

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2013
7:30 PM**

Present: Mayor Blundell, Deputy Mayor Kovalchik, Trustee Trapp, Trustee Zacharzuk, Trustee Norris – absent, Clerk Cole

Mayor Blundell opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with a motion to accept the minutes with no additions and alterations from November 4th, 12th, and 21st (two workshops and public hearing). Trustee Trapp seconded the motion and all were in favor.

NYS Senator Terry Gipson (41st District) – presented the Board with an update on current events within his district (all of Dutchess and half of Putnam). Several mobile offices have opened. Main office is in Poughkeepsie. Review unfunded mandates – 30 years ago Albany found a way to tap into local revenues with mandates, telling you to implement them, but not give any money to do so. Currently Senator Gipson has a joint effort to prohibit Albany from passing unfunded mandates. The Village of Red Hook has the option to pass a resolution in support of this effort. CPR County Payment Relief which is financial relief for local governments. In Dutchess County it would apply to current unfunded mandates and ask for more discretionary spending and pass it on to local government. Dutchess County has 6 million that is ear-marked to be used for unfunded mandates and help local governments. Good Neighbor Act – banks purchase homes in foreclosure – this act will mandate financial institutions to maintain property that is run down. Tax Deferment for Seniors – that would be an optional plan for the Village not to exceed \$70,000 in income and be 65 years of age – can defer current tax year's payment. NYS maintains funding for CHIPS – currently the Village receives \$31,364.00 and received an increase (26%) in 2013-2014. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik stated CHIPS increased to around \$41,000.00. A one year deferment on Village taxes occurs over multiple years' interest. Village gets the money and has control. Trustee Zacharzuk asked how non-funded mandates are being received in Albany. The Senator responded with constitutional amendment is being received well. George Beekman questioned the Senator if he had read the Safe Act. Senator Gipson stated he had read the Safe Act and was in favor of it.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk Cole read the Treasurer's Report for the month of November:

Account Balances

General	\$ 349,589.61
Water	\$ 104,472.68
T & A	\$ 17,999.86
Materials Mgt.	\$ 4,346.68
Petty Cash	\$ 72.34
Village Green	\$ 3,250.41
Hardscrabble	\$ 4,513.68

Health Insurance \$ 3,399.18
Capital Projects \$ (8,786.13)

Monthly Expenses
General \$ 249,832.18
Water \$ 22,977.76
T & A \$ 17,999.86
Materials Mgt. \$ 5,319.51

Clerk Cole stated General Fund expenses were high due to a payment to the NYS Retirement. Mayor Blundell stated the budget is at the 6 month point and all is looking well.

RESOLUTION # 21-2013 – Budget Adjustments

Mayor Blundell presented the following budget resolutions: Water – expense 9710.9 \$49,000.00 to 8310.1 \$13,000.00 and 8320.4 \$36,000.00. General – Pension expense 9010.8, add \$5,050.00 from 9015.8. Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve Water Fund budget adjustments as written. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded. All were in favor. Mayor Blundell made a second motion to approve General Fund budget adjustments as written. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell stated the A-133 is complete and is pleased with the spreadsheets that are submitted by Treasurer Cole. The Village has several new homes that will add to the tax roll.

POLICE

Mayor Blundell read the Police Report for the month of November: 220 incidents, 101 UTTs, 26 arrests.

WATER

Trustee Zacharzuk read the Water Report for the month of November: 6,485,000 gallons of water were treated and pumped into the system. The average daily output was 216,000 gallons of water. In November of 2012, the average daily usage was 241,000 gallons. A total of 55 gallons of 12.5% hypochlorite solution was added to the water. Daily average hypochlorite usage was 1.8 gallons. No hypochlorite was ordered or delivered during November, leaving (24) 5 gallon containers remaining, enough to last 2 more months at current rate. (2) samples were sent to Smith Laboratory for coliform testing, first on November 4th (negative) and again on November 20th (awaiting results at time of this report).

Robert Flores of C.T. Male is asking the Board for direction on how to proceed with Wells 2 & 8. These wells have been abandoned and may be reused. Last month it was agreed to test these wells, flow of both wells was lower than expected. Well # 2 yielded 15,000 gallons a day and Well # 8 yielded 25,000 gallons a day, these yields are low for municipal wells. The cost to connect these wells will be about \$45,000.00.

Mr. Flores is asking the Board to decide if they feel it is worth \$45,000.00 to connect these wells. Phase I of the water project has a remaining balance of \$57,000.00 (USDA money). Mayor Blundell stated the Board of Health says to use the wells or seal them. Mr. Flores states the cost to seal each well would be approximately \$5,000.00. Mayor Blundell questioned the higher yielding well (which was in the salt contamination area). Mr. Flores stated the lab results came back within normal range. Trustee Trapp asked what is the normal range for wells to yield? Mr. Flores stated a municipal well at low range should be 50,000. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik asked if there was any way to increase consumption of these wells or combine them to get more yield? Mr. Flores stated the aquifer is rock and gravel and the water is on the gravel side of the well and feels there is not much of a change to yield more consumption. The block grant wells are yielding about 70,000 gallons a day (which is a conservative number). The Board agrees not to spend \$90,000.00 on low yield wells.

