

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
MAY 12, 2008**

**Present:** Mayor Cohen, Trustee Blundell, Trustee Gilfeather, Trustee Kovalchik  
Trustee Trapp was absent due to accepting the Dutchess County Historical  
Preservation Award for the Village.

Mayor Cohen opened the meeting at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to approve minutes from April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup>. Trustee Kovalchik seconded with the following changes: Trustee Blundell changed page 5 – recycle grant should be for reusable grocery bags. Page 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph Key Bank vacant lot was referred to as “Forever Green” this should not be referred to as forever green – options should be left open. 2008-2009 appointment lists: remove “part-time” Judge Triebwasser and add Arvine Coon. Add to the Village Green: Brenda Cagle, Evelyn Krueger, and Jen Melitski.

1). **TODD BARIGHT – Key Bank Parking Lot** – sign in sheet was required by the Mayor- Key Bank approached the Village in the fall of 2007 with a request that they wanted to sell the parking lot and vacant lot next to Key Bank. Ken Kearney is interested in purchasing the parking lot and keep it as a parking lot and lease it to the Village for \$ 1.00 per year. Todd Baright of 83 Apple Ring Road approached the board with concerns that the Village needs parking and this should remain a parking lot. The Baright family is interested in purchasing both lots and also leasing it to the Village. Todd also feels that a parking lot is vital to the businesses in the Village. If there is no place to park then they will shop elsewhere. A petition with 576 signatures was submitted in support of the parking lot remaining a parking lot. A letter from Pine Street Pediatrics was submitted in favor of the parking lot remaining the same (a copy of both are on File). A copy of a letter is also on file from Mr. Baright to Mr. Narrins (Key Bank Real Estate Division) informing him of the Baright’s family interest in negotiating to purchase the Lots. Harold Fell stated that there is a 99 year lease that was signed back in 1975. Michael Uscellini of Red Hook Natural Food has been in business in Red Hook for 12 years and feels there is no business in Red Hook – most shops are empty – parking is an issue – should save the parking lot – also echoes the Baright’s concerns. Doug Moat also agrees with the Barights. Harry Colgan feels it is paramount to build a Village center. Elizabeth O’Neil-Avis is concerned with Pine Street Pediatrics in that some days they receive up to 50 children. Ms. O’Neil also feels that if there is no parking for parents to use while bringing their children to the doctors, this could result in the death of a child.

Trustee Blundell stated that the Village Board is trying to do the best for the Village. Trustee Kovalchik stated that Mr. Kearney intends to construct a small commercial building on the Rt. 9 side of the parking. This will be a loss of 5-7 parking spaces. Trustee Gilfeather stated that there is information on the master plan and there should be a meeting to inform the public.

Elizabeth O'Neil feels a Farmers Market is a great idea for the summer months. Trustee Blundell feels that this is not a good idea due to the fact that there is a walkable grocery store in the Village. David Fell stated the master plan is just a plan and the Village needs a parking lot. Mr. Baright stated that he has spoken to Mr. Clarke at Dutchess County Department of Planning and Mr. Clarke is willing to talk to the Mayor and Village Board on the subject of the parking lot and answer any questions. Village Attorney Jeffrey Martin stated that the Village Board will continue to negotiate with the broker. The Village wants this lot to remain a parking lot. The parking lot will transfer from Key Bank to the Village and the Village will secure an individual to purchase the lot to remain a parking lot. Harold Fell stated that at the last meeting Trustee Gilfeather stated that the purchase of the parking lot would go up for a referendum. No more public comments or comments from the board. Mayor Cohen closed this discussion at 8:15pm.

2). **Court Annual Report** – Honorable Jonah Triebwasser presented the Village Board with a court report from April 07 through March 07. Henry Webster audited the court records of the Justice Court for the twelve month period ending May 31, 2007. The audit was conducted in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. All financial statements were prepared on the cash basis of accounting. It is our conclusion that the books or records present fairly the financial conditions of the Justice Court for the twelve month period ending May 31, 2007. The Honorable Triebwasser also presented the board with a view of two new computers and a tachometer that the court received as part of the grant that was awarded the court in the amount of \$ 29,992.24. Judge Triebwasser thanked the Village Board and Kathy Fell for their support and help in obtaining this grant. Jeffrey Martin stated that this grant took an enormous amount of time and effort on Judge Triebwasser's part and he should be commended. This type of grant will be dittoed in the Town of Red Hook.

