

VILLAGE OF RED HOOK
VILLAGE BOARD
May 3, 2010

Present: Deputy Mayor Blundell, Trustee Trapp, Trustee Seymour, Trustee Kovalchik
Absent: Mayor Cohen

Deputy Mayor Blundell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30pm.

Trustee Seymour made a motion to accept the minutes from: April 1st, 5th, 14th, 15th, 21st and April 22nd public hearing and Board meeting. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

- 1) Red Hook Central School Budget presentation: Paul Finch (Superintendent) and Bruce Martin (Business Manager) presented the Village Board with an update on the school budget. The Admin staff and school board worked hard to deal with the budget. Currently the school lost 1.1 million in State Aid. Many jobs are projected to be eliminated. There is a \$600,000.00 fund balance. There is a contingent budget which would eliminate more jobs. There will be a 1.3% budget increase which results in a 5.9% increase in school taxes. The school vote is May 18th. School population is down. RH Schools remain high performing in national rankings. DM Blundell pointed out that the school system and its strength is one of the highlights of our community and that continues to make this a desirable place to live.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk Cole read the Treasurer's report for the month of April: Fund Balances: General \$54,110.06, Water \$12,423.46, T & A \$8,133.35, Resource Recovery \$1,248.24, Petty Cash \$32.44, Village Green \$4,164.64, Hardscrabble \$1,824.43. Monthly expenses, General \$238,176.65, Water \$8,847.38, T & A \$8,133.35, Resource Recovery \$3,629.75.

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell opened a discussion on the Village's new budget. There are several revenue shortfalls. The Village tax will increase 5.9% which will be on average \$70.00 per household. The Village Police Department is no longer contracted to Tivoli so no longer patrolling the Village of Tivoli and the Town shifts are down. This will reduce revenue but also expenses. Admin offices are trying to do more work with fewer people, we have not replaced one retiring staff person. We conducted energy audits and Central Hudson is being met with to discuss installing LED lighting for street lights. Real property assessment is down slightly due to economic conditions. Trustee Seymour stated that they went over the budget with a fine tooth comb, Trustee Kovalchik stated that the board should continue to further develop reports and be able to keep better track on spending. A new and less expensive health care plan has been adopted, an HRA(Health Retention Account) style program with the same carrier MVP.. Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell stated that the Village has a lot of potential and the board will continue the work to achieve full potential and keep it a great place to live.

POLICE

Chief Truitt read the police report for the month of April: 135 Incidents, 109 UTT'S, and 9 Arrests. Also regular meetings are being scheduled with Northern Dutchess Community That Cares to discuss drugs in schools, negative teen behavior and ways to counter this.

RESOURCE RECOVERY

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell read the Resource Recovery report for the month of April: Commingle 2.94 T @ \$00.00, cardboard 5.42 T @ \$93.50, Garbage 13.65 T @ \$1,178.26. The tipping price of newspaper is down and there is no charge for cardboard. Tag sales are up since the price increased May 1, 2010.

CELEBRATIONS

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell announced May 8th as Apple Blossom Day, which is sponsored by the Red Hook Rotary. May 31st is Memorial Day and there will be a parade. Trustees are urged to March - rain or shine.

INSURANCE: The Village has accepted a new health insurance plan, known as an HRA. This is a plan with our current carrier MVP. It involves much lower premium but with the municipality covering a front end retention of \$2,500 per beneficiary. Record keeping is done within the program and actuarial studies indicate the plan will result in a much lower cost to the Employer. Clerk Cole and Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell will meet with Marshall and Sterling next week to discuss the other village insurance policies and work to hold premium levels down.

WATER

Trustee Seymour read the water report for the month of April: 2 bacteria samples were taken and sent to lab; radiological sample was taken and sent to lab; shut off at 44 Benner Road was replaced as Requested; water lines were located at Taste Budd's, An Apple a Day, 76 Cambridge & 62 West Market as requested; Emergency Water Plan was updated and sent to Dutchess County Health Department for review and approval. This report is on the website and must be updated every 5 years. Annual Water Quality Report was prepared and given to Village Clerk for Distribution. Average daily water usage for the month 235,100 gallons. Trustee Seymour met with Arvine Coon and will replace several water meters that are 25+ years old. Smith Lab submitted a new list of lab fees.

