

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK
WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 21, 2010**

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

1). PANDA – Present: Kathy Hammer, Chris Garza, Susan Simon, Kathy O'Connor. Village representative Mark Durand could not be present due to the fact that he is in LA working on a production for ESPN. Assemblyman Marc Molinaro was also present to speak on behalf of Panda. Kathy Hammer starting the discussion by stated the purpose of Panda, which is to tape 5 municipalities' board meetings (Town of Rhinebeck, Village of Rhinebeck, Town of Red Hook, Village of Red Hook and the Village of Tivoli). Also, local events and a calendar of events are aired. There is an inter- municipal agreement between the five communities. A live stream promo for Panda is available for viewing for Northern Dutchess County on the internet. This program was viewed by the board on Ms Hammer's laptop. Assemblyman Molinaro has been involved with Panda since its creation for over 15 years. Currently the Village receives a franchise fee of over \$ 34,328.64. Village residents pay 5 % of their Time Warner bill that goes towards the fee paid to the Village and the extra funds go into the General fund. In 1997 the Federal Communication required Time Warner to make local access available. Ms. Hammer stated that Panda has come a long way in recent years including overcoming a criminal incident. Trustee Kovalchik feels that the Village is fully aware of the need for government transparency but that these discussions started back in the spring when the village board started their budget process and was trying to find ways to cut costs. Trustee Kovalchik does not want to hurt Panda's budget. If the Village does not meet their contractual financial obligation then the other 4 municipalities would have to make up the difference. Ms Hammer stated that Panda is obligated to have an annual budget and the Village of Red Hook participation is crucial. The next payment is due in August of 2011. Trustee Seymour stated that the Village of Red Hook is currently obligated to Panda and inquired as to there being anything that the Village can do to lower the cost of running Panda? Susan Simon stated that space to run Panda would help and volunteers to tape the meetings. Kathy Hammer indicated that she didn't think that was a good idea because volunteers might not be as reliable. Panda must also know as soon as possible the Village's budget intensions do that they balance their budget. Budget negotiations must be reduced as a group. Trustee Blundell indicated the intent was not to get rid of Panda, just to become internet based with our meetings. This would actually make the meetings more accessible. Trustee Blundell feels that the audio is still a problem. Trustee Blundell made a motion for the Red Hook Village Board adhere to the 2010 contract as well as rescind our notice of non-renewal for 2011, but with clause that we will review options after 2011. The 2011 contract will be reviewed and worked on the as a board. Trustee Kovalchik seconded the motion. Discussion - Trustee Trapp stated that the board struggled with an almost 17 % increase in the Village's budget and was trying to look for ways to cut expenses. Mayor Cohen made a motion to discuss further on November 1st and to table the above motion. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

2.) Budget adjustment - Trustee Blundell made a motion to move \$ 15,537.00 from budget lines A1110.45 - \$ 1,000.00 and A1130.4 \$ 14,537.00. Trustee Seymour seconded. All were in favor.

3.) Trustee Blundell made a motion to transfer \$ 5,000.00 from the General fund to the Health Insurance fund to cover employee's health insurance deductibles. Trustee Seymour seconded.

4.) Police Contract – Mayor Cohen made a motion to approve the newly submitted contract. Trustee Trapp feels there are too many days off, which would be a total of 58.5 in a year. Trustee Kovalchik agrees with Trustee Trapp. Mayor Cohen stated that this will be discussed on November 1st. The contract could be renegotiated. There will be a workshop on November 1st at 7:00 to discuss this contract.

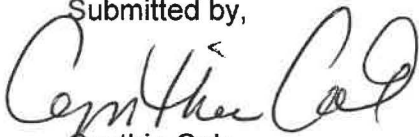
5.) Halloween Celebration: Sunday October 31st will be a parade at noon. Trustee Blundell would like to close off one third of the parking lot and close Prince Street from stop sign to stop sign. The parade will end at the Linden Ave School. All were in favor.

6.) Water – Trustee Seymour stated that DC will not allow any new water hook ups. Currently the Village has 7 wells working and is pumping 3 times the water that is needed. Village water rates are too low. St. Paul's Lutheran Church is threatening to sue Village if they don't receive water hook up. Also, Trustee Seymour was informed that residential water meters should be calibrated every 15 years and commercial every 5 years.

Mayor Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30. Trustee Trapp seconded.

All were in favor.

Submitted by,



Cynthia Cole
Clerk/Treasurer