

**TOWN OF STUYVESANT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
April 13, 2022**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott; Councilmembers Kelley Williams, Brian Chittenden, and David Quinn; Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli; Highway Superintendent Joe Scrum; and Attorney-for-the-Town Tal Rappleyea. Councilman Tom Burrall was not in attendance.

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

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

Correspondence

- A letter from the NYS Dept. of Transportation approving the speed limit of 30 mph on Sunset Drive;
- A letter from a Supervisor in Long Island regarding housing density;
- A letter from CLC regarding mini grant opportunities. Councilman David Quinn reported that he and Supervisor Knott had applied for this grant to replace a bridge at Ken Hummel Park and the award would be \$500;
- An activity report from Stuyvesant/Stockport Senior Citizens;
- A reminder from the Assessor that Grievance Day is May 25th.

Old Business

Zoning Revision Committee: Supervisor Knott reported that the Committee has settled on the draft wording and the document is going to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals for review. The next step in the process is for the County Planning Office to review. We expect to be able to set a public hearing in May.

Housing Statistics: Supervisor Knott reported that looking at the zoning, he looked up the information regarding housing. He found in the Comprehensive Plan that since the 1990 Census we have reduced people per house by 50%.

Transco Update: Supervisor Knott reported that he had received an update and they reported that they had surpassed 1 million safe work hours on the project. Councilman Chittenden added that Transco has reported that they 7 months ahead of schedule.

Reports

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Reports on file.

Recreation Committee: Kelley Williams reported that kids are signing up for the playground. Supervisor Knott reported that he had ordered the picnic table for the new pavilion at the Stuyvesant Falls playground.

Environmental Management Council: No report.

Dog Control Officer: One dog had been picked up and taken to the CGHS.

Kinderhook Memorial Library: Supervisor Knott reported that he received a call from Matt Pavlov at the Library and was told that we had been offered 2 new Trex benches as a result of the plastic collection program. Bill Schneider added that all kinds of plastic bags and wraps can be dropped off. The Library will provide a collection bin for the Town Hall.

Climate Smart Committee: In the printed reported provided by Bill Schneider:

- Hannah Sheppard is working with Supervisor Knott and Melissa Naegeli to gather information for an energy inventory for the two town buildings;
- Four members of the tax force attended the Partners for Climate Action in the Hudson Valley Mixer on April 4th. They heard speakers from EPA and DEC describe various projects and potential grants;
- Members participated in a County sponsored Webinar on the use of heat pumps. They are researching the possibility of holding an informational presentation on the use of heat pumps for town residents;
- The task force is developing an informational post card;
- They are waiting for the website to be updated so they can begin to have information posted for the community; and
- The Town is now signed up for the Rex Recycling Film Challenge.

Bill Schneider reported that the Friends of the Rail Trail will have a clean up event on Earth Day, mowing will begin following that event.

Highway Department: Highway Superintendent Joe Scrum reported the Department:

- Is installing the new speed signs;
- Replaced a stop sign;
- Trees are being cut and chipped;
- Has given the Board 3 price quotes for a new truck, the completion date would be in 2025;
- Hiring the current part time employee to be full time. He has a CDL learner's permit and will attend classes for the CDL license.

Supervisor Knott reported that the Board had discussed with Tal Rappleyea about paying for the employee's classes. Tal will work on a Resolution for the Board's consideration.

Assessor's Office: Cathy Knott reported that Grievance Day is May 25th 4pm – 8pm. Applications are available online or from the office.

Planning / Zoning Boards: Supervisor Knott reported that the Planning Board is working on the proposed project on Sharptown Road.

Historian: Cathy Knott reported that the Town's Birthday Party will be held on April 22nd 1-3pm at the Town Hall. The first official meeting of the Town was April 21, 1823. There will be a video presentation, artifacts, items for sale, and refreshments. The Columbia Lions Club called to offer assistance at the event.

Cathy also talked about the portraits of Mr. & Mrs. Butler hanging in the meeting room of the Town Hall; they are on loan from the Columbia County Historical Society.

Cemetery: David Quinn reported the tree that had fallen had been cleaned up by the Highway Department and there was one burial. He also reported that we have started on the map update.

Supervisor Knott reported that he is scheduling a meeting with a contractor about repairs to the storage building at the Firwood Cemetery.

