

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
August 2, 2010**

Present: Mayor David Cohen, Trustee Ed Blundell, Trustee Jay Trapp and Trustee Brent Kovalchik.  
Absent: Trustee David Seymour.

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

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to accept the minutes from July 12, 2010. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

1. NYMIR – Kevin Crawford and Jack Gilfeather presented the Village Board with a surplus check in the amount of \$2,705.61. Insurance rates for NYMIR have stabilized for Villages resulting in lower rates for next year. 8.5 million dollars in funds have been returned to clients. Supervisor Sue Crane was present and the Town was also presented with a surplus check.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk Cole read the Treasurer's Report for the month of July: Fund balances: General \$539,557.02; Water \$52,578.89; T & A \$10,205.15; Resource Recovery \$342.28; Petty Cash \$15.82; Village Green \$3,700.69; Hardscrabble \$2,069.43. Monthly Expenses: General \$270,445.15, Water \$8,654.21, T & A \$10,305.25, Resource Recovery \$2,876.76. Clerk Cole requested the water fund to pay \$21,335.00 to A.W. Coon & Sons for invoices that were submitted late and not included in the monthly reports. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay A.W. Coon & Sons. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

#### **POLICE**

Mayor Cohen read the police report: 138 incidents, 123 UTT's and 9 arrests. Chief Truitt stated that there have been increased activities during the summer months. Prescription drugs were caught being sold behind the CVS. The Village has a safe deposit drop off for prescription and non-prescription drugs. Chief Truitt recommends Rich Himlien to be hired as a police officer and IT coordinator. Trustee Blundell would like to discuss the hiring of Mr. Himlien in executive session.

#### **RESOURCE RECOVERY**

Trustee Blundell read the resource recovery report: commingle 3.04 T; cardboard/newspaper 4.65 T @ \$98.43; garbage 13.03 T @ \$1,127.45. Trustee Blundell continually encourages people to compost to save on garbage and would also like to inform residents of the 10/10/10 campaign which is to save energy and reduce carbon emissions. This will be discussed in greater detail at a later time.

#### **CELEBRATIONS**

Rhinebeck Legion Band will be in Abraham's Park on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**WATER**

Mayor Cohen read the water report for the month of July: 2 bacteria samples were taken and sent to lab, radiological sample was taken and sent to lab, hydrants were flushed, and leak in South Broadway was repaired, meter pits were repaired at 24-26 Thompson Street. Curb box was dug up and raised at 23 Garden St. Water lines were located as requested at 22 Amherst & Xtra Mart. New shut-off was installed at 68 West Market Street. Average daily usage for the month 252,903.

**PLANNING AND ZONING**

Trustee Trapp read the planning and zoning report: 2 building permits, 4 certificates of occupancy, 5 certificates of compliance, 1 municipal search, 1 order to remedy, 16 fire inspections, 9 inspections. \$1,025.00 was collected in fees. Sam Harkins will respond to a request in regards to the fire zone along the Village Hall.

Mayor Cohen made a motion to appoint Steve Zacharzuk to the Planning Board. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor. Trustee Kovalchik stated that Mr. Zacharzuk can sign up for several planning and development courses and he should check in the zoning office for a list of courses.

**HIGHWAY**

**Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly Highway report as follows:**

1. The recently purchased John Deere Zero Turn (approved by RHV Trustees on June 12, 2010) parts for the repair of the leaf vacuum (approved by the RHV Trustees on June 12, 2010), a rear backhoe replacement windshield and a pole saw have been delivered to the RHV Highway Department.
2. A used Weed-Eater trimmer has been purchased for \$200.00 and funded by the Scrap Metal Recycling Account. The remaining balance of the Scrap Metal Recycling Account, after purchase, is \$311.84. Since inception of this program in September, 2007, \$6,361.08 has been generated. Proceeds from this program go toward purchasing tools/equipment for the RHV Highway Department and is supplemental to the General Funds allocated to the Highway Department. Residents who wish to donate scrap metal should contact Dan Streib at 758-8600.
3. Clarification of the Federal Highway Administration Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the NYS Supplemental have been received from Stephen Gill (DC Department of Public Works) and Sally Olsen (NYSDOT) on July 14, 2010. The Village, by Federal and State Mandates, will be replacing existing street identification signs with new signs containing 4" on an 8" high blade. New signs will have white letters and borders on a green background. These signs must be replaced by January 9, 2012.

