

August 10, 2006 Public Hearing

The Stuyvesant Town Board held a Public Hearing on August 10, 2006 at 7:00 pm.

The Public Notice was posted and read as follows:

TOWN OF STUYVESANT
COLUMBIA COUNTY NEW YORK
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICABILITY OR IMMUNITY OF
TOWN LAND USE RESTRICTIONS UPON STUYVESANT FIRE COMPANY
AND STUYVESANT FIRE DISTRICT APPLICATIONS FOR SUBDIVISIONS
AND VARIANCES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant, Columbia County, New York at the Town Hall, 5 Sunset Dr., Stuyvesant, NY 12173 on August 10, 2006 at 7:30 o'clock PM in the evening for the purpose of considering whether the applications filed or to be filed by the Stuyvesant Fire Company and Stuyvesant Fire District for three minor subdivisions and an area variance are immune from the applicability of the Town of Stuyvesant's land use laws including the Town Zoning and Subdivision Laws.

ALL persons interested in the matters will be heard at such time and place specified.

Steven Montie, Stuyvesant Fire Company Chief, explained their request to the Board and to the public. There was a question as to what they were asking to be immune from. There was another question regarding the timing and why they have waited so long to make the request. Members of the Board explained that Planning and Zoning Boards processes would take 3 to 4 months to complete and the work that is required on the property needs to be done before frost sets in. Councilman Ronald Knott reported that the Planning Board had no issues with the request other than the 40' set back versus a 50' set back but that Town Board approval would also eliminate the variance process. Steven Montie, Chief, explained the timing of the project and that it hasn't been a last minute decision. The discussions began over 1½ years ago and it's just taken that long to get to this point. Another member of the public said that since the fire company is a quasi-governmental entity, expediting this process makes a lot of sense because of the services they provide.

No other comments, verbal or written, were received. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:20 PM.

August 10, 2006

The Stuyvesant Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on August 10, 2006 at the Stuyvesant Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Valerie Bertram, Councilperson Kenneth Hummel, Councilperson Bradlee Webster, Councilperson Richard Cummings, Councilperson Ronald Knott and Deputy Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Town Clerk, Lori Ennis, was not in attendance.

Superintendent of Highways Bernard Kowalski, Town Assessor Howard Gleason, Town Attorney David Ross were also present.

A motion to approve the July minutes was made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, seconded by Councilperson Kenneth Hummel, approved.

COMMUNICATION:

- **Village of Valatie** letter from the Village of Valatie regarding their 150th Anniversary celebrations. Any organizations that would like to participate in the parade and festivities should fill out the form attached to the letter. Announcement is posted in the Town Hall lobby.
- **Resignation by Janice B. Myszkowski** In a letter dated July 16, 2006 addressed to Councilman Ronald Knott, Jan Myszkowski resigned from the Stuyvesant Greenway Committee. The Board thanks Jan for her years of service.
- **Resignation by Dawn Williams, Court Clerk** In a letter dated July 27, 2006, Dawn Williams resigned her position as Court Clerk with the Town of Stuyvesant Court due to an injury sustained at her full-time job.
- **Real Property Services** - Letter from David Ange notifying the Town that our Final State Equalization Rate is 90%.
- **Columbia County Planning Board** - Letter from Timothy Stalker, Chair regarding Proposed Local Laws amending the Code of the Town of Stuyvesant. The CCPB finds no significant county-wide or intercommunity impacts with the changes and the Stuyvesant Town Board can therefore take final action on the application with a simple majority vote.
- **Town of Clermont** - letter from Mary Shannon, Town Clerk, Town of Clermont, forwarding a copy of their Resolution #8-06 regarding control of air quality issues within the County. Supervisor Bertram read a copy of the resolution which is on file with the Town Clerk.
- **2 Columbia County Civil Service Postings** - currently posted in the lobby of the Town Hall.

A motion to accept the communications as read, and be brought up under proper heading, was made by Councilperson Bradlee Webster, seconded by Councilperson Richard Cummings, carried.

