

**Town of Stuyvesant
Town Board Meeting
February 8, 2024**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2024. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott; Councilmembers Brian Chittenden, David Quinn, and Charles Stiffler; Highway Superintendent Joe Scrum; and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea and Councilwoman Kelley Williams were not in attendance.

Supervisor Knott called the meeting to order opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Charles Stiffler. The motion was seconded by Brian Chittenden 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.

Correspondence

A building use request was received from the Kinderhook Memorial Library for Wednesdays for remote library services from 10am – 1pm.

A letter from the Stuyvesant-on-Hudson Garden Club requesting funding.

Old Business

Pro Housing Resolution – Supervisor Knott reported that we sent the Resolution and applied for status, we have not received a determination yet.

Financial Reports – Supervisor Knott reported that when the Annual Report is completed he will ask Bob Patterson, Bookkeeper/Accountant to come and make a presentation to the Board.

State Budget – Supervisor Knott reported that he is attending meetings and keeping an eye on what is happening in Albany.

Allied Healthcare – Supervisor Knott reported that the property has legally changed hands. He has asked Tal Rappleyea and the attorney for Albany

Engineering if they can work on renewing our lease for the Sandbar Park area.

Town Hall Alarm – Supervisor Knott reported that the alarm company will be coming in the next week to repair the system. It's been going out every night in the middle of the night.

Justice Court Audit – Supervisor Knott reported that audits for 2022 and 2023 have been completed.

Reports

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Report is on file.

Recreation Committee: In Kelley Williams' absence, Melissa Naegeli asked the Board to hold an Easter Egg Hunt at the Town Hall on March 23rd. She also asked to hold a Community Big Truck Event at the Town Hall on April 27th. There were no objections from the Board.

Environmental Management Council: Christian Sweningson reported that there were no official minutes from their previous meeting. Supervisor Knott reported that the County Climate Smart Committee was getting a substantial grant that they will use to purchase electric vehicles and charging stations. He explained that the large amount we are receiving is due to the various energy efficiency projects the County has undertaken over the last couple of years – heat pumps and solar projects in County buildings; he added that the money could be increased if we are able to the charging stations installed by September. There will be a meeting with the Transportation Committee next week.

Dog Control Officer: No activity report.

Kinderhook Memorial Library: There was further discussion about the remote library services program at the Town Hall beginning on March 21st.

Climate Smart Task Force: Jim Werkowski reported that we were approved for a free energy audit of the highway garage. We were previously awarded a \$5000 grant. \$2000 to be used for electric equipment for the Highway Department and the remaining \$3000 will be held to see what the energy audit recommends for the garage.

Mr. Werkowski also reported that we are ½ way to earning another Trex bench with the collection of plastics

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 27th at 7pm.

Stuyvesant Landing Historic District Subcommittee: Jim Werkowski reported that they had heard from Wally Wheeler and the NY Preservation League has opened the site for the requirements.

Highway Department: Highway Superintendent Joe Scrum reported:

- They have been plowing snow;
- Repairing the trucks;
- Repairing culverts;
- He is looking into additives for the salt to make it last longer. He attended a seminar on “magic salt”. It is less corrosive. He will meet with the representative so they can look at our salt supply.

There was a discussion about the lack of a speed limit on Ridge Road. Joe Scrum and Charles Stiffler are reviewing Town roads to see what roads are posted. There will be a proposed Resolution at the March meeting for speed limits.

Assessor’s Office: Cathy Knott reminded everyone that exemptions are due by March 1st.

Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals – There have been no ZBA meetings and the Planning Board continues to review and meet on the Sharptown Ridge proposed project.

Historian: Cathy Knott reported that Juanita continues to research for Historic Stuyvesant Day – theme to be announced.

Cemetery: David Quinn reported that all is quiet. Joe Scrum reported that a tree had fallen and the Highway Department will clean it up. He didn’t know if any stones had been damaged.

Building Department: Report is on file. Supervisor Knott added that Kevin Haberland has filed the end of year report with the State.

Railroad Station Restoration Committee: The next meeting will be Saturday, February 10th at the depot. There will be a Pot Luck dinner and Valentine’s Movie on February 17th – movie TBA.

County Government

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Supervisor Knott reported that in order to receive FEMA money after a State of Emergency, we have to have an updated Plan. There have been meetings at the County level and individual Towns must also meet. We have a meeting on Thursday, February 15th at 6pm. The survey for hazards will be put on the website. Our Emergency Management Coordinator is Bill Vick.

Plus One ADU Grant: Supervisor Knott reported that the Town wrote a letter in support. County people can get State funds to assistance to build auxiliary Dwelling Units.

DPW Solar Project – Supervisor Knott reported that this was a \$500,000 project on a 18,000 sq.ft. roof. The panels are powering all meters on site and offsetting usage at 325 State Street. It was a long project but it's finally completed. There is a chart on the County website to see what is being produced. There is a similar project being designed for the DSS building. They are looking to be able to cover 50% of usage costs. We will try to get some money back from the Feds for the DPW project.

