

**Village of Red Hook
Village Board Meeting
September 8, 2008**

Present: Mayor Cohen, Trustee Gilfeather, Trustee Trapp, Trustee Kovalchik, Trustee Blundell.

Absent: Village Attorney Kelly Flood Myers

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

Trustee Trapp made a motion to accept the minutes from August 4th, 2008. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of August. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

Balances as follows: General, \$ 485,189.55, Water \$ 50,818.27, T & A \$ 9,112.81, Resource Recovery \$ 1,622.35, Petty Cash \$ 46.20, Village Green. Paid bills: General \$ 167,219.87, Water \$ 41,348.56, T & A \$ 7,618.47, Resource Recovery \$ 6,086.49.

POLICE

Mayor Cohen read the police report for the month of August: 82 registered complaints, 112 uniform traffic tickets, 10 parking tickets, 16 accidents investigated, 6 arrests, and 3604 miles were patrolled.

VILLAGE GREEN -MONTHLY REPORT

Trustee Kovalchik read the report as follows:

A committee meeting was held at the Red Hook Village Building on August 21, 2008 (see attached minutes).

Items discussed included:

1. Brenda Cagle attended the Forestry Conference at Cornell University in Ithica, New York. Tree planting/maintenance were discussed and the 2007-2008 DEC Urban Forestry Grant Awards were announced. The Village of Red Hook received a \$13,610 Grant Award (see attached letter from Governor Patterson's Office of August 20, 2008).
2. The committee discussed preparing a two-year Budget Plan to include annual tree plantings, tree pruning, Street Tree Inventory revisions and mapping of existing trees. The mapping will enable the Village Green Committee to better locate new trees while making allowances for other street amenities, such as new sidewalk installations.

The "Budget Plan" will include ways to allocate monies from the annual Village Budget and the 2005 Urban Forestry Grant reimbursement of \$5,100. It will also include costs and timetable to fulfill the 2007-2008 Urban Forestry Grant obligation of \$13,610 (to be completed by 2010) and costs of two annual tree plantings (required for "Tree City" status).

3. Landscaping of the Village parking lot for Hardscrabble Day were discussed. Temporary barrels with flowers will be placed in the planting strips along Prince Street. The flowers will be sold throughout Hardscrabble Day to reimburse the initial cost.

Permanent plantings of flowers/plants will be planted after Hardscrabble Day. Estimates have been received by Northern Dutchess Landscaping. Which Village line item budget allocations will be used to off-set this cost are being discussed.

ITF - Monthly Report

Trustee Kovalchik read the report as follows:

1. The completed Project Listing Form and Engineer's Report, prepared by C.T. Male, was submitted to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation on August 15, 2008. This report will be evaluated and scored by the EFC. Items submitted include:
 - Three alternative treatment plants and associated capital costs
 - The established district boundaries
 - The number of Benefit Units within the proposed district
 - Annual operating & maintenance costs
 - Costs of installation, including pipes and pumps
2. Funding options are being discussed and include:
 - a. Appropriations Grant from Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand. A meeting with Congressional Staff has been scheduled for September 15, 2008 to review grant application status. The Village of Red Hook has requested \$1.98 million.
 - b. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) administered by the NYSEFC. The results of how the Engineer's Report scored are scheduled to be released on September 12, 2008.
 - If scores place us on the Annual Intended Use Plan, we can qualify for 0% financing
 - If scores place us on the Intended Use Plan, below the annual list, we can qualify for a 30 year loan at 4.1%

A meeting with the NYSEFC is being scheduled for September 12, 2008.

c. USDA Rural Development – Grants of around \$500,000 are available pending an approved application.

- 38 year loans at 2.75% are available upon qualification
- A meeting with the USDA Rural Development is being scheduled for September 28, 2008.

d. US Department of Housing and Urban Development loans/grants administered by the New York State Department of Community Renewal (formerly Governor's Council on small cities), to provide assistance for qualified low-income residents to hook-up to the Central Sewer and Waste Water Treatment System, are being investigated.

3. A public presentation of the findings and information listed above is being prepared. September, early October, presentation dates are being considered.

4. Responses to the Town of Red Hook Economic Development Committee's memos of June 10, 2008 and June 17, 2008, have been prepared and will be presented to the Red Hook Town Board in September, 2008.

5. The Agricultural/Business District is being prepared and will be presented to the Red Hook Town Board in October, 2008.