3). **David Groth – Communication Consultant** - R. E. S. Radio Engineering Service – represents the Village – Cingular Wireless – will continue with a monthly rent of \$ 1,700.00. Verizon Wireless is a new five year contract – a summary letter was submitted – final documents must be submitted – the plantings are not in the contract that is part of the planning process. A building permit will not be issued until site plan is approved. Jeffrey Martin has reviewed the contracts and has approved them. Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept the Cingular Wireless and Verizon Wireless contracts. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mayor Cohen read the Treasurer's report for the month of April: Balances: General \$24,623.74, Water \$55,839.82, T & A \$6,075.91, R & R \$4,594.05, Petty Cash \$50.00, Village Green \$2,102.58. Bills to be paid General \$102,587.10, Water \$33,603.32, T & A \$50.00, Village Green \$8,442.23. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Trustee Gilfeather seconded. All were in favor.

### **POLICE**

Mayor Cohen read the police report for the month of April: 58 registered complaints, 190 uniform traffic tickets, 11 accidents investigated, 6 arrests; 3754 miles were patrolled.

### **HIGHWAY**

Mayor Cohen stated that until the school roof project was completed there was no emergency shelter, the Village Hall has a generator but would not be able to hold the residents.

Trustee Kovalchik read the April, 2008 Monthly Highway Report:

1. A correspondence of April 7, 2008 was received from Village Attorney Jeffrey Martin. The correspondence was in response to a letter from Acting Village Justice Arvine Coon advising the Village to relocate the existing stop sign at the east end of Firehouse Lane (refer to attachment "A"). Action is recommended by the Board of Trustees to comply with legal traffic signage protocol. Action to be addressed by this includes one of the following:
  - Relocate stop sign, currently located on the east end of Firehouse Lane to a position at the north/east intersection of Elizabeth Street (going to Thompson Street/Firehouse Lane) or
  - Rename a portion of Firehouse Lane from Elizabeth Street (going to Thompson Street) south to the Agway entrance, where the existing stop sign is currently located. An additional stop sign is also to be added at the south/west corner of this intersection.
2. A request has been made to consider a "no-parking zone" designation from South Broadway going east approximately 300 feet on the north side of Amherst Drive.

3. The John Deere compact tractor is no longer in commission. Temporary use of a compact tractor has been provided by a Red Hook Town resident at no cost to the Village. A letter, of April 24, 2008, from New York State Senator Stephen Saland was received. Due to the volume and monetary value of requests he received for his 2008-2009 budget allocation, he was unable to secure funding for our request of January 7, 2008, requesting \$30,000.00 for the purchase of a replacement compact tractor for the Village Highway Department (re: enclosed letter).
4. The Town of Red Hook Highway Department will assist the Village Highway Department in vacuuming Village drywells that are not connected culverts.
5. The Town of Red Hook Highway Department will assist the Village Highway Department in sweeping Village streets. It is anticipated that the work will begin in the week of April 28, 2008.
6. A section of the south/east Church Street/Prince Street intersection has failed. A collapsed culvert may have been the cause. Repair is expected to be complete by May 10, 2008. estimates are forthcoming.
7. A catch basin has been repaired on Cambridge Drive. Blacktop will be installed once fill has settled. Repairs are to be complete by June, 2008. Estimates forthcoming.
8. Highway Superintendent Dan Streib is preparing a list of swales and drywells to be repaired. Repairs are to be funded by the consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS). Estimates forthcoming.
9. Solid concrete blocks, stored at the Village Highway Garage, have been sold for \$300.00 and the revenue has been added to the scrap metal recycling fund. No new equipment has been purchased in the month as per the Highway Equipment Tool Inventory (03/13/08 – last posted revision). The current balance of the scrap metal recycling fund is \$443.03 (\$143.03 without block).
10. Three newly painted/customized garbage cans have arrived from Linden Avenue Middle School. Each of the cans were painted depicting a different season. The fourth can is expected to be finished soon. This is part of the Village of Red Hook/Red Hook Central School District Joint Community Project. These cans along with the four customized by the Mill Road Elementary School will be in use during the Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebrations occurring in the Village and Town of Red Hook on April 26, 2008. Customized garbage cans from Red Hook High School are forthcoming. The Village of Red Hook would like to extend our gratitude to the students and faculty of Linden Avenue Middle School who participated.