REPORTS

Justice Carrie O'Hare introduced new Court Clerk applicant Suzanne Chabot. Justice O'Hare read a letter addressed to the Board from herself and Justice Bruno asking that they appoint Ms. Chabot.

A motion was made by Councilman Kenneth Hummel to appoint Suzanne Chabot to the position of Court Clerk, seconded by Councilman Ronald Knott, carried.

GUEST SPEAKER

Virginia Kasinski of the Glenwood Center presented an overview of their "Keep Farming" program that is available to communities to help them understand how agriculture contributes to the local economy, community character, availability of fresh food and the environment.

The Town of Chatham is currently participating in this program. The program costs \$30,000 for 18 months and grants are available.

Informational pamphlets were passed out to the public and to the Board Members. A copy is in the Clerk's Office and is available to the public.

REPORTS

TOWN CLERK:

- In the Month of July, the Town Clerk collected \$1281.75 of which \$1019.98 was given to the Town Supervisor.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Highway Superintendent Bernie Kowalski reported that they are doing a lot of routine stuff.
- Superintendent Kowalski said that he has been approached by several people regarding the speed limit on West Ghent Road and whether it can be lowered to match the posted speed limits within the town limits of Stockport. Supervisor Bertram said that a letter could be done requesting that action.
- The truck should be done next week.

CEO/ZEO REPORT:

- Report is on file with the Town Clerk.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER:

- Report is on file with the Town Clerk.

PLANNING AND ZONING:

- Councilman Kenneth Hummel reported that the new owners of the Mobile Home Park were working with the Planning Board. They have done their paperwork, digs and are working on the wetlands issue. They are considering putting in a community center for the residents of the park but have to look into the hours, lighting and drainage issues. The Department of Health has signed off on the new wells and septic.
- There was a public hearing for Rick Demerest and his wife to split off a lot from their property on Route 9J for their daughter.
- There was a public hearing for Bob and Nancy Allen from the farm for a minor subdivision around their house.
- The Bruno Farm - the old veal barn - the family came to the Planning Board to talk about putting in a user friendly 3-units for the family with alternative energy sources and materials with 20% for the shop and 80% for residence. They would like to convert the existing building and are feeling out the Planning Board to find out what is necessary.

- Discussed the Stuyvesant Fire Company/Fire District request for the property line adjustment.

RAILROAD RESTORATION:

Councilman Kenneth Hummel reported that:

- the Farmers' Market is going very well. There is a wide range of products available. A garbage container has been purchased.
- The railroad went through and cut the brush along the lines and left it. The committee thanks Cal Burch for cleaning it up.
- They are working on getting estimates for the electric.
- He received a letter from the Rheinstrom Hill Community Foundation in response to the grant request. They are unable to fund the project at this time.
- There will be a railroad meeting on August 19th.
- The committee has gotten an "open" sign to be used for the Farmers' Market and for when the Railroad Station is open. The sign may have been donated - there isn't a bill for it.

RECREATION:

- There are two weeks left for the playground program. The attendance has been low but we are plugging along. On some of the really hot days they were in the Town Hall.

GREENWAY COMMITTEE:

- Report is on file with the Town Clerk.

AGRICULTURE

- Report is on file with the Town Clerk.

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Knott to grant the Stuyvesant Fire Company/Stuyvesant Fire District the immunity they applied for, seconded by Councilman Richard Cummings. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Asbornsen Land Grant

- Supervisor Bertram reported that the deed transfer for the Asbornsen land donation is complete and the Town now owns the property. The Town Board thanks Matt and Mimi Asbornsen for the gift. A committee will be formed to develop the front parcel of that property.