BUILDING

Estimates were submitted for sidewalk repairs by the Village Hall. AW Coon \$1,603.00 and F. Vosburgh at \$2,100.00. Sidewalk repairs were awarded to AW Coon.

Trustee Seymour and Clerk Cole are in contact with Frontier to reduce the cost of telephone service in the Village Hall. Also, meeting with Central Hudson to reduce the cost of street lighting.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Trustee Trapp read the planning and zoning report for the month of April: 7 building permits, 5 certificates of occupancy, 2 certificates of compliance, 2 municipal searches, 1 court appearance, and 10 inspections. \$1,412.10 was collected in fees.

Hugs From Home is still up and running.
An ADA Transition Plan is in place.

Village property line changes are still being reviewed.

A new building and zoning rate fee is being reviewed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

HIGHWAY

Trustee Kovalchik read the monthly report as follows:

1. Brush pick-up ended on April 9, 2010. This included a one week extension. Residents are encouraged to purchase a landfill permit for \$20.00 at the Red Hook Village Building and deposit brush on Saturdays between the hours of 9:00am-2:00pm.
2. Residents now have the option to request the Village Highway Department to pick-up brush piles during off-season (non-scheduled Spring/Fall leaf and brush pick-up). Residents requesting this service are encouraged to pre-register at the Red Hook Village Building and a \$40.00 service will be charged for a 6'x6'x6' brush pile to be removed. Pick-ups, for those who have pre-registered and pre-paid, will be on the first and third Mondays during off-season months.
3. Trees have been removed (unhealthy or posing threat to electrical lines) have been removed on Willow Brook, Phillips Street, Church Street and at Richard Abraham's Park. The Red Hook Town Highway Department ground some stumps as a continuing effort to share highway services and reduce the costs.
4. The current balance of the Scrap Metal Recycling Program is \$1,023.84. Since the inception of this program in September, 2007, \$6,361.08 has been generated. Proceeds from this program go toward purchasing tools/equipment for the Red Hook Village Highway Department and is supplemental to the General Funds allocated to the Highway Department budget lines. A separate checking account will be established to account for these funds.

ITF

Trustee Kovalchik read the monthly report as follows:

1. Red Hook Sewer Project
 - a. Dutchess County Legislature held public hearing for the Red Hook Sewer Project on April 12, 2010. Bill O'Neil (RHT Councilman), Brent Kovalchik (RHV Trustee) and Bridget Barclay (DCW&WA) spoke in favor of the project. Thomas Mollica submitted a letter expressing concern to some item proposed for the Red Hook Sewer District. DC Legislator Benjamin Traudt co-sponsored the resolutions and spoke in favor of the

proposed Part County Sewer District. The following Non-Consent Agenda Resolutions passed with unanimous consent:

- #2010106 – Reaffirming Neg. Dec. in connection with the establishment of Part-County Sewer District #6 in Red Hook Village and Red Hook Town.
 - #2010107 – Reaffirming Resolution #2010030 that established Part-County Sewer District #6 in Red Hook Village and Red Hook Town.
- b. DC Executive William Steinhaus signed the resolution on April 16, 2010 initiating the 45 day public comment period subject to permissive referendum.
- c. DC Legislator Benjamin Traudt holds stakeholders meeting on April 22, 2010 to discuss/review proposed RH Sewer District.

2. Red Hook Water Project:

A request is made to the Board of Trustees to allocate \$3,905.00 from the Water Fund (FX)

Source Supply Power and Pump – Contractual Expenses Budget Line (#8320.4). This allocation will be used to offset the Village's financial obligation to provide a Preliminary Engineer's Report to verify/locate an alternate water supply/source and to provide analysis regarding the improvement of the Village's existing drinking water distribution system. The total cost to provide this Report, as prepared by C.T. Male, is \$27,810.00. Funds applied for and/or awarded from grants are as follows:

- Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Grant \$10,000.00
(awarded to Red Hook Village on March 26, 2010)
- USDA-RD Predevelopment Planning Grant\$13,905.00
(pending verification of matching funds of \$13,905)
- Joint Senator Saland/Assemblyman Molinaro Member
Grant Item\$ 7,500.00
(to be used to reimburse Water fund)

3. April 16, 2010 – Pete Hubbell discusses property assessments concerning the Centers and Greenspaces Ag/Business District and the Incentive Zoning Provisions.
4. April 19, 2010 – Fairweather Consulting presented a draft Fiscal Impact Analysis of Proposed Zoning Changes in the Town of Red Hook, New York, to be reviewed by the ITF. These will be included as part of the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement to be presented to the Red Hook Town Board in early May, 2010.