11. An announcement from Senator Saland, regarding a grant award for the purchase of a replacement tractor, is expected in June or July 2008. A letter of April 25, 2008, from the New York State Department of Transportation was received. The Village's balance for the 2008-2009 Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) allocation is \$31,026.68. This is approximately \$6,500 more than the Village has budgeted for 2008-2009 and approximately \$5,500 more than the Village's 2007-2008 allocation.

#### **ITF**

Trustee Kovalchik read the April, 2008 Monthly ITF Report:

1. A letter, of April 8, 2008, was received from United States Congressional Representative, Kirsten Gillibrand. The letter informed the Village that our \$1.98 million grant request, for the installation of the Intermunicipal Central Sewer and Wastewater Treatment System component, has been selected to be included in a U.S. House of Representatives Agricultural Appropriations Bill (refer to enclosed letter). Correspondences with U.S. Senator Charles Schumer has begun requesting his support for the passage of this Legislation, once it comes before the United States Senate.
2. A meeting with Dutchess County Planning and Development Commissioner Roger Akeley, Mayor Cohen, Trustee Kovalchik and Red Hook Town Councilman Harry Colgan, was held on April 18, 2008. Alternative sites and capital costs of the proposed Intermunicipal Central Sewer and Waste Water Treatment System were discussed.
3. A meeting with Mayor Cohen, Trustee Kovalchik and a local business property owner was held on April 18, 2008. Village parking concerns, remediation recommendations for the Fisk Street/Broadway/Elizabeth Street Pond, and operating/maintenance cost of the proposed Intermunicipal Central Sewer and Wastewater Treatment System were discussed.
4. A community meeting was held on April 24, 2008 at the Tivoli Village Hall. Members from Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, Greenplan, Inc., and the ITF were present to discuss the Centers and Greenspaces Plan proposals for future development in and adjacent to the Village of Tivoli.
5. Zoning proposals from the ITF's Centers and Greenspaces Plan, including the Traditional Neighborhood District, Affordable/Workforce Housing Component, Incentive Zoning, and the Conservation Subdivision Regulations are currently being reviewed by Town Attorney Christine Chale and Greenplan, Inc. Final language is expected soon for Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development and the Town of Red Hook

Board's review. SEQRA review and public review/hearings are forthcoming. The Agriculture/Business District is in its final preparation stage and will be presented to property owners located within the proposed District beginning in May 2008.

## **VILLAGE GREEN**

Trustee Kovalchik read the April, 2008 Monthly Village Green Report:

1. A committee meeting was held at the Red Hook Village Hall on April 17, 2008 (see attached minutes).

### **Items discussed included:**

- Preparation for the annual spring planting scheduled for April 26, 2008.
  - Preparation for the Arbor Day/Earth Day celebrations in the Village and Town of Red Hook scheduled for April 26, 2008.
  - Review of NYSDOT Annual Landscape Development Plans
  - Review of proposed 2008-2009 Village Budget allocations for the Village Green Committee (item #8510.4) and tree pruning (item #8560.4)
2. On April 26, 2008 the Village Green Committee participated in the Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebrations at the Town Recreation Park.
    - The Ruth Oja Memorial Trail was dedicated and Ruth Oja was honored with a plaque from Senator Stephen Saland.
    - Trustee Kovalchik accepted the "Tree City USA" flag on behalf of the Village of Red Hook. This is the sixth consecutive year the Village has been awarded this designation.
  3. On April 26, 2008 members of the Village Green Committee planted ten (10) trees along Village streets.
  4. Sites have been designated and trees have arrived for the New York State Department of Transportation Annual Landscape Development Program. Planting of over 30 trees will begin the week of April 28, 2008. The monetary value of this Program awarded to the Village and Town of Red Hook, amounts to \$25,730 in plant material alone. The NYSDOT will be planting the trees and maintaining them for a one-year period.

