

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their 2022 Organizational Meeting and monthly business meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2022. The meeting was a hybrid format with some members in person and some attending remotely. In attendance in person were Supervisor Ron Knott; Board members Kelley Williams and David Quinn; and Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler. Attending remotely were Board member Tom Burrall, Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea, and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli.

Supervisor Knott called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. He welcomed newly elected Board member David Quinn. He reviewed the organizational chart and asked the Board if there were any questions. Councilman Quinn said the listed mileage reimbursement was incorrect and should be amended to \$.58.5 per mile. Supervisor Knott said that change would be made.

With no further questions or comments on the Organizational Plan, there was a unanimous vote to adopt the 2022 Plan as shown on the following page:

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

<b>ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – JANUARY 2022</b>	
<b>Official Depository:</b> Greene County Bank	<b>Official Newspaper:</b> The Register Star
<b>Official Meeting Night:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each Month @ 7:00pm	<b>Official Working Night:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month
<b>Official Mileage:</b> \$.58.5 per mile	<b>Deputy Supervisor:</b> Kelley Williams
<b>Attorney for the Town:</b> Tal Rappleyea, Esq.	<b>Building Inspector:</b> Peter Bujanow/ Kevin Haberland
<b>Zoning Enforcement Officer:</b> Peter Bujanow/ Kevin Haberland	<b>Town Engineer:</b> CPL
<b>Budget Officer:</b> Supervisor Ron Knott	<b>Deputy Highway Superintendent:</b> Joe Scrum
<b>Deputy Town Clerk:</b>	<b>Registrar of Vital Statistics:</b> Melissa Naegeli, Town Clerk
<b>Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics:</b>	<b>Records Management Officer:</b> Melissa Naegeli, Town Clerk
<b>Town Historian:</b> Juanita Knott	<b>Sole Assessor:</b> Lynn Hotaling. / <b>Clerk:</b> Catherine Knott
<b>Dog Control Officer:</b> Maggie Banker	<b>Deputy Historian:</b> Cathy Knott
<b>Columbia Co. Traffic Safety Board:</b> Charles Stiffler	<b>Columbia Co. Council of Aging Delegate:</b> Marilyn Burch & Rich Moran
<b>Assessment Board of Review:</b> Mike Naegeli	<b>Chairman Planning Board:</b> Gale Bury
<b>Member – Planning Board:</b> Joe Belline	<b>Alternate Member Planning Board:</b>
<b>Chairman – Zoning Board of Appeals:</b> Margaret Pino	<b>Member of Zoning Board:</b> Kaitlin Handy
<b>Deputy Chairman-ZBA:</b> Steve Montie	<b>Deputy Chairman Planning Board:</b> Harold Leiser
<b>Alternate Member of Zoning Board:</b>	<b>Secretary to Planning &amp; Zoning Boards:</b> Tana Williams
<b>Custodian of Town Office:</b> Joe Scrum	<b>Emergency Coordinator:</b> Bill Vick
<b>Town Accountant:</b> Stickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill CPA's <b>Town Bookkeeper:</b> Doreen Danforth / Jane Hamm	<b>Highway Superintendent:</b> Allowed to purchase tools and equipment under \$5000 without prior Town Board approval
<b>Highway Superintendent:</b> Allowed to purchase sand and gravel at prevailing rates	<b>Highway Superintendent:</b> Allowed to rent County equipment at prevailing rate
<b>Supervisor:</b> Ability to invest idle funds in CDs and Money Market Accounts	<b>Supervisor:</b> Ability to invest funds in approved Money market and transfer funds from Money Market account to trust & agency or general checking as needed
<b>Supervisor:</b> Able to pay utility and health insurance bills without prior approval of Town Board	<b>Official Polling Places:</b> Town Hall
<b>Salaries:</b> Elected & appointed officials to be paid as indicated in the Budget. Salaries for hourly staff as follows; 1) Sr. MEO: \$21.91/hour 2) MEO-1: \$19.52/hour 3) MEO-2: \$21.35/hour 4) Part Time Labor: \$16.73 /hour 5) Part Time Driver; \$17.78 /hour 6) Labor : \$13.94/hour 7) Deputy Highway Super : additional .50/hour 8) Head Mechanic : additional .50/hour	<b>Gasoline, Fuel Oil &amp; Propane- County Bids, or best value</b>  Planning and zoning board members' salaries; Chairs-----\$50.00 per meeting Members-----\$35.00 per meeting BAR members----- \$12.00 per hour After 4hrs \$8.00 per hour
	<b>Compensatory Time for the Highway Department:</b> Not more than 120 hours can be accumulated
<b>Supervisor Appoint Town Board Committee Chairpersons:</b> <b>Recreation Committee:</b> Kelley Williams <b>Public Safety,</b> David Quinn <b>Town Hall Committee:</b> /Ron Knott <b>Cemetery Committee:</b> Cathy Knott/ David Quinn <b>Railroad Restoration Committee:</b> Ronald Knott/Marilyn Burch <b>Broadband Committee;</b> Bill Schneider <b>Climate Smart Community;</b> Bill Schneider	<b>Policy Adoptions:</b> 1. Procurement Policy 2022 2. Rules of Procedure 2018 3. Standard Workday Resolution 2020 4. Personnel Policy 2018 5. Type Reserve – Highway 6. Fund Balance Policy 2020 7. Capital Reserve – Buildings

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

Supervisor Knott opened the Town Board meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tom Burrall and was approved by unanimous vote.