Mobile Home Law Revisions

- Town Engineer, Ray Jurkowski, gave a presentation on the SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act) process for the Mobile Home Law revisions. The Town Board would have to be named the "Lead Agency" to proceed.
- A motion was made by Councilman Richard Cummings to name the Town Board as the Lead Agency for the SEQRA Process, seconded by Councilman Brad Webster. The motion was carried.
- A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Knott to accept the Negative Declaration, seconded by Councilman Kenneth Hummel. The motion was carried.

- There was brief public discussion on the proposed revisions to the Mobile Home Law. Supervisor Bertram told everyone that written comments can be submitted to the Board prior to the public meeting. Final drafts of the proposed revisions, incorporating changes suggested from other regulatory agencies are available to the public.
- A public hearing is scheduled for September 14, 2006 at 7:00pm (the next regular Town Board meeting night).

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Councilman Richard Cummings to transfer \$125,000 from the General Fund to the Highway Fund to buy a truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brad Webster and carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bertram asked if there were any comments from the public.

- Lee Jamison said that on June 15th there was a loud explosion at about 10:30 at night. After investigating she found that the noise came from the LeFarge Plant across the river. She also found out that when Colarusso, in Greenport, is going to blast they notify the town and certain neighbors. She has asked if the Town Board could write a letter to the LeFarge Plant asking that they notify the town when they are going to blast. Supervisor Bertram said that a letter would be written.
- There was a question from the public as to whether there will be another trash day. Superintendent Kowalski and Supervisor Bertram both reported that there will be another trash day in early October. A specific date has not been set.
- Marilyn Chrysler reported that she continues to have problems with her neighbor's chickens. The problem has been referred to the Agriculture Committee.
- A member of the Agriculture Committee reported that they have discussed the problem with the owner and he has agreed to put up a smaller-holed fence to try to keep the chickens in his yard.
- The Historic Stuyvesant Day picnic will be held on Saturday, August 12th from 12-4pm at the Newton Hook Ferry site. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
- Howard Gleason, Town Assessor, reported that everyone will receive a Star Program Rebate Check (as reported in the Albany Times Union). People who have not yet signed up for the Star Exemption will also receive a check. Those people will have to complete a special form requesting the rebate. Those forms will be available from the Assessor's Office after October 1st.
- Peter Donohoe asked if the Town Board was going to act on the letter from Clermont that Supervisor Bertram read at the beginning of the meeting. Supervisor Bertram said that the letter has been addressed by the County Board of Supervisors and that the resolution we did also asked that the air quality monitors be replaced.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Kenneth Hummel and seconded by Councilman Richard Cummings. Motion carried unanimously.

2006 ABSTRACTS

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE PRESENTED FOR AUDIT:

241	National Grid	1206.22	263	Independent	19.12
242	Berkshire Tel	345.88	264	Lori Ennis	48.28
243	Looseleaf Law	68.40	265	Farm Plan	262.00
244	Joseph Ronsani	4500.00	266	Mario's	144.29
245	Nova	15.00	267	Col. Tractor	15.92
246	Tal Rappleyea	251.67	268	Cornell Roads	80.00
247	Hudson Vall News	19.04	269	Col. Co. S/W	70.00
248	Pulcher & Sacco	311.25	270	Stuy Fire Co	605.89
249	Empire Alarms	21.95	271	Madsen Door	517.10
250	Fred Cohn	650.00	272	Col Co Treas	52.88
251	Skate Factory	51.00	273	Mulica Trucking	203.53
252	Sean Connors	12.36	274	Rainbow Distr	122.36
253	Morris Assoc	143.15	275	George Knott	225.00
254	Cantele Memorial	805.00	276	Nextell	54.54
255	Tech Partners	119.99	277	Northern Safety	118.76
256	Xerox	124.92	278	Carquest	63.83
257	B.Sutherland	28.80			
258	W. VanAlstyne	110.36			
259	Metzwood Harder	150.20			
260	Col. Co. Treas	3889.43			
261	Staples	136.93			
262	Schodack Septic	216.00			

Recorded this 10th day of August 2006

Approved this 14th day of September 2006

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON

COUNCILPERSON