Bridge NY: Supervisor Knott reported that he is on the County's "scoring team". They are scoring applications in the County and then they will be sent to the State.

New Business:

Comprehensive Plan: Supervisor Knott reported that he had met with CPL, Kathy Schneider, and Keegan O'Neil to discuss a Natural Resource Inventory. This would be part of an updated Comprehensive Plan. An RFP will be prepared to send out to companies to help update our Comprehensive Plan.

Albany Hudson Electric Trail – There is a use report for the Kinderhook and Stuyvesant sections of the trail. The report will be put on the website.

Supervisor Term of Office – Supervisor Knott explained that this would be the year to change the term from 2 years to 4 years if the Board wants to. A resolution would have to be adopted to put the question on the November ballot – the new term would take effect for the 2025 Election.

Upcoming Events: Trash Days are scheduled for May 4th and October 5th. Those are also the days for the County Hazardous Waste Days. Lee

Jamison reported that Riversweep will be on May 4th and they will have to do it in the morning based on the tides.

Board Comments

Melissa Naegeli gave an update on the proposed Veteran's Memorial Park – she will be meeting with Keegan O'Neil (landscape designer) this month to plan it out. He is volunteering his time and services.

Public Comments

Lee Jamison asked about the footbridge repair at Hummel Park. She said the old bridge is still there and is an eyesore. She also questioned the placement of the replacement. David Quinn explained that the trail will have to be relocated because erosion makes it impossible for the bridge to be placed in the same spot. He further explained that where the new bridge is gives a 3rd access point to the trail. The Highway Department will clean up the old bridge when they can get equipment down there. Lee Jamison suggested the new bridge be put over the culvert and kept away from the ravine. She also complained that it is a high step up on to the bridge. David Quinn explained that it was put on the concrete pieces to keep it level and stable. Christian Sweningson added that even when the culverts are completed it will still be a mud hole. Supervisor Knott said they can go up and take a look at the site.

Lee Jamison asked for an update on the Stuyvesant Falls Bridge. Supervisor Knott reported that surveying is going on now and a report is expected in April. Lee asked who our Town Engineer is and Supervisor Knott explained it was CPL, an Engineering firm.

Jim Werkowski asked if the Town received their electric from another company. Supervisor Knott explained that we had previously been in a group with other Towns to get a better rate. After a couple of years the price went back up to the same as National Grid and we just went back to National Grid.

With no further questions or comments a motion to adjourn was made by Brian Chittenden. The motion was seconded by David Quinn and was approved by unanimous vote.

The abstract of Vouchers presented for payment at the February 8, 2024 meeting:

	<i>February 2024</i>			LIGHTS	
<u>CLAIM #</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>A/C#</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>LND/FALLS</u>	<u>HIGHWAY</u>
24-12	CDPHP Universal Benefits	9060.8	775.68		2,670.30
<u>24-13</u>	National Grid (\$1333.29)	5182.4		647.09	
				686.20	
24-14	Robert H. Patterson, CPA (\$5800.00)	1320.4	3,950.00		
		1110.4	1,850.00		
24-15	Gabbit, LLC (\$1989.09)	1620.41	1,326.23		
		5132.4	662.86		
24-16	National Grid	1620.4	22.70		
24-17	National Grid	5132.4	292.01		
24-18	National Grid	1620.4	28.93		
24-19	Quadient Finance USA, Inc.	1620.41	784.46		
24-20	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	65.00		
24-21	NYSAMCC, Inc.	1110.4	60.00		
24-22	NYSMA	1110.4	110.00		
24-23	Grainger	1620.4	39.25		
24-24	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	62.73		
24-25	Long Energy	5132.4	1,653.86		
24-26	Long Energy	5110.41			2,206.40
24-27	Allegiance Trucks	5130.4			550.30
24-28	Mooradian Hydraulics & Equip Co., Inc.	5130.4			277.05
24-29	Grainger	5130.4			266.78
	<i>2/1/2024</i>		11,623.71	1,333.29	5,970.83
24-31	Paychex of NY LLC	1320.4	769.30		
24-32	Marlin Lease Servicing (\$230.43)	1410.4	75.87		
		1620.41	154.56		
24-33	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	887.50		
24-34	County Waste	5132.4	242.03		
24-35	Mario's Home Center, Inc.	5132.4	10.74		
24-36	Anthony Link	DA9090.8			200.00
24-37	Rick Smith	DA9090.8			200.00
24-38	Shocker Electric, LLC	5110.4			1,175.00
24-39	Mario's Home Center, Inc.	5110.4			186.12
24-40	Kimball Midwest	5110.4			508.84
24-41	Cargill, Inc.	5142.4			7,372.99
24-42	Carquest of Valatie, Inc.	5130.4			1,384.62
24-43	H.L. Gage Sales, Inc.	5130.4			997.64
24-44	Northeast Auto Parts	5130.4			81.68
	<i>8-Feb-24</i>		2,140.00	-	12,106.89
	<i>February Totals</i>		13,763.71	1,333.29	18,077.72