6. Enclosed is the Monthly Report, from Chairman, Bill O'Neil, to the Town of Red Hook Board.

HIGHWAY - MONTHLY REPORT

Trustee Kovalchik read the report as follows:

1. Black top repairs for portions of Old Post Road and St. Johns Street will start after Labor Day (September 1, 2008)

Estimate: 50 tons of 1" patch at \$49.00/ton = \$2,500.00

funds to be allocated from General Repairs CE – Highway – budget line item #5110.4)

labor and equipment will be provided by the Town of Red Hook Highway Department at no additional cost to the Village.

2. A new air compressor has been purchased for the Highway Department Shop \$240.00. Funds to be allocated from General Repairs EQ – Highway (budget line item #5110.2)
3. Repairs to the Ford one-ton pick-up will need to be made.

Estimate: hydraulic pump	\$ 875.00
Electric	160.00
	\$ 1,035.00 (approx.)

Funds are to be allocated from:

1/2 total from Snow Removal CE – Highway	(#5142.4)
1/4 total from General Repairs (EQ – Highway)	(#5110.2)
1/4 total from Refuse/Garbage CE	(#8160.4)

4. The Town of Red Hook will grind stumps at 9 locations throughout the Village – 8 trees have already been removed. The last tree will be removed upon availability of equipment.
5. Frank Vosburgh and Sons will be completing repair of the Village drywells and swales the first week in September. This work is being funded by the 2008-2009 CHIPS Allocations budget line item #5110.3) and approved by the Trustees on June 19, 2008.
6. Engineers study and County /Town approval for work to be completed on Maizeland Drive is forthcoming. This work will be funded by the 2008-2009 CHIPS Allocation.
7. The current balance of the scrap metal recycling fund is \$3,289.53. Since inception of this program in September, 2007, \$5,278.50 has been generated to date. Proceeds from this program go toward purchasing tools for the Village Highway Department.
8. The Highway Garage is requesting a printer/fax/copier to attach to their computer. Uses will include receiving estimates for services and equipment (see attached estimates).

Trustee Trapp questioned the highway printer – feels that the less expensive printer will suit the highway department. Dan will contact Frontier to hook up the internet. This discussion will be postponed until all the information in collected.

WATER

Trustee Gilfeather read the water report for the month of August: 2 bacteria samples were taken and sent to lab, new meter was installed 9 Cherry Street; water service repair was completed on East Market Street (Annex Antiques), average daily usage for the month 273,129.

Trustee Blundell inquired about some excavation on Benner which looks like it would interfere with some water lines. Trustee Gilfeather will look into this.

RESOURCE RECOVERY

Trustee Blundell read the RR report for the month of August: commingle 5.75 T @ \$ 152.38, cardboard/newspaper 8.17 T \$ 89.46, Garbage 24.66 T @ \$ 2,240.82.

CELEBRATIONS

Trustee Blundell touched on a letter which was received from Central Hudson in regards to hanging any or all banners on telephone poles. This is against the law and any allowed signs or any hangings of any kind must be authorized by Central Hudson. Trustee Blundell has asked Clerk Cole to log on the CH website and download an application. This would be for the Holiday banners that the Chamber hangs for each season. Labor Day celebrations at WKZE went very well 200-300 hundred attended and the Village Police showed a strong force. A thank you to all.

Hardscrabble Day – The Red Hook Post Office has unveiled the stamp cancellation for Hardscrabble Day. This year's cancellation is of the newly renovated Village Hall. This cancellation will be available for the public to purchase on Hardscrabble Day. Opening ceremony is at 10:00am. Trustee Blundell is asking Mayor Cohen and the Board to march in the parade which starts at 4:00 pm. This day will also feature Red Hook Central's Homecoming Day with the first football game and fireworks to follow. The Dave Mason band will start at 5:30. Trustee Blundell is asking for some extra police protection to escort the band. David Fell will assist with the assembling of the stage and tent. Trustee Blundell made a motion to approve the closing of Prince Street to South Broadway. Trustee Gilfeather seconded. All were in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Trustee Trapp read the planning and zoning report for the month of August: 8 building permits were issued, 2 certificates of occupancy, 2 certificates of compliance, 4 municipal searches, 1 order to remedy, 15 inspections. \$ 2,115.00 was collected in fees, \$ 500.00 of which was a new water hook up or Henry Webster. Trustee Trapp inquired as to the status of the Key Bank Lot next to the bank. Mayor Cohen will have a conference call with Bard College and Trustee Trapp to discuss the purchase of this

lot. Also, Trustee Trapp discussed the continuation of the zoning map change. When this discussion continues CEO Sam Harkins should be present: This should and will be put on the agenda after the first of the year. Recipients of the Safe Road to School grant will be announced sometime in September.