VILLAGE GREEN

1. A Village Green Committee meeting was held on April 23, 2010 at the Red Hook Village Building. Jen Melitski, Brenda Cagle, Frank Campagna and David Seymour attended. The following items were discussed:
 - a. The current balance in the Village Green Committee related budget accounts as of April 22, 2010 are as follows:
 - Community Beautification Expenses (#8560.4)
Balance \$ 2,080.92
 - Shade Tree – Contractual Expenses (#8560.4)
Balance \$ 4,402.32
 - Village Green Checking Account
Balance \$ 4,164.64
 - b. The Village Green Committee will purchase a second flag pole for the Red Hook Village Building to display flags including the Tree City USA flag. Locations were discussed and will be reviewed. Funds from the Village Green Committee Checking Account will be used to purchase and install the pole at a cost of approximately \$800.00
 - c. Spring Planting Day/Arbor Day Celebrations took place on May 1, 2010. Eighteen trees were planted at various locations including: Maizeland Road, Cambridge Drive, Prince Street, Moul Drive, Church Street Extension, Richard Abraham's Park and Memorial Park. Events included Memorial tree plantings at Abraham's and Memorial Park tree planting followed by an Arbor Day Celebration at Memorial Park. This celebration included a Mil Road (grades 3-5) poetry contest reading and a reading of the Arbor Day Proclamation by Trustee Brent Kovalchik. Lunch was served at the Elmendorph Inn to those who participated in the events.
 - d. Projects related to the 2007-2008 NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grant were discussed, The health of various trees have been inspected by arborist James Cadorette and actions determined (tree removal, pruning). Damage to sidewalks caused by tree roots are being investigated and remedies are being sought to repair these sidewalks. Funding may be provided by the grant award. Remaining FY2009-2010 and FY2010-2011 General Fund balances (#8510.4 and #8560.4) will be used to fulfill the matching financial obligation required of the grant.

- e. Frank Campagna suggested holding seminars for local landscape contractors to instruct them on proper mulching and tree pruning techniques.
- f. Posting the “Tree Owners Manual” on the Red Hook Village and Village Green websites were discussed as was an informational flyer, concerning proper tree maintenance and pruning, to be included in the Red Hook Village Newsletter were discussed.

CPF/ZRA

Following reports read by Trustee Brent Kovalchik.

**Community Preservation Fund (CPF) Advisory Board – Monthly Report
April, 2010 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representative/Member**

There was no meeting held during the month of April, 2010, as a quorum was not present.

**Red Hook Town Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) – Monthly Report
April, 2010 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Representative/Member**

A meeting was held on April 8, 2010. Items discussed included:

- Parking Regulations, Solar Panels/Wind Turbines, and Farm Animals on residential properties.

**Red Hook Town Shared Service Committee – Monthly Report
April, 2010 – David Seymour and Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representatives/Members**

A meeting was held on April 9, 2010. Bill O’Neil (RHT Councilman), Harry Colgan (RHT Councilman), David Seymour (RHV Trustee), Brent Kovalchik (RHV Trustee) and Arvine “Bucky” Coon (RHT Highway Superintendent) attended. Items discussed included:

- Snow removal regulations for new sidewalks to be installed on Linden Avenue between Park Avenue (RHV) and the Rec. Park (RHT).
- Reviewed RHV and RHT Highway Budgets (equipment, equipment repair, road repair and personnel expenditures and allocations).
- Reviewed tasks performed by Village Highway Department and Town Highway Department to review if equitable services can be provided if a shared, single highway department is established.
- Budget coordination was discussed. The Village base-budget on a fiscal year vs. The Town’s Calendar Year Budget cycles.

A meeting was held on April 23, 2010. Bill O’Neil (RHT Councilman), Harry Colgan (RHT Councilman), Tom Cordier (Tivoli Mayor) and Brent Kovalchik (RHV Trustee) attended. Items discussed included:

- Discussions concerning obtaining a consensus from three municipal boards regarding the establishment of a single Highway Department. A determination to seek further data relating to protected cost savings, facilities, equipment and labor pools.
- A determination to request assistance from the NYS Office of the State Comptroller was made.
- Providing equitable highway and park maintenance services to all three municipalities that exhibit cost-efficient measures and what services can be funded from certain municipal budget accounts were discussed.