4. A telephone correspondence of July 20, 2010 and a follow-up email correspondence were received by Brent Kovalchik from the NYSDOT Region 8 Local Projects Group. The correspondences included notification that the PDCTC will re-program the "Red Hook Sidewalk Project" for regular core federal aid in place of ARRA funding, of \$233,000, the project was originally programmed to receive. Unlike stimulus (ARRA) funding, the core federal funds the project will receive are reimbursed at 80% of the project cost leaving a 20% share to be paid by the Village. However, since the work proposed by the "Red Hook Sidewalk Project" is along State Highways, the NYSDOT has agreed to pay the 20% share, thereby reimbursing the Village for 100% of the eligible construction costs. Funds are to be used during the Federal Fiscal Year 2011 (October, 2010 – September, 2011) will be used for three mid-block, ADA compliant, crosswalks on Broadway (Route 9) and for a new sidewalk between Phillips and Benner Road on the south side of West Market Street (Route 199).

#### **VILLAGE GREEN**

**Trustee Kovalchik read the monthly Village Green report as follows:**

1. A Village Green Committee meeting was held on July 15, 2010 at the Red Hook Village Building. Brenda Cagle, Jen Melitski, Sally Dwyer-McNulty, James Cadorette, Shona Wray and Brent Kovalchik attended. The following items were discussed:

- a. The current balances in the Village Green Committee related budget accounts as of July 29, 2010 is as follows:

Community Beautification – Contractual Expenses	
Contractual Expenses (#8510.4)	
Balance .....	\$ 3,466.26
Shade Tree – Contractual Expenses (#8560.4)	
Balance .....	\$ 4,950.00
Village Green Checking Account	
Balance .....	\$ 3,700.69

- b. Jen Melitski, honoring her agreement with the VCG to complete filing and documentation requirements to fulfill the Village's obligation for the 2007-2008 NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grant is assembling receipt and vouchers to submit to the NYSDEC for partial reimbursement of this grant. A total of \$5,400.00 of expenses have been documented. The Village's obligation of \$13,610.00 in volunteer time and expenses is proceeding to be completed.

- c. A Red Hook village resident on Fisk Street has submitted reports to the VCG, by two separate certified arborists, determining that a historic sugar maple on Village right-of-way is healthy and is in need of pruning and fertilizing. Two separate quotes to perform this service have been obtained. Everhart Tree Care LLC was selected and work was completed on July 22, 2010. The total cost for this service is \$666.05. Costs will be deducted from Shade Tree Contractual Expenses (#8560.4) and will be reimbursed from the 2007-2008 NYSDEC grant award.
- d. Certified Arborist, James Cordette, submitted a report on two short-leaf Linden Trees on North Broadway. The report recommended the following action be taken. Actions were approved by the VGC and RHV Trustees on July 22, 2010.

J&J Deli (N. Broadway)

Immediate removal of the tree was recommended and the tree removed on July 28, 2010.

Celtic Cottage (N. Broadway)

Placement of rods through the trunk and between two leaders, as well as priority, to elevate the canopy for sign visibility was recommended.

Integral Tree and Landscape will perform this work. RHV Highway Superintendent, Dan Streib, will be consulted for pruning.

The cost of \$690.00 will be deducted from Shade Tree Contractual Expenses (#8560.4) and will be reimbursed from the 2007-2008 NYSDEC awards.

- e. Location for the new RHV Building flagpole was approved by the VGC. This will be located on the north side of the Village Building by the entrance. The existing 20' flagpole, currently located on the east side of the building, will be moved to the new location. The new 25' flagpole will be installed on the east side of the building. Dutchess Signs has ordered the new 25' pole and will install upon arrival. The cost of \$875.00 will be deducted from the VGC Checking Account.
- f. Brenda Cagle presented a sample of a map produced from information gathered by SWAT (Specialized Weekday Arborist Team). The map located 942 total sites (existing and future-site), as determined by a GPS survey. Once the revised zoning map is sent to DC Department of Planning and Development and entered digitally, this information can be placed on an official RHV Map. This map will be used to determine location of future trees, sidewalk locations and catalogue of condition/location of existing Village trees.
- g. Discussed the possibility of the Village requiring permits, at no cost, for tree removal, as a means to protect and or replace the existing tree stock within the Village.
- h. Sidewalk heaving caused by tree roots at various locations throughout the Village, along with remedies (root barriers, root pruning, structural soil, sidewalk shaving, etc) were discussed. The VGC and the RHV Highway Department will proceed with remedies as funds and schedules permit.

- i. 10-10-10 Challenge was discussed. Possible coordination with the Elmendorph Inn is being investigated to reduce/pledge a 10% carbon emission deduction by October 10, 2010.
- j. Style and size of commemorative plaques for future commemorative trees were discussed.
- k. Consultation by the VGC to a property owner on St. John Street/North Broadway to suggest remedies for a tree root/sidewalk concern.