2014 Block Grant Update – Package Treatment Plant – Wells 5 & 6 have high iron. Treatment plant will remove iron, casing have been purged. Wells will be treated separately. Capacity of the treatment plant will vary from 70,000 and up to depending on the vessel used.

Mr. Flores stated there had been a recent lightning hit at the well fields and this is mainly due to a tree that should be removed. The Board is in favor of removing this tree. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to remove the tree next to the well fields. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Trustee Trapp read the Planning and Zoning Report for the month of November: 6 building permits, 3 certificates of occupancy, 4 certificates of compliance, 2 municipal searches, 2 complaints, 14 inspections. \$3,477.50 was collected in fees - \$2,202.50 of which was water hook up.

Red Hook Fire Department is requesting expanding their parking to include ADA spaces. After the first of the year the Fire Department will meet with the Village Board to discuss in further detail.

HIGHWAY

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik read the monthly report as follows:

Fall brush and leaf pick-up continues. Residents are reminded to place leaves curbside in rows, not piles, and to separate brush (tree limbs, etc.) from the leaves. Please limit brush piles to 6'x6'x6' with tree limbs and branches no larger than 8" in diameter.

The last day for leaf and brush pick-up is Friday, December 13, 2013.

The Village's Snow Ordinance is currently in effect until March 31, 2014. No parking is permitted on Village streets from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am. Vehicles parked on Village streets will be towed before/during/after a snow/ice storm to facilitate snow/ice removal.

Costs for towing and vehicle storage will be charged to the vehicle's owner. (Re: RHV Local Law # 6-2011; Section 190-28.)

Residents are reminded to remove basketball hoops/sports and other equipment from the sides of Village streets to allow for snow plowing. The Village will not be responsible for damaged equipment remaining near the streets during snow plowing season.

The owner and/or occupant of every building/lot in the Village, with an adjoining sidewalk, shall remove all snow and ice within 24 hours after a snow/ice storm. (Re: RHV Local Law # 1-1999; Section 165-1). At the discretion of the Village Board of Trustees, the Village Highway Department will remove snow/ice, left uncleared on sidewalks after 24 hours of a storm, at a cost of \$20.00 per linear foot. This cost will be assessed and collected with the next tax levy (RHV Local Law Section 165-4B).

The Village purchased a used pick-up truck from the RHT Highway Department for \$3,500.00. A tool truck bed was also purchased for \$500.00 and will be mounted on the new truck. An estimate from Hudson Valley Mobile Graphics to wrap and number the truck of approximately \$500.00 was also received. The pick-up truck will be used by both the Highway and Water Departments. The approximately \$4,500.00 cost will be deducted from both Maintenance of Streets – Capital Outlay (General Fund # 5110.2; +/- \$2,250.00), and Source Supply Power and Pump Equipment (Water Fund # 8320.2; +/- \$2,250.00).

The Village participated in the Dutchess County Surplus Equipment Auction on November 25, 2013. The Village sold the decommissioned Highway Garage generator, water storage tank, sander and tapping set yielding approximately \$9,761.00 in revenue. The revenue will be entered into the General Fund Unclassified Revenue Account (# 2770) and partially transferred, by RHV Trustee Resolution, to the Maintenance of Streets – Capital Outlay (General Fund # 5110.2; +/- \$2,250.00), the Power and Pump Equipment (Water Fund #8320.2; +/- \$2,250.00), and the Central Garage (General Fund # 1640.4; reimbursement to disconnect electric from decommissioned generator) budget accounts.

Scrap metal was sold on October 21, 2013 (\$193.00) and November 27, 2013 (\$521.00). Revenue received by these sales totaled \$714.00. Total revenue generated to date for FY2013-2014 is \$1,533.64. Since inception of the Scrap Metal Recycling Program in September, 2007, \$15,673.53 has been generated. Proceeds from this program go toward purchasing tools and equipment for the Village Highway Department. Residents and business owners interested in donating scrap metal can contact the Highway Department at 845-758-8600 or the Village Clerk at 845-758-1081. The Village Highway Department will assist property owners by picking up scrap metal upon request.

