

December 29, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilman Tom Burrall, Councilman Brian Chittenden, Councilman Ed Scott, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler, and Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea was not in attendance.

Supervisor Knott called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Councilman Ed Scott, seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden and approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the bills presented was made by Councilman Tom Burrall, seconded by Councilman Ed Scott and was approved by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

Nominating forms from the Office for the Aging for “Sr. Citizen of the Year”. Supervisor Knott has them available.

A letter from the Kinderhook Memorial Library, more geared to the County, regarding the Library Association increase in funding of 10%.

A letter from Amtrak notifying the Town that a radio hut with an antennae will be built north of Sharptown Road.

Old Business

Columbia Greene Humane Society Contract – The Claverack Dog Control Officer has made a request that Towns hold off on signing the contracts while negotiations are being held. There is controversy over the new proposed contracts. Councilman Scott said the DCOs have to have somewhere to take the dogs and signing the contract won't commit us to only there. After a brief discussion, the issue was tabled to the January meeting.

NYS Energy Solution – Supervisor Knott met with National Grid representatives and they have provided a map (in the meeting room) that shows the areas affected. PSC has okayed the project and there are still three (3) companies vying for the job.

Stuyvesant Falls Bridge – Supervisor Knott reported that the repairs have been completed. The contracted Engineering Firm has recommended the weight ban be lifted. The State Inspectors should have a final report by mid-January.

Ferry Road House – Supervisor Knott reported that the buyer that had an agreement with the County has now backed out of the deal. Other Town residents have expressed interest in the same deal and they will meet with County Officials.

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Reports

Town Clerk: Report on file.

Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli reported that with more and more people requesting the availability of using credit cards to pay their property taxes, she has been working with BAS and their vendor, Value Payment Systems, and has a proposed contract. Supervisor Knott proposed the following resolution:

*RESOLUTION
TOWN OF STUYVESANT TOWN BOARD
DECEMBER 29, 2015*

WHEREAS, *the Town of Stuyvesant hereby finds that it is in the best interest and convenience of the citizens of the Town to allow payment of real property taxes and other fees with the use of credit card; and*

WHEREAS, *the Town has software with BAS which will allow such payment through a process operated by Value Payment Systems, LLC at no cost to the Town.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that the Town of Stuyvesant Town Board hereby resolves to authorize the Town Clerk to accept payment of real property taxes and other fees through the BAS software and process operated by Value Payment Systems, LLC; and it is hereby further*

RESOLVED, *that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Value Payment Systems, LLC to accomplish such payment system.*

Resolution passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Recreation Committee: Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported that the Committee had previously discussed an ice skating rink at the Landing Playground but has now decided that it's been too warm. The Committee is also making arrangements to sit with Marie Allen regarding the maintenance at Ken Hummel Park.

Railroad Restoration Committee: Cal Burch reported that the Holiday Party had been very nice.

Environmental Management Council: No report.

Dog Control Officer – Report on file.

Zoning Revision Committee – Councilwoman Kelley Williams reported that Gerry Ennis would like to meet with the Committee then a meeting for the Public will be scheduled.

Library: Lee Jamison responded to Supervisor Knott's report about that County giving an increased 10% funding to the Library Association. She said it was a modest increase resulting in \$10,700. Supervisor Knott explained that the funding was a total of \$57,000 to be divided among the libraries in the County.

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Lee Jamison reported that the Valatie Library is expected to open in its new location in January or February.

The Library has applied for \$60,000 State Grant for construction of a reading room addition. They have received a grant to do the wiring. They are also going forward with the Capital Funds for the larger project.

Office for the Aging: Ida Leiser reported she feels Kevin McDonald is doing a great job. There is a new bus that working very well. She also reminded the Board that she and Richard Moran are due to be reappointed.

Highway Department: Chuck Stiffler reported they had been doing brush and tree trimming. The minor weather necessitated the Highway Dept. to go out salting and plowing. He commended his new staff and thanked the residents of Riverview Street for not parking on the roads.

Assessor's Office: Cathy Knott reported that exemptions are out and are due back by March 1st.

Planning & Zoning Boards: Planning Board meeting was held on December 28th. No Zoning Board meeting held in December.

Historian: No report

Cemetery: Councilman Ed Scott reported that all was quiet. He asked Supervisor Knott if there was an update from Mr. & Mrs. Fingar regarding the cemetery in Stockport. Supervisor Knott replied that he had offered help from Attorney Tal Rappleyea to the Supervisor of Stockport.

Building Inspector/CEO: Report is on file.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that he had provided to the Board a list of chargebacks for information and the County Reorganization meeting will be held in early January.

New Business

Supervisor Knott asked Councilwoman Kelley Williams to read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
TOWN OF STUYVESANT TOWN BOARD
DECEMBER 29, 2015**

WHEREAS, the Town of Stuyvesant had previously had a combined position of Town Accountant/Bookkeeper for many years and;

WHEREAS, that position was vacated last year due to retirement, and

WHEREAS, the Town contracted with the firm Stickler, Torchia, Allen and Churchill to provide both the bookkeeping and Accounting function and

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WHEREAS, the Town Board now finds it beneficial to divide these duties by amending the contract with the firm Stickler, Torchia, Allen and Churchill, and creating the position of bookkeeper.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Stuyvesant Town Board hereby resolves to amend the contract with Stickler, Torchia, Allen and Churchill, purchasing QuickBooks software and hiring a part time bookkeeper.

Resolution was passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Budget Transfer

General Fund

Transfer \$2,500. From A1990.4	to	9060.8
Transfer \$2,000. From A8010.1	to	9060.8
Transfer \$1,000. From A8010.1	to	9060.8
Transfer \$100. From 1420.4	to	7510.4
Transfer \$200. From 1420.4	to	7550.4

A motion to approve the Budget Transfer was made by Councilman Ed Scott, seconded by Councilman Brian Chittenden, and was passed by unanimous vote.

Board Comments

Supervisor Knott reported that the BAR still is short one member. Anyone interested should contact Supervisor Knott.

The updated Personnel Policy has been provided to the Board for review and will be voted on at the Organization Meeting.

The Court Accounts have been audited and have passed. The full report is on file.

Councilman Scott asked about auditing the rest of the accounts. Supervisor Knott reported that he had spoken with the Accounting Firm we are contracted with and they will audit the books for the Supervisor, the Town Clerk, and the Tax Collector. He will remind them after tax season concludes.

The Board offered thanks to the Stuyvesant Garden Club for decorating the Town Hall for the Holidays.

There will be a Swearing In Ceremony on Friday, January 1, 2016 with a small reception immediately following. Everyone is invited to attend.

The 2016 Organizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7pm.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the audience.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Ed Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Kelley Williams. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

Recorded this 29th Day of December 2015

Approved this 14th Day of January 2016

Supervisor Knott

Town Clerk – Melissa Naegeli

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

Councilperson