**ITF**

**Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly ITF report as follows:**

1. Red Hook Village Water Project:

July 8, 2010 – Mayor Cohen signed a “Letter of Conditions” securing a \$14,000 USDA-RD Predevelopment Planning Grant.

July 19, 2010 – The Village received a letter from Jill Harvey (USDA-RD State Director) notifying the Village that Rural Utilities Services has approved the grant. This USDA-RD PPG Grant is to be used, in conjunction with a Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant of \$10,000 (MOU issued to RHV on July 19, 2010) to prepare a Preliminary Engineer Report. This report will be executed by C.T. Male and will verify the location of a new alternative well supply source, recommend improvements to the Village’s existing water distribution system, and will be used, as a requirement, for submissions to various Federal and NYS funding agencies for Capital Projects Grants.

Additional funding opportunities, already being pursued, include:

\$7500 joint Member Item Grant from NYS Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro and NYS Senator Stephen Saland.

A request by Congressman Scott Murphy that the FY2011 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill contain \$1 million for the installation of an alternative well field and controls, (RHV requested this Federal Appropriation in February, 2010).

2. Red Hook Sewer Project:

June 29, 2010 – a letter to Bridget Barclay (DCW&WA) from Thomas Rudolph (NYSDEC Division of Water, Region 3 Water Engineer) was received. At the request of NYSDEC Assistant Commissioner James Tierney, the letter supports the proposed RH Sewer Project stating:

“Based on information provided in the general project description, it appears that the project embraces many of the goals and priorities identified by DEC Commissioner Pete Granis. In particular, the Red Hook Sewer Project supports his priority to Foster Green and Healthy Communities. This project as planned promotes smart growth, protects open space and will help communities maintain green spaces and streetscapes.

In addition, the replacement of failing septic systems with a central sewer collection system provides an opportunity to better regulate the wastewater of your communities and protect the water quality of receiving streams for their intended best use”.

July 8, 2010 – a meeting was held at Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development to review funding and alternative RH Sewer District information. Bridget Barclay (DCW&WA), Jonathan Churins (DCW&WA), George Popp (USDA-RD/Middletown), David Cohen (RHV Mayor) and Brent Kovalchik (RHV Trustee) attended.

July 9, 2010 – NYS Governor Patterson announces \$67 million in grants for clean water infrastructure across New York State.

July 12, 2010 – A letter of July 7, 2010, to Bridget Barclay (DCW&WA) from Matthew Driscoll (NYSEFC President and CEO) relaying and confirming a statement by Governor Patterson and NYSDEC Commissioner Peter Granis that the RH Sewer Project qualifies to receive up to \$2 million in additional “principal forgiveness” benefits. This is in addition to the \$4.2 million loan at 0% interest.

July 16, 2010 – a letter was sent to Tom Vilsack (U.S. Secretary of Agriculture) urging the agriculture department to reconsider its new interpretation of the definition of “rural” and “rural area” in New York State with regard to USDA’s Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal program. This letter was signed by ten NYS Congressional Representatives including Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Congressman Murphy.

July 16, 2010 – a press release was issued.. “Congressman Murphy calls on USDA to Reverse Recent Guideline changes Preventing Moreau and Red Hook from Accessing Sewer Grants”.

July 29, 2010 – a meeting was held at the NYSEFC (625 Broadway, Albany, NY) to discuss funding and revised RH Sewer District formation. Fred Testa (NYSEFC), Lance Crossett (NYSEFC), Brian McClintoch (NYSEFC), Gary Kerzic (NYSEFC), Timothy Burns (NYSEFC), Christopher Rienzo (NYSEFC), David Miller (USDA-RD/Syracuse), Rhonda Falkena (USDA-RD/Middletown), George Popp (USDA-RD/Middletown), Amanda Boomhower (Congressman Murphy), Bridget Barclay (DCW&WA), Harry Colgan (RHT Councilman), David Cohen (RHV Mayor), Brent Kovalchik (RHV Trustee) and Matthew Driscoll (NYSEFC President and CEO) attended.

### 3. Red Hook Village GBD Zoning Amendments and Pattern Book:

June 30, 2010 – The New York State Council on the Arts Board of Directors awarded the Village of Red Hook a grant to be used for the preparation of the “Pattern Book and Architectural Guide of Housing Types and Commercial Infill Development Buildings”.

July 6, 2010 – a telephone correspondence from Ann Van Ingen (NYSCA Director of Architecture, Planning/Design and Capital Projects) was held with RHV Trustee Brent Kovalchik confirming the grant award. A grant request of \$14,000 was submitted for consideration on March 1, 2010. Until NYS Legislature passes the NYS FY2010-2011 Budget, the exact amount of grant award and project initiation date have not been determined.