ITF

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik read the monthly report as follows:

1. Red Hook Water Project – USDA-RD/NYSEFC Funded Phase I

A meeting was held on November 6, 2013 at the Red Hook Village Building to review the progress, sign/submit reimbursement requests, and review the status of Phase I of the Red Hook Well Field Improvement and Water Meter Replacement Project. Also reviewed were: Change Order #2 for Trinity Construction (Prime General Contractor – Substantial Completion 8/29/13); Change Order #2 for C.T. Male (Engineer); Change Orders #1, 2 for National Metering (Contract #2); current status with Whalen Electric (Prime Electrical Contractors – Substantial Completion 8/29/13) including close-out documents (as-built drawings) and O&M manual; status of Bond Attorney payments; the status of A133 Audit and; the creation of a Formal Asset Replacement Account.

“Final Completion” forms and resolutions for Phase I Prime Electrical Contract (Whalen Electric) and Water Meter Replacement Contract (National Metering), is anticipated to be approved and complete by February, 2014.

A new larger pump was installed on Well #3 on December 5, 2013. Electrical connections and monitoring upgrades will also be installed. Well #3 is anticipated to be back in service on December 12, 2013. The improved well, with a larger pump, will yield an additional 50,000 gpd.

Tests for abandoned Well #8 (yield tested to produce 26,000 gpd) could not be conducted at this time because it is full of particulate matter resulting from improper closure when abandoned. Test results for Well #2 (yield tested to produce 17,000 gpd) are forthcoming. If the Village is awarded the 2014 CDBG for Wells #2 and #8 improvements, the abandoned wells, located at the Firehouse Lane Well Field, will be put back in service. Costs for current testing of these wells are being provided by contingency balances of the USDA-RD/NYSEFC Phase I Well Field Improvement Project funding.

2. Red Hook Water Project – 2013-2014 CDBG

Testing of abandoned Wells #5 and 6, located on Route 199 at the former RHV Brush Lot, have demonstrated that the combined yield is 160,000 gpd. These wells, as revealed by testing and examination, are capable of producing more supply after improvements are made. Abandoned Well #7, also located on this site, was found in an overgrown pump house not accurately located on the existing well field plan. This well was found to be welded shut preventing further testing from occurring.

Engineering and design continue. The Project will include improving Wells #5 and #6, the addition of an on-site treatment plant, distribution system connection improvements and controls. Work is expected to be complete in Spring, 2014.

3. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and NYS Governor Cuomo announced that the NY Solar Smart Project has received the SunShot Rooftop Solar Challenge II Award on November 8, 2013. The Town of Red Hook will be one of only 16 municipalities statewide who will be participating in this Project. The goal of this Project is to streamline the solar installation process and lower costs of solar installations. A “virtual kick-off” is scheduled for December 18, 2013. This project was brought to New York State through the City University of New York and this award from the UD DOE.

4. Intermunicipal Task Force (ITF)

The ITF met on November 2, 2013 at the RHT Hall with Michele Greig (GreenPlan, Inc.) and Theresa Burke (RHT Highway Superintendent) to review draft Traditional Neighborhood Street Standards.

The ITF met on November 8, 2013 and visited Warwick Groves, a New Urbanist Traditional Neighborhood Development, in Warwick, NY. Street, sidewalk, planting strip and alley widths were measured along with turning radiuses and parking setbacks at intersections. The ITF also met with Louis Marquet (Principal of Layland Alliance, LLC) to discuss infrastructure, planning and maintenance policies as well as review the architectural pattern book/designs of Warwick Groves.

The ITF met on November 15, 2013 at the RHT Hall with Victoria Polidoro/Christine Chale (Rapport Meyers – RHT Attorneys), Chris/Claudine Klose (Egbert Benson Historical Society) and Michele Greig (GreenPlan, Inc.) to review proposed amendments to the RHT Zoning Law for preservation and new construction in the National Historic Landmarks, I, AB, LD, BI and RD3 Districts.

The ITF met on November 22, 2013 at the RHT Hall to review memos and comments from Christine Chale regarding the National Historic Landmarks District.

VILLAGE GREEN

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik read the monthly report as follows:

1. The current balances of the Village Green Committee’s related budget accounts, as of November 30, 2013, are as follows:

Community Beautification – Contractual Expenses (# 8510.4)	
Balance	\$ 2,872.30
Shade Tree – Contractual Expenses (# 8560.4)	
Balance	\$ 4,280.00
Village Green Committee Checking Account	
Balance	\$ 3,250.41

2. There were no Village Green Committee Meetings held during the month of November, 2013.
3. Nancy Guski (RHT Tree Commission) and Brent Kovalchik met on November 16, 2013 at Richard Abrahams Park to discuss possible relocation of a Blue Spruce tree, from the RHT Building, to a site on the northern crest of the Park. Due to site limitations and equipment logistics, the tree was not able to be planted at the Park. The tree was located, instead, at the RHT Rec Park.
4. Bench Plaques – Village residents can purchase a dedication plaque (“in honor of . . .”, “in memory of . . .”, “dedicated by . . .”, etc.) for \$125.00. Proceeds from the sale of the plaques will be deposited in the dedicated VGC Checking Account and used to pay for the cost/installation of the plaques and Red Hook Village community enhancement projects. Please contact the Village Clerk’s Office, at 845-758-1081, for more details.