A proposed shared services agreement between the Town of Red Hook, Village of Red Hook, Village of Tivoli and Town of Pine Plains is being reviewed by municipal attorneys for adoption. This agreement is to provide shared services as they currently exist.

Red Hook Together – Monthly Report – April, 2010 – Ed Blundell and Brent Kovalchik – RHV Representatives.

- Red Hook Together is a community coalition of Bard College students/administrators, Red Hook Town/Red Hook Village/Tivoli Officials, Red Hook Central School District administrators/school board members, Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce Officials and Red Hook Town Economic Development Committee Members. The mission is to foster a relationship between Bard College and the Red Hook Community to support local businesses; provide opportunities for students to work; improve and foster a quality relationship between Bard and the Red Hook Community.

A meeting was held on April 22, 2010. Items discussed included:

- Review memo from the Hudson Valley Economic Corporation to encourage students to stay in the area upon graduation, especially in the biotechnical fields.
- Sharing resources and efforts to acquire grant funding aimed at promoting the arts/arts related businesses in the Red Hook Area.
- Northern Dutchess Business Expo – October 5, 2010 – Bard Campus
- Internship policy
- Review/discuss opportunities for Red Hook Area businesses to offer student friendly places, student discounts and special offers to attract more business patronage.

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to provide the funds for a matching grant in the 2010-2011 budgets in the water fund for \$3,905.00 to satisfy the USDA Predevelopment Planning Grant. Trustee Seymour seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Ed Blundell stated that Kelly Flood-Myers reviewed and sent opinion on the Shared Services with the Town of Red Hook. Also stated that we need to be sure there is no conflict with shared services and any open contracts, such as the police contract. Trustee Kovalchik would like the Village Attorney to present this at the next workshop meeting.

Resolution # 5- 2010 – Be it resolved that the revenue received from the 2009 Community Development Block Grant Award of \$ 65,000.00 and entered in the unclassified income budget line # 2770 shall be

transferred to the Sewer Administration contractual expense line # 8510.4. Trustee Trapp made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Seymour seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Seymour: Street lighting is the largest expense, LED lighting is better, cost less and last longer, safety will be considered. There will be a test site to see what lighting will suite the Village better.

Key Bank Proclamation: Key Bank is celebrating their 50th anniversary. May 7th will be declared Key Bank Day. This proclamation will be read by DM Blundell at a ceremony on May 7th at 10:30. DM Blundell made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Seymour seconded. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Fell – questioned what the status on the Village Parking Lot. DM Blundell stated that Key Bank owns the parking lot and the Village is not in the financial position to buy it. Also, Mayor Cohen is working with a local businessman to purchase the parking lot. Mr. Fell owns property on West Market Street and it was part of his site plan to allow his customers to use the Village Parking lot. Mr. Fell also stated that he Baright family offered to purchase the Village parking lot. Trustee Trapp agrees and stated the board agrees, that the parking lot should remain a parking lot.

Mr. Fell also questioned why the Village hasn't paid the Red Hook Fire Department for two quarters. Clerk Cole stated that they are behind two quarters due to a cash flow problem but that payment had been made.

Also, Mr. Fell questioned when there would be the next public hearing for the sewer. Trustee Kovalchik stated that there is no schedule for a public hearing at this time.

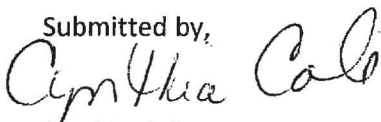
Steve Zarcheck questioned the board about Tivoli cancelling their police contract with the Village of Red Hook. Clerk Cole explained as far as a budgetary point of view it didn't matter because if the police department wasn't providing the shifts then we wouldn't be putting out the funds to pay for them. DM Blundell pointed out the actual income for 2009-10 on that line exceeded projections and the fact that it terminated at year end(budget year) we could better account for it in next year's budget.

Trustee Seymour made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss a police personnel matter. 9:35 PM.

9:55 reconvenes from executive session

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

Submitted by,



Cynthia Cole
Clerk