The pattern book will be a companion guide to proposed zoning revisions to the RHV GBD. The zoning revisions will be funded through a Hudson River Valley Greenway Compact Grant of \$10,000 awarded to the Village of Red Hook (MOU signer and executed on April 5, 2010).

### 4. Red Hook Village Parking:

July 15, 2010 – the Red Hook Village Parking Subcommittee met to discuss one of the three scenarios to resolve RHV GBD Parking concerns. Items discussed included:

A Parking/Special Use Assessment District was discussed. Boundaries of the district were approved for consideration. Business properties, including multi-family, commercial, and mixed-use residential/commercial properties location in the proposed district were included. Properties with single-family dwelling units were not included for consideration.

Cost to purchase existing RHV Municipal Parking Lot from Key Bank was discussed.

Total property assessment within the district was calculated along with the total number of properties located in the proposed district were calculated.

Proposed tax calculated based on individual property assessment was calculated.

Other areas within the Village, to be considered for future potential parking areas, was discussed.

Cost to remove snow from the partial GBD Parking District was discussed.

David Cohen will review procedures and legal aspects of creating a Parking/Special Use Assessment District with the RHV Attorney.

Additional meetings will be scheduled to discuss the proposed Parking District with Village GBD business and property owners.

5. July 7, 2010 – a public hearing was held by the RHT Board at the Red Hook High School to hear public comments regarding the proposed Centers and Greenspaces Plan DGEIS and RHT Comprehensive Plan Amendments. The RHT Board resolved to conclude the public hearing. Written comments were received at the RHT Building until July 17, 2010.
6. An article appeared in the NYS Planning Federation Planning News (Spring 2010 issue) “Agricultural Protection Zoning; how well has it worked?”. The Town of Red Hook with intermunicipal cooperation from the Village of Red Hook and Tivoli, was cited as the most successful Dutchess County community in protecting farmland. The article states:

“Red Hook is not using agricultural protection as a pretext for exclusionary zoning, as appears to be the case in some other communities. Rather, the town is genuinely committed to protecting agricultural land and farming as a business, while also making good faith efforts to provide affordable housing, in order to ensure that those people who keep the community functioning are not precluded from living in it”.

**CPF**

**Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly CPF report as follows:**

There was no meeting scheduled for the month of July, 2010.

A subcommittee meeting was held on July 30, 2010 at the Tivoli Village Building. Susan Ezrati and Brent Kovalchik attended. Parcel mapping and criteria for the Villages of Red Hook and Tivoli were discussed.

- Susan Ezrati has prepared a template containing Parcel Tax I.D. numbers, property owners, property addresses and property size along with criteria (Parks, Scenic, Wetlands, Cultural, Resources, Greenbelt, etc) for Village properties eligible to receive funding for easements/preservation from the CPF.
- Criteria, eligibility and priorities are based on Section 64-h of NYS Law which governs the CPF in the Town of Red Hook.
- Susan Ezrati, Robbin Logan, Geoff Carter and Brent Kovalchik will continue to identify properties and catalogue parcels according to the criteria.

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

A meeting was held on July 8, 2010. Brent Kovalchik was unable to attend due to a RHV Trustees workshop on the same date at the same time. Items discussed included:

- Review of a proposed noise ordinance.
- Requirements regulating windmills and solar panels, zoning bulk regulations, orientation and setback requirements.
- Farm animals on non-agricultural properties.

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

There were no meetings held during the month of July, 2010.

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

A meeting was held on July 29, 2010 at RHCSA Administrative Offices. Brent Kovalchik did not attend due to a meeting in Albany, NY with USDA-RD, NYSEFC, DCW&WA, RHT and RHV (RH Sewer Project).

Items discussed included:

- 10% Challenge. Discussions to support outreach, education, action including seminars on October 10, 2010 and discuss municipalities' goal to achieve a 10% community wide reduction in green house gas emissions.
- August 18, 2010. DC Legislator Ben Traudt will introduce a program on how to implement energy conservation in local businesses to the Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce.
- August 19, 2010 – Members of the Bard College Student Conservation Association will set-up an information table (1:00-3:30pm) and canvass the Village (4:30-7:00pm) to explain energy efficiency programs, energy audits, old appliance rebates and pick-ups. For more information, please email [redhook10percent@gmail.com](mailto:redhook10percent@gmail.com)

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Trustee Blundell questioned Trustee Kovalchik that if the Village lowered the speed limit would that be able to reduce the newly regulated sign size. This would result in a reduced cost. Trustee Kovalchik stated that reducing the speed would not help with the size of the signs.