*Correspondence*

A letter was received from the Columbia Land Conservancy regarding the Hummel Park flyover.

*Old Business*

*Planning Board Vacancy* – Supervisor Knott presented the following Resolution to the Board:

**RESOLUTION**  
**Town of Stuyvesant Town Board**  
**January 13, 2022**

**WHEREAS** *the Town has received a letter of resignation from a member of Town Planning Board; and*

**WHEREAS** *the Town needs to maintain 7 members on the Planning Board in order to allow that Board to function as needed; and*

**WHEREAS** *the Town Board is responsible for the appointment of members; and*

**WHEREAS** *the Town has advertised, interviewed and made a recommendation; and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** *that the Town of Stuyvesant Town Board hereby appoints Diane Fingar to the Town Planning Board:*

<b><u>Town Board Members</u></b>	<b><u>Aye</u></b>	<b><u>Nay</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
Ronald Knott	X		
Brian Chittenden			X
Kelley Williams	X		
Tom Burrall	X		
David Quinn	X		

**Resolution adopted January 13, 2022**

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

*Fee Schedule* – Supervisor Knott presented an updated Fee Schedule for the Building Department to the Board. The update will change the cost of Building Permits to be based on square footage vs. the value of the project. The update will also add mobile home fees that had been left off the last version. A motion to adopt the new schedule was made by Kelley Williams. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

Charles Stiffler asked about operating permit fees. Supervisor Knott explained those fall under Business Licensing.

*Covid Testing* – Supervisor Knott reported that we have received a limited supply (about 70) test kits from the County. They are almost all gone and are available on a first come, first serve basis. He added that the County Emergency Management and Health Department is expecting to be able to provide a weekly supply but there isn't any more information on that. VRS has offered to be a distribution point for the Towns of Kinderhook and Stuyvesant.

### *Reports*

*Town Clerk* – Town Clerk report is on file.

*Recreation Committee* – Kelley Williams reported that there isn't anything new. Supervisor Knott gave Kelley information he had received about small grants available from the CLC to review and see if it could be applied to the parks.

*Railroad Station Restoration Committee* – There have been no meetings.

*Environmental Management Council* – Lee Jamison reported that the minutes were not prepared from the last meeting.

*Dog Control Officer* – There were no calls in the previous month.

*Kinderhook Memorial Library* – Lee Jamison announced that AnnaLeigh the Library Director, would be leaving to accept the position of Executive Director at the NYS Library Association. She will be leaving in February and the Library will be seeking a new Director.

Assemblyman Ashby left masks and tests at the Library. Lee Jamison asked if we could ask Assemblyman Tague to do the same thing. Supervisor Knott reported that we have a good supply of masks available at the Town Hall.

*Office for the Aging* – No report

*Highway Department* – Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler reported:

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

- They have been out for weather 8 times in January;
- They are working on equipment
- He is reviewing the roads that will need to be paved in 2022;
- The company working on the power lines are finishing up and will be pulling their equipment out soon. He met with them in October regarding the damage to the Town roads. Superintendent Stiffler has bids to repair the roads but they will not be repaired until the power line work is completed.

*Assessor's Office* – Cathy Knott reported that they are collecting exemptions until March 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals* – There were no meetings for either Board in December.

*Historian* – Supervisor Knott reported that Historian Juanita Knott is feeling better and will schedule a Bicentennial Celebration Committee meeting for the end of the month.

*Cemetery* – No report

*Building Inspector* – Peter Bujanow opened his report by thanking the Town Board for the reappointment. He reported that 2021 had been very busy. It has slowed down in the past few weeks which has allowed him to begin updating the computer system. He gave a comparison report for Building Permits:

*Building Permits:*

<i>2018:</i>	<i>26 Permits</i>	<i>\$8,073 collected</i>
<i>2019:</i>	<i>39 Permits</i>	<i>\$9,850 collected</i>
<i>2020:</i>	<i>31 Permits</i>	<i>\$9,217 collected</i>
<i>2021:</i>	<i>100 Permits</i>	<i>\$33,545 collected</i>

Peter concluded his report by reporting that approximately \$4.61 Million in added value had been added in 2021.

*Broadband Committee* – A letter was sent to the local suppliers to ask what they cost would be to cover the 46 unserved homes.

*County Government*

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

Supervisor Knott reported that he had been assigned to the following County Committees: Public Works (Chair), Finance, Economic Development, Budget, and County Government. He is also the new Majority Leader.

*New Business*

*Justice Court* – the Court has received a letter reminding them their audit must be done.

