

September 15, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly business meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott, Councilwoman Kelley Williams, Councilman Edward Scott, Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli, Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler, and Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea.

Supervisor Knott opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the previous minutes was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams and approved by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the bills as presented was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

- Letter from NYS Tax & Finance notifying the Town that the Equalization rate remains at 100%;
- Letter from Kinderhook Memorial Library notifying the Town that the Petition to put a funding increase on the ballot in November had been filed with the Town Clerk;
- Flyer regarding heroin addiction “Knowledge is Power”;
- Letter from NYS DOT that the signs on the Taconic Parkway were changing;
- Letter from Matt Flynn of Livingston warning about Mining operations;
- Letter of interest in vacant position on Zoning Board of Appeals from Meghan VanAlstyne. A motion to appoint Ms. VanAlstyne to the vacant position was made by Edward Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams, and approved by unanimous vote.
- Letters of resignation from Town Justice Joe Bruno and Court Clerk Colleen Bruno; effective September 30, 2016. A motion to accept the resignation, effective September 30, 2016, was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams, and approved by unanimous vote.
- Letter to the Board from Town Justice Carrie O’Hare requesting the appointment of Vicki Dick to the vacated position of Court Clerk. A motion to make the appointment was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Ron Knott, and approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Zoning Law Amendments – Supervisor Knott reported the amendments are under review at the County.

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Reports

Town Clerk – Report on File. Melissa Naegeli gave the final accounting report from the Ken Hummel run and announced that there was a net profit of \$813. Mrs. Naegeli asked that the Board consider donating \$300 to establish a Memorial Scholarship in Ken Hummel's name at Ichabod Crane High School and the remainder to the Stuyvesant Fire Company, due to their considerable assistance every year. A motion to approve both requests was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams, and approved by unanimous vote.

Recreation Committee – Kelley Williams reported that there was no meeting in September.

Lee Jamison reported that the bridge on the Ken Hummel Park trail over the ravine was rotted and needed to be re-decked. Cal Burch, Richard Anderson, and Richard Moran went to look at the bridge. Cal reported that both bridges need repairs, the northern bridge needs new decking. He added that the ravine seems to be undermining both bridges and said a sensible plan would be to replace the 10' rails with 16-18' to sit on top of the banks. Supervisor Knott asked Councilman Scott to go look at the bridges and measure them.

Lee Jamison reported that the Soil & Water Conservation will have a free fishing day for Veterans and their families on September 16th 9-12.

Railroad Station Committee – Marilyn Burch reported that there had been a Harvest Dinner held at the Town Hall on September 9th. Pot Luck dinners at the depot will begin on the 2nd Friday (10/14) in October and will be held monthly.

Supervisor Knott announced that Payment #5 had been approved for the contractors and that painters were being contacted for quotes.

Environmental Management Council – Christian Sweningson reported that a request for funds for GIS Software for mapping in the County had been made to the Natural Resources Committee.

The Council is looking at the possible value of a County Sanitation Code and will be asking around the County if it would be of any value. Supervisor Knott said the County Health Dept. had done a survey.

The EMC website is being updated with additional links and to be mobile friendly.

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Money is available for bridge and culvert work. Climate predictions are for heavier rainfall and there is a question if culverts should be made larger. Culverts are being surveyed across the County.

The Council is looking into the health effects of airborne PCB contaminants increase along the river.

Dog Control Officer – Report on file.

Kinderhook Memorial Library – Lee Jamison reported construction on the reading porch is continuing and they are waiting delivery of the windows. The newsletter is out.

Office for the Aging – Supervisor Ron Knott reported that the Director of OFA is finding funding to purchase a bus to help with transportation.

Highway Department – Superintendent Chuck Stiffler reported that the new truck should be delivered this month;

Asked the Board to schedule a Fall Clean Up Day on October 15 with shortened hours to 8-3. A motion to approve the request was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams, and approved by unanimous vote. Mr. Stiffler announced that there will be no electronics allowed this time, they will have to go to the County Transfer Station.

Mr. Stiffler reported that the Director of the County Solid Waste Office reported that Hazardous Waste day had been very busy.

Assessor – Assessor's Clerk Cathy Knott reported that exemption renewals would be going out in November. She reminded everyone that they should come to the Assessor's Office if they think they are eligible for an exemption. She added that Veterans' widows are eligible to apply for the Veterans' Exemption.

Planning & Zoning Boards -- A Public Hearing will be held at the September meeting.

Historian – Supervisor Knott reported a link to the pictures from Historic Stuyvesant Day will be put on the Town's website.

Cemetery – Councilman Ed Scott reported we had been notified of changes in the pricing from Split Line Construction.

A bill for tree work at the Butcher Cemetery had been received from Roddy Niesen.

ZEO/Building Inspector – Report on file.

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Town Hall – Supervisor Knott will look into lights for the parking lots.

Councilman Scott said he is looking at repair/replacement options for the sign in front of Town Hall. Supervisor Knott suggested the County sign shop be contacted.

County Government

Supervisor Knott reported that the County Bd. Of Supervisors have begun the budget process and the tax cap this year will only allow for a \$209,000 increase.

The Supervisors had toured the DSS Building now that the renovations have been completed. Supervisor Knott said it looks nice and the parking lot is improved.

New Business

Supervisor Knott reported that with the rising costs of the health insurance for the employees the Board is considering changes to the policy and to how it is paid for. Councilman Scott made a motion to change the employee's health insurance from a high deductible plan to a more traditional plan with lower deductibles and co-pays; and that 10% be contributed by the employees. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote. The insurance carrier will remain CDPHP.