Building Department: Report is on file.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee: There will be a meeting on Saturday, April 15th. There was a movie night last week. Rich Moran reported that John Morra continues to work on the lead paint removal.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported:

- There will be an open house on April 21st to introduce the Digester Program at the Solid Waste Station in Greenport, the Climate Smart Committees in the County will be invited;
- The County Climate Smart Committee has been designed Bronze Status and is eligible for up to \$15,000 in NYSERDA grants;
- There was an EV charging presentation to the Board of Supervisors, the presentation is electronic and Supervisor Knott can share with anyone who would like to watch it;
- There was a story in the newspaper recently about the Stuyvesant Falls bridge. The County Public Works committee will recommend that the project go forward with an Engineering Consultant. There is an estimate for mid-summer conversations and reviews of the bridge.

New Business

The 2023 Organizational Chart has been updated for a new pay scale for highway staff. The Board has given an increase of 8% to the hourly amount for the MEO position. Supervisor Knott explained that every department in the County is struggling to hire and keep staff and we need to offer competitive rates. The new rate will be \$24.62/hour for the most senior position. A motion to adopt the update was made by David Quinn. The motion was seconded by Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote.

The website is coming along and “mock up” looks good.

Upcoming Events:

- April 22nd – Park clean up @ 10am
- April 22nd – Birthday party 1pm – 3pm @ Town Hall
- April 29th – County Hazardous Waste Day 8am – Noon
- May 6th – Trash Day – Tickets available beginning April 15th

Board Comments

Councilman Brian Chittenden reported that he had followed up on the concerns about manure being spread at Hummel Park. While Wil Roc Farms has been doing the cutting, they did not spread manure at the park. Bell Town had hired a company to empty the pits on Route 26A and they mistakenly spread on the park instead of on their property.

Councilman David Quinn announced that he had 5 bluebird boxes from the Rensselaer County Alliance and they came with bedding. He will arrange for them to be installed.

Public Comments

Bill Schneider said the Climate Smart Committee is looking for someone to do a heat pump presentation for the Town residents.

With no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

The abstract of Vouchers presented for payment at the April 13, 2023 meeting:

	<i>April 2023</i>			LIGHTS	
<u>CLAIM #</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>A/C#</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>LND/FALLS</u>	<u>HIGHWAY</u>
23-119	National Grid (\$1830.09)	5182.4		888.43	
				941.66	
23-120	CDPHP Universal Benefits, Inc.	9060.8	697.37		1,394.74
23-121	RBT CPAs, LLP	1320.4	9,000.00		
23-122	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	150.00		
23-123	Quadient Finance USA, Inc.	1620.41	514.26		
23-124	Charter Communications	1620.4	399.93		
23-125	Charter Communications	5132.4	310.72		
23-126	National Grid	1620.4	31.32		
23-127	National Grid	5132.4	215.39		
23-128	National Grid	1620.4	22.70		
23-129	Marlin Lease Servicing	1620.41	85.87		
23-130	Quadient Leasing USA, Inc.	1620.41	203.79		
23-131	Rensselaer County Conservation Alliance	7110.4	75.00		
23-132	Cozza Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.	5132.4	2,500.00		
23-133	Hodges T Shirts & Apparel	7550.4	500.00		
23-134	Gabbit, LLC (\$949.86)	1620.41	625.93		
		5132.4	323.93		
23-135	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	812.50		
23-136	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	62.63		
23-137	Mario's Home Center	5132.4	32.36		
23-138	Main Care Energy	5132.4	539.62		

23-139	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	TA62			
23-140	Girvin & Ferlazzo, PC	TA61			
23-141	Air Gas USA LLC	5130.4			104.30
23-142	Mario's Home Center	5130.4			2.70
23-143	Main Care Energy	5110.41			1,599.98
23-144	Northeast Auto Parts Inc.	5110.4			28.58
23-145	CarQuest of Valatie, Inc.	5130.4			10.57
23-146	Inner City Tire	5110.4			897.68
23-147	Cargill, Inc.	5142.4			6,803.47
	4/6/2023		17,103.32	1,830.09	10,842.02
23-148	Staples, Inc. (\$149.42)	1620.4	43.01		
		7550.4	7.27		
		1320.4	5.10		
		1410.4	94.04		
23-149	Repeat Business Systems (\$80.07)	1410.4	27.52		
		5132.4	7.19		
		1620.41	45.36		
23-150	Nolan Bottle Gas Inc.	1620.4	280.51		
23-151	RKS Maintenance LLC	8810.4	560.00		
23-152	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	140.00		
23-153	Paychex of New York LLC	1320.4	317.45		
23-154	Rainbow Distributing Co., Inc.	5132.4	76.45		
23-155	County Waste	5132.4	220.02		
23-156	Columbia County Treasurer (Sheriff's)	1110.4	184.29		
23-157	Air Gas USA, LLC	5130.4			115.50
23-158	CPL	TA62			
	4/13/2023		2,008.21	-	115.50
	<i>April Totals</i>		19111.53	\$ 1,830.09	10,957.52