Submitted by Trustee Trapp

1. The Hugs from Home donations were down this month again, probably due to vacations and possibly the economy.
2. I have continued to catalog all of the existing Village of Red Hook street lighting locations. I intend to recommend the elimination of certain lamp locations. I will be prepared to share my findings with the board in November of this year.
3. You all have a copy of a letter that I would like to forward to the building department concerning several issues that need to be addressed. If the board has no objections, I will have this letter sent to Sam Harkins. We will make recommendations to the board for code changes that I feel should be addressed.
4. I have pursued Mr. Brudvig of recent concerns with the green lot adjacent to Key Bank. The understanding that I have is that the disposition of the lot has been in a state of flux.
5. I would ask that the revision to the Village Zoning be considered after the New Year.

CLERK/POLICE COPIERS

Estimates from Bell Copiers were submitted for both the Clerk's Office and the Police Department. Both copiers were 9 years old and could no longer be repaired (parts were not available). The Village Clerk and Mayor did agree that leasing the copiers would be in the best interest of the budget at this time. The Clerk's copier would be \$192.00 a month and the Police copier would be \$121.00. This amount includes a service contract and toner. Estimates were also submitted from Oce' which were much higher. The Clerk's copier is more expensive since this office does the most in volume of copies. Trustee Trapp stated that he has the same copier in the office he works at and they have had problems with jamming. Clerk Cole will discuss this jamming problem with Jeff Wexler. Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to enter into contract with GE Commercial Finance to lease two copiers contingent upon Clerk Cole being satisfied with Mr. Wexler's answers with the jamming of the copier. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

Howie Callies from the Town of Red Hook Greenway and Trails Committee submitted a request that the Village of Red Hook approve the use of Firehouse Lane, Elizabeth St., and Fisk St. as a Historic District Hucklebush Trail. Use of these streets would form a contiguous route between Rt. 9 and Rt. 199 on and/or near the original Hucklebush Railroad bed. Enclosed is a map of the proposed route. Mayor Cohen will request Mr. Callies to attend the next Village Board meeting to discuss in detail.

Page 7
August, 2008 Minutes

RESOLUTION #18-2008

DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT 2009 - Dutchess County Community Block Grant 2009 The Village will apply jointly with the Town of Red Hook for the continuation of sidewalks from Park Avenue to the Recreational Park. Each application will request \$ 150,000.00. The Town would have lead agency status. A public Hearing has been scheduled for September 24th at the Town Hall. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to enter into the submission of the 2009 Community Block Grant jointly with the Town of Red Hook for the continuing of sidewalks to the Recreational Park. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

Steve Zarcheck suggested to the Board that the Highway Department use LAN for an internet connection .

Rex Maine asked when Trustee Trapp and Trustee Kovalchik took office. Trustee Trapp responded with 1997. Rex stated that in 2005 he was charged with making a racial statement to a female officer at the Sheriff's. Mr. Maine was notified by receiving a summons at his home. On September 5th he had a hearing and was told he is required to take a sensitivity training course. After this point he could return to work. To date, Mr. Maine has never been sent to this training and he feels that the charges should be withdrawn. Mayor Cohen stated that the Village is without legal council this evening, therefore no comments from the Board will be made. Mr. Maine asked the board what the definition of the Village Clerk's title is and who does she answer too. Is she responsible for the budget? Mayor Cohen stated that Ms. Cole is the Chief Financial Officer for the Village. Ms. Cole stated that the budget responsibilities fall under the title of Treasurer, not Clerk. Also, Mr. Maine inquired to the board on allegations of two females filing a complaint against an officer. Question in hand, has the board discussed this with the accused. Again Mayor Cohen informed Mr. Maine that no comments will be made without Village Council present.

Linda Bard – inquired as to what the Village does with the wood during tree removal and suggested the Village selling the wood. Mayor Cohen stated that the Village is not in the business to make a profit. Also, Fisk Street needs to be mowed so it does not block the line of site for traffic. Can this be maintained by the Village on a monthly basis?

Ms. Bard requested that the pooper law be put in the next newsletter.

8:30 The Village Board convened into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

9:00 Reconvened

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

Submitted by,


Cynthia Cole
Clerk/Treasurer