## **WATER**

Trustee Gilfeather read the water report for the month of April: 2 bacteria samples were taken and sent to lab; water meter was changed at 2 Park Avenue as requested; installed meters on Elizabeth Street (Rider); met with representatives at Knollwood Commons; located shutoff at 26 Cherry Street as requested; average daily usage 283,267.

## **RESOURCE RECOVERY**

Trustee Blundell read the resource recovery report for the month of April: commingle 6.66 T @ \$ 178.57, cardboard 7.93 T @ \$ 85.04, garbage 30.98 T @ \$ 2757.77. A notice for the Annual Household Hazard Waste Day will be posted on Panda. A grant has been issued for the use of recycled shopping bags.

## **INSURANCE**

Trustee Blundell met with Marshall and Sterling – Village carrier is NYMIR to discuss insurance rates.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

Mayor Cohen announced there will be no report for planning and zoning this month: Trustee Trapp is absent due to the fact that he is receiving an award on behalf of the Village from the Dutchess County Department of Planning Historical Preservation Award. Architect Paul Vosburgh also attended the presentation.

## **RESOLUTION # 9-2008**

### **Sexual Harassment Policy**

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept a new Sexual Harassment Policy submitted by NYMIR. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor. A copy of this policy will be distributed to each employee.

## **POLICE CAR BIDS**

One bid was submitted – Bay Ridge Motors Inc. from Staten Island for \$ 579.00. Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept this bid with the stipulation that Trustee Kovalchik will look into how much junk cars will get. Whichever is higher will be acceptable. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

## **RESOLUTION # 10-2008**

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to accept the court audit that was conducted by Henry Webster. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

## **RESOLUTION 11-2008**

Stop sign - extend to Elizabeth Street 100 yds. – stop sign will be placed to satisfy all rules and regulations of the NYS DOT. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to accept this sign extension. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

## **RESOLUTION 12- 2008**

Water Fund transfer to General Fund of \$39,853.50. Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept this resolution. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

## **RESOLUTION 13- 2008**

Budget Note resolution of the Village of Red Hook, NY adopted May 12<sup>th</sup> 2008, authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$ 77,450.00 budget notes of said Village, including renewals thereof, pursuant to section 29.00 of the local finance law, to provide funds for which an insufficient or no provision has been made in the 2007-2008 annual budget of the Village.

This resolution was prepared by Dan Birmingham. Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept this budget not resolution. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Cohen scheduled a work shop discussion on the Sewer Study for May 21, 2008 at 7:30.

Patty Schultz lives by the pond by the library and is still concerned by the rising water level. Once again questioned why the Firehouse Plaza and Red Hook Inn are allowed to have their water drainage drains into this pond. Lee Cookingham donated the pump that the Village used for several weeks to pump water from the pond – for this Mayor Cohen and the Board

thank Mr. Cookingham. Patty stated that Trustee Gilfeather at a previous meeting stated that he would refer this water problem to DCWW and DCHD. Trustee Gilfeather has not yet referred to the County. NYS DOT submitted a letter to the Village requesting that the pumping of water into the streets be stopped.

Mr. Ironworks inquired about the street light at the intersection of Firehouse Lane and Amherst Street. Mayor Cohen stated that as this date there has been no progress in the progression of this road realignment.

Trustee Blundell met with Mayor Cortier of the Village of Tivoli and had drawn up a shared services agreement – this agreement would include an umbrella of shared services – Jeffrey Martin has not reviewed this agreement as of yet.

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to pay bills after audit. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.  
9:30 pm

Submitted by,

Cynthia Cole  
Clerk/Treasurer