Councilman Ed Scott asked the Board to consider a shoe allowance for the Highway Department employees.

The Personnel Policy will have to be amended to reflect the health insurance contribution by employees.

Supervisor Knott reported that the Tentative Budget had been filed with the Town Clerk. Mr. Knott explained that with the tax cap this year being .68% increase that would be \$2850 allowable increase. The State allows municipalities to use prior year's savings to offset increases and that we had a reserve of \$8500. Supervisor Knott said the tentative budget would show a 1% or 5,000 increase but the cap would not have to have an override. The proposed budget would be covered in more depth at the October meeting.

A proposed Local Law modifying the current Law regulating the licensing of dogs to allow the Columbia Greene Humane Society to collect all fees associated with impoundment of dogs was presented to the Board for review. A Public Hearing for the proposed Law was scheduled for October 13, 2016 at 6:45pm.

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Supervisor Knott reported that he had been contacted by “Smart Watt”, a company that “runs” lighting districts. Supervisor Knott explained that a change in State Law allows Towns to buy districts. National Grid also has a plan to offer and will come to a meeting to make a presentation. They will also help with district mapping and replacement options. Lee Jamison asked if there was an option to dissolving and removing the lights. Supervisor Knott replied that that could be considered.

Board Comments

Councilman Scott asked how the Hydro Plant in Stuyvesant Falls has been affected by how dry the weather has been. Supervisor Knott replied that while the water was low, it wouldn't affect the Town financially because we are guaranteed a minimum under the agreement.

Public Comments

Lee Jamison asked if there was an update on broadband. Supervisor Knott replied that there was a lot going on but that the Chair of the County Committee had told him the reports were discouraging and that a lot of providers had been backing out of meetings. Broadband will be accessible but the costs could be prohibitive.

Mike Naegeli asked if a celebration for the Town's anniversary in 2023 had started to be budgeted for. Supervisor Knott replied that it had not been included in the celebrations budget yet.

Mr. Naegeli asked if the County Budget had taken into account the sale of Pine Haven and if the loss had already been accounted for or where the savings were going. Supervisor Knott reported that Pine Haven had its own budget. He added that the loss of Pine Haven had not been accounted for in this year's budget and that they had been using fund balances to offset losses. The fund balance will now start to be rebuilt.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ed Scott, seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa A. Naegeli, RMC
Town Clerk*

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Abstract of Vouchers presented for payment August 2016

<u>CLAIM #</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>A/C#</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>LND/FALLS</u>	<u>HIGHWAY</u>
309	CDPHP	9060.8	432.84		2532.12
310	Constellation (272.57)	5182.4		131.13	
				141.44	
311	National Grid (1039.71)	5182.4		519.86	
				519.85	
312	National Grid	1620.4	21.92		
313	Time Warner Cable (392.95)	1620.4	270.01		
		5132.4	122.94		
314	Business Automation Svcs (50.91)	1410.4	5.95		
		1355.4	5.95		
		8020.4	5.95		
		3620.4	5.95		
		1220.4	5.95		
		1620.4	21.16		
315	Paychex of NY, LLC	1320.4	181.67		
316	Marlin Business Bank	1620.4	114.00		
317	Gerald Ennis	3620.4	40.08		
318	Crown Awards	7550.4	20.19		
319	National Grid	5132.4	92.24		
320	Constellation	1620.4	74.06		
	<i>Transfer: 8/4/2016</i>		1420.86	1312.28	2532.12
321	Tal G. Rappleyea, Esq.	1420.4	937.50		
322	Business Automation Svcs (790.00)	1355.4	395.00		
		3620.4	395.00		
323	Carrie A. O'Hare	1110.4	17.25		
324	Crowne Plaza - Lake Placid	1110.4	687.75		
325	NYS Magistrate's Association	1110.4	50.00		
326	Col. Co. Treasurer -- Sheriff's Dept	1110.4	191.64		
327	Verizon Wireless	5010.4	69.19		
328	Rainbow Distributors	5132.4	34.47		
329	County Waste	5132.4	93.58		
330	Culligan	5132.4	28.93		
331	Stuyvesant Post Office	1410.4	94.00		
332	Staples, Inc. (107.54)	1110.4	69.53		
		1355.4	38.01		
333	NYS Office of State Comptroller	A2610	384.00		

Town of Stuyvesant

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334	ARE Productions	7550.4	1000.00			
335	Mario's Home Center (191.94)	5132.4	2.37			
		5110.4				189.57
336	Wil-Roc Farms	5110.4				387.50
337	New Castle Asphalt	5110.4				182.11
338	Valley Energy	5110.4				966.09
339	Fleet Services	5110.4				331.71
340	Valley Paving	5110.4				5250.00
341	Ben Funk, Inc.	5130.4				87.05
342	Lapiner Bros., Inc.	5130.4				146.24
343	Power Plan	5130.4				1332.57
344	Tractor Supply	5130.4				11.98
345	Northeast Automotive Parts, Inc.	5130.4				21.86
346	Airgas USA LLC	5130.4				20.80
347	Car Quest of Valatie	5130.4				44.36
348	SMG	1620.4	305.91			
	<i>Transfer: 8/11/2016</i>		<i>4794.13</i>			<i>8971.84</i>
	<i>Total of Abstract</i>		<i>6214.99</i>	<i>1312.28</i>		<i>11503.96</i>