Mayor Cohen and Trustee Kovalchik attended a meeting in Albany with the State Environmental Facilities Corp. for possible funding for the sewer project. VIP's in Albany were so impressed with the Village's sewer project it is being used as a template throughout the state.

2001 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant: Trustee Kovalchik is recommending NYS DOT approved sidewalks on Firehouse Lane and Park Ave. Also, crosswalks by Red Hook Commons and Colburns. All crosswalks must be ADA compliant. Trustee Blundell made a motion to approve of the 2001 DCCDBG application for sidewalks and crosswalks on the above. Trustee Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor. Trustee Trapp will write the specs for this application.

Todd Baright – Offered his sincere gratitude to the board in their efforts, energy and time put into the community. Village Parking lot will have another meeting; Key Bank Attorney's will review and have a draft agreement between Key Bank and the Village of Red Hook together by the end of next week. Also Mr. Baright apologizes for his recent letter in regards to the way the Village Board has been handling the purchase of the Village Parking Lot. Mr. Baright stated that he is a strong supporter of the sewer project and if the Village receives money this project must have local vote and he will lend his support to this project.

Trustee Blundell drafted a resolution for village participation in and commitment to the 10% Challenge. This resolution will be to cooperate with Sustainable Hudson Valley and the Town of Red Hook to increase energy awareness and reduce the carbon footprint. Consumers can receive a rebate on changing out old appliances. The Town of Red Hook adopted a 10 % challenge. Laurie from Hudson Valley SCA and a committee will be walking throughout the Village to educate people on saving energy, giving away free light bulbs and reusable bags. Trustee Blundell made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Trapp made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:25pm. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

8:50pm Village Board convenes from executive session.

Mayor Cohen made a motion to appoint Rick Heinlien as a part-time police officer. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

Darrell Newman from Red Hook Commons Senior Housing would like to have improved walking and driving for Seniors. Red Hook Commons has 96 units and over half of those seniors drive. A petition with 60 signatures was submitted in regards to a crosswalk being installed in front of the entrance Senior Housing to cross Rt 9. Trustee Kovalchik responded to a memo that was received from Donna from the office of RH Commons and advised that the crosswalk is on state property. This is a costly project. Trustee Trapp stated that crosswalks across Rt 9 would be beneficial for all.

Kathy Stewart of Fraleigh Street received a letter in regards to the fact that she has a brush pile at the edge of her property and that she had 7 days to remove it or the Village would remove it at her cost. 27 Letters were sent out in all. Ms. Stewart did not pickup her brush therefore the Village highway did and bill her \$ 40.00 Ms. Stewarts feels this is unfair and she keep nice gardens and that brush pile was her compost. She claims a copy of the law should have been included in the letter. Penalty for violating this law is \$ 250.00. Mayor Cohen stated that this will be discussed in further details at the workshop.

Nick Lacorte of Red Hook Commons stated that the banners are gone from the entrance to the Sr. housing. Can Morgan's Way and Laura Lane be replaced with 6" signs? Trustee Kovalchik stated that this will happen within the next two years.

Don Douris is complaining about 39 Garden Street. Section 6 of our zoning code states it is a non conforming use. It's been empty for 3-4 years and now has tenants. Mr. Stagies should apply for a CO. Person living in this house was intoxicated and standing on a ladder that was on Mr. Douris's property, if he had fallen the liability would be on Mr. Douris. Would like to have an insurance certificate being named as additionally insured. Mr. Douris feels there should be a stop work order put on this property at once. Trustee Trapp will discuss with Sam in the morning and respond to Mr. Douris thereafter.

Steve Zacharzuk inquired as to the parking problem on Amherst Rd. along Griff's Deli. Trustee Trapp did speak to Dennis and he will speak to his delivery drivers.

Page 11  
8-2-10

Mayor Cohen received a quote for upgrades on Lara's computer for \$ 170.00. At this time the Village will hold off on this upgrade. Newly Hired Rick Heinlein will assess this computer in the near future.

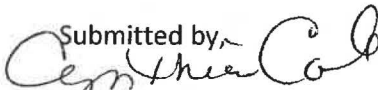
Trustee Trapp will send out SEQRA Type I Action on the zoning revisions to all interested agencies. Also Trustee Trapp will discuss with Sam Harkins to draw up a map.

Code Publish update: Trustee Trapp stated that there was a conflict with the building construction in the revisions. A clean copy will be given to the Clerk and then submitted to Code Publishers, which should finalize the revisions. At this point the book should go to print.

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

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn at 9:40. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

Submitted by,



Cynthia Cole  
Clerk/Treasurer