*Solar Law* – the Board reviewed the revised language. Councilman David Quinn suggested the proposed Law be shared with the local fire companies. Supervisor Knott asked Melissa Naegeli to put a copy on the website. A motion was made by Tom Burrall to proceed with the proposed Solar Law and send it to the County Planning Office for review. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to pay the bills presented on the abstract was made by Kelley Williams. The motion as seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

Supervisor Knott reported that he had signed a retainer agreement for legal services with Tal Rappleyea, Esq.

Supervisor Knott presented the following Resolution to the Board:

**RESOLUTION**

***Authorization to Appoint a Climate Smart Communities Coordinator***

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

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

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

**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.*

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

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

**A motion**

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Ronald Knott	X		
Kelley Williams	X		
Brian Chittenden			X
Tom Burrall	X		
David Quinn	X		

*The resolution was adopted by roll call vote.*

**Public Comment**

Robert Gibbs addressed the board regarding the recurrence of signs for junk cars on telephone poles. He said it is dangerous and a blight on the community and asked the Board if there was something that could be done. Supervisor Knott explained that the poles are owned by the phone and power companies and it's up to them to remove the signs.

Lee Jamison said she was concerned about damage she had seen at Hummel Park from ATVs going through the fields into the conservation areas. She said the damage will have to be repaired and there were "well worn" paths. Highway Superintendent Charles Stiffler said he would go there and take a look.

Lee Jamison asked if the website could be updated from "Stuyvesant Stockport Kinderhook Trails Committee" to the "Columbia County Friends of the Electric Trail" and list Lee as the Secretary and Bill Schneider as a member of the Committee. Supervisor Knott Melissa Naegeli to add a link to the "Friends" website on the Town website.

Lee Jamison asked Supervisor Knott why he supported the County moving the Emergency Management Office (EMO) to a stand alone agency from under the Sheriff's Office. Supervisor Knott said there were things that the EMO handled that weren't connected to the Sheriff's Office, and gave their COVID responsibilities as an example.

Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

With no further questions or comments, a motion to adjourn was made by Kelley Williams. The motion as seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

The following vouchers were presented for payment to the Town Board in January 2022:

	<i>Remaining 2021</i>					
<u>CLAIM</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>A/C#</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>LIGHTS</u>	<u>LND/FALLS</u>	<u>HIGHWAY</u>
21-478	Constellation New Energy, Inc.	5132.4	68.77			
21-479	National Grid	1620.4	22.70			
21-480	National Grid	5132.4	110.68			
21-481	National Grid	1620.4	37.91			
21-489	Quadient Finance USA, Inc.	1620.41	175.00			
21-490	Nolan Bottle Gas, Inc.	1620.4	276.54			
21-491	SL Empire Solar I, LLC	1620.4	63.05			
21-492	Sickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill, CPAs	1320.4	325.00			
21-493	Paychex of New York LLC	1320.4	266.71			
21-494	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	62.81			
21-495	Madsen Overhead Doors	5132.4	461.00			
21-496	Rainbow Distributing Co., Inc.	5132.4	35.98			
21-497	Culligan	5132.4	30.09			
21-498	Johnson Newspaper Corp. (\$145.29)	1010.4	39.13			
		1410.4	106.16			
21-499	Tal G. Rapplyea, Esq.	1420.4	437.50			
21-500	Staples, Inc. (\$82.98)	1410.4	31.41			
		1620.4	31.99			
		7510.4	5.79			
		5132.4	13.79			
21-501	Mario's Home Center (\$127.21)	1620.1	64.89			
		7110.1	62.32			
21-502	Main Care Energy	5132.4	464.52			
21-502A	Main Care Energy	5110.4				447.26
21-503	Tractor Supply Co.	5130.4				222.56
21-504	Air Gas USA LLC	5130.4				66.40
21-505	Mario's Home Center	5130.4				39.82
21-506	Mabey's Truck Service	5130.4				1,233.98
21-507	H.L. Gage Sale, Inc.	5130.4				15.50
21-508	Wex Bank	5110.4				4.00
21-509	Tolls By Mail	5110.4				2.37
21-510	SL Empire Solar I, LLC	1620.4	113.93			



Town of Stuyvesant  
TOWN BOARD MEETING

	<i>2021 Remaining 1-13-2022</i>			3,307.67	-	2,031.89
	<i>January 2022</i>					
22-1	Time Warner Cable	5132.4		286.36		
22-2	Time Warner Cable	1620.4		384.93		
22-3	Quadient Leasing USA, Inc.	1620.41		203.79		
22-4	Doyle Security	1620.4		301.92		
22-5	County Waste	5132.4		190.50		
22-6	Edmunds Gov Tech	1410.4		450.00		
22-7	NYS Office State Comptroller	A2610		15.00		
22-8	NYS Magistrates Association	1110.4		85.00		
22-9	APHNYS	7510.4		55.00		
22-10	New York Planning Federation	8020.4		295.00		
22-11	Kimball Midwest	5130.4				199.00
22-12	Main Care Energy	5110.4				1,626.30
22-13	Partners inc Safety, Inc.	5110.4				178.00
	<i>January Totals</i>			2,267.50	-	2,003.30
	<i>-13-2022 Abstract Totals</i>			5,575.17	-	4,035.19