant residents affirm Columbia County's resolution that violence of any kind is unacceptable, and does further condemn any act of aggression, hostility, or violence based upon race, religion, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status, or political affiliation, against any member of our community or visitor to our town.*

The above Resolution was adopted by a motion in support from Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and was passed by unanimous vote.

***Appointment of Climate Smart Coordinator, and Task Force Members***

*WHEREAS Town of Stuyvesant is a registered Climate Smart Community (CSC) seeking CSC Certification,*

*WHEREAS the CSC program requires that a CSC Coordinator be appointed to facilitate project implementation and support progress on local climate mitigation and adaptation,*

*WHEREAS the CSC Coordinator shall gather needed information and lead the implementation of certification actions highlighted in the action plan for Town of Stuyvesant to achieve CSC certification as approved and requested by the Town Board,*

*WHEREAS the CSC Coordinator shall serve as a central point of contact for the CSC program, and act as liaison between the CSC Task Force and the Town Board*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that William Schneider be appointed as CSC Coordinator for Town of Stuyvesant to serve at the pleasure of the Board,*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Brian Chittenden, Carol Leber, Hannah Shepard, Bob Greene, Julie Cerny, Lee Jamison, and Kathryn Schneider be appointed as CSC Task Force Members.*

A motion to adopt the above Resolution was made by David Quinn. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by a vote of 4 yeas and 1 abstention, being Brian Chittenden.

Bill Schneider thanked the Board and announced that the Committee is still accepting members.

Supervisor Knott reported that the AUD Report had been received and is on file.

#### Upcoming Events:

- 5/7 Trash Day – tickets available beginning April 15<sup>th</sup>  
Riversweep Day  
County Hazardous Waste Day – this year they are participating in a new program and accepting latex paints
- 5/14 Community Nite & Cruise In
- 5/21 Fire Training Center Open House & Dedication

### ***Board Comments***

### ***Public Comments***

Bill Schneider – Asked if the “wish list” for the ARPA funding could be made public. Supervisor Knott said it could be. Mr. Schneider, on behalf of the Friends of the Electric Rail Trail, thanked the Board for the donation. He announced a trail clean up scheduled for April 23.

Robert Gibbs – Asked for clarification on the latex paints. Supervisor Knott explained it’s a new program partially funded by DEC to accept latex paints at the Household Hazardous Waste Day. It will be held at the County Highway Garage on Route 23B

Richard Moran – Expressed a complaint about the “junk yard” on County Route 26A and asked if a law could be enacted. Tal Rappleyea explained that NYS Law limits 1 unregistered vehicle on a property. Robert Gibbs added that there are many places in Stuyvesant Falls that are non compliant. He asked what the process is after a complaint is made. Tal explained that the Town writes a letter or notice of violation then a demand to remedy. There is no time specified in the State Law to comply but it’s usually about 60 days.

Bill Schneider – Asked if Kevin could look into issues that Peter Bujanow had been looking into but fell off the radar. Rich Moran asked if the Board could give the Building Inspector more hours. Supervisor Knott said they are looking at several options.

Hannah Sheard – Thanked the Board for the appointment to the CSC. She expressed concern about trash that is left at the Sand Bar Park in Stuyvesant Falls and asked if trash cans could be put there. After a discussion about options, the Board will look into locking and secure trash and recycling cans for the park area.

A motion to adjourn was made by Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

The abstract of Vouchers presented for payment at the March 10, 2022 meeting:

<b>March 2022</b>					
<b><u>CLAIM</u></b>	<b><u>PAYEE</u></b>	<b><u>A/C#</u></b>	<b><u>GENERAL</u></b>	<b><u>LIGHTING</u></b>	<b><u>HIGHWAY</u></b>
22-59	CDPHP Universal Benefits, Inc.	9060.8	645.19		1,935.57
22-60	Constellation New EnergyInc. (124.15)	1620.4	1.01		
		5132.4	123.14		
22-61	Quadient Finance USA, Inc.	1620.4 1	434.40		
22-62	Marlin Leasing Corporation (\$230.43)	1410.4	75.87		
		1620.4	154.56		
22-63	SL Empire Solar I, LLC	1620.4	84.86		
22-64	Edmunds Gov Tech	1620.4 1	150.00		
22-65	Sickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill, CPAs	1320.4	115.00		
22-66	Nolan Bottle Gas, Inc.	1620.4	473.49		
22-67	Johnson Newspaper Corp. (\$120.35)	1010.4	39.13		
		1355.4	81.22		
22-68	Stuyvesant-on-Hudson Garden Club	6772.4	150.00		
22-69	Rainbow Distributing Co., Inc.	5132.4	40.47		
22-70	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	62.76		
22-71	County Waste	5132.4	190.50		
22-72	Main Care Energy	5132.4	1,243.16		
	Main Care Energy	5110.4			1,897.85
22-73	Callanan Industries, Inc.	5142.4			1,772.55
22-74	Cargill, Inc.	5142.4			5,872.97
22-75	Share Corporation	5110.4			75.00
22-76	Kimball Midwest	5130.4			591.80
22-77	Air Gas USA, LLC	5130.4			66.40
22-78	Allegiance Trucks	5130.4			208.91
22-79	Mooradian Hydraulics & Equip Co Inc.	5130.4			148.78
22-80	Valley Energy	5110.4			1,584.70

		<i>3-Mar-20</i>		4,064.76	-	14,154.53
22-81	National Grid (\$2416.15)	5182.4			1,170.09	
					1,246.06	
22-82	Charter Communications*	5132.4	293.11			
22-83	Charter Communications*	1620.4	389.93			
22-84	SL Empire Solar I, LLC	1620.4	90.71			
22-85	Nolan Bottle Gas, Inc.	1620.4	335.60			
22-86	Columbia County Treasurer (OFA)	6140.4	2,500.00			
22-87	Staples, Inc.	1410.4	65.19			
22-88	National Grid	5132.4	171.67			
22-89	National Grid	1620.4	24.03			
22-90	National Grid	1620.4	22.70			
22-91	Paychex of New York, LLC	1320.4	292.91			
22-92	VISA (\$156.56)	7510.4	56.56			
		1220.4	100.00			
22-93	Repeat Business Systems (\$99.15)	1410.4	59.97			
		5132.4	5.45			
		1620.4	33.73			
		1				
22-94	Culligan	5132.4	30.09			
22-95	The Crowne Plaza Albany - The Desmond	1410.4	716.80			
22-96	NYSTCA c/o Patricia Kalba	1410.4	125.00			
22-97	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	1,500.00			
22-98	Columbia County Treasurer (Sheriff's Office)	1110.4	58.50			
22-99	E-Biz Docs, Inc.	1110.4	720.00			
22-100	Carrie A. O'Hare	1110.4	44.27			
22-101	Mario's Home Center, Inc.	5130.4				66.58
22-102	Wex Bank	5110.4				4.00
22-103	Tractor Supply Credit Plan	5130.4				187.89
22-104	CarQuest of Valatie	5130.4				701.39
		<i>10-Mar-22</i>		7,636.22	2,416.15	959.86
		<i>March Totals</i>		11,700.98	2,416.15	15,114.39