EDC/CPF-FPAC/ZRC/RHT

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik read the monthly reports as follows:

Red Hook Town Economic Development Committee (EDC) – Monthly Report November, 2013 – Ed Blundell and Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Liaisons

An EDC Meeting was held on November 6, 2013 at the Red Hook Village Building. The following items were discussed:

- Review letter by Chris Klose regarding how the enabling legislation of the Community Preservation Fund affects commercial vs. residential property real estate evaluations.
- Discuss the need for more inclusive “buy-ins” of participants of What to do in Red Hook/Merchants’ Group.
- Follow-up discussions of Mary Kay Vrba (DC Commissioner of Tourism) regarding “historical, agricultural, arts and food” promotional videos, marketing and group advertising.

Community Preservation Fund/Farmland Protection Advisory Committee (CPF/FPAC) – Monthly Report November, 2013 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representative/Member

There were no CPF/FPAC Meetings held during the month of November, 2013.

Red Hook Town Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) – Monthly Report November, 2013 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representative/Member

A ZRC Meeting was held on November 14, 2013 at the Red Hook Town Hall. Items discussed included:

- Amendment to RHT Zoning Law Section 143-28 (Fences and Walls) – exemption for “agricultural” fences as recommended by the RHT Ag and Open Space Committee. Spike fences were also discussed.
- Permits for companies filming in the Town of Red Hook.
- Restrictions on temporary signs. Discussions resulted from comments from visitors regarding these signage types.
- Bus Shelters – discussed locations, NYSDOT right-of-ways and private property restrictions.

Red Hook Together – Monthly Report

November, 2013 – Ed Blundell and Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representatives/Members

A Red Hook Together Meeting was held on November 21, 2013 at the Red Hook Library. The following items were discussed:

- Bard College Center for Civic Engagement
 - i. December 10, 2013 – Celebrating the Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the President of Ghana will give a talk at Bard College.
 - ii. “Big Read” – Collaborative events with the Red Hook, Tivoli, Germantown, Rhinecliff and Kingston Libraries featuring “Housekeeping” by Marilyn Robinson. Events will kick-off on March 15, 2014.
- What to do in Red Hook/Merchants’ Group
 - i. December 8 and 15, 2013 – Events, market, food, crafts, Santa Claus at the RH Village Municipal Parking Lot.
 - ii. Website is currently in the development stage.
- RHCAN
 - i. Literary Festival (Red Hook/Read Local) – Collaborations with Red Hook Library and Oblong Books and Music for workshops/readings scheduled for April 11 and 12, 2013 in the Village of Red Hook.
 - ii. Ornamentation – small works under \$100.00 for holiday gift giving. Opening reception on December 1, 2013.
 - iii. January, 2014 – Workshop month. Contact RHCAN for list of workshops and information regarding conducting workshops.
 - iv. Work continues to organize the Film Festival.
- Emporium
 - i. Childrens’ Shopping Day will be held on December 7 and 14, 2013.
- Red Hook Library
 - i. December 10, 2013 – Swing Dance at the RH Firehouse.

- ii. Childrens' Learning Garden will open officially in Spring, 2014.
 - iii. "Big Read" – organizing events at the Library and the Elmendorf Inn.
- Tivoli Library
 - i. Currently working to organize coordinated events with restaurants for the "Big Read", coordinated summer events with the Red Hook Library, and collaborations with Bard College for summer science programs.
 - Bard International Students
 - i. January 18, 2014 – "Engage Red Hook", with collaboration from Red Hook/Tivoli Library, What to do in Red Hook, RHCAN, Red Hook Village and Bard College, is being planned. Anticipated venues include the Red Hook Firehouse and RHCAN Gallery and Artists Collective.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

We sold \$3,471.00 in garbage tags and paid out \$1,023.99. We have 9.57 tons of garbage and 6.95 tons of single stream recycling. Mayor Blundell announced an e-waste day – not sure of the date yet. Waste management will drop off a disposal for \$100.00. More details to follow.

EVENTS

We had Winterfest yesterday, which included a winter market in the parking lot, local crafters in the Village Hall, hay rides, crafts, and Santa. About 50 people came for the tree lighting. Thanks to Kathy Triebel, Kim Gomez/Chamber of Commerce, RH Fire Department and the new merchants group, What to Do in Red Hook. Next Sunday, Dec. 15, from 1-5 will be the Winter Market in the parking lot, and local crafters in the Village Hall.

LIBRARY

Numbers were not provided, however the library has programs going on. Please check out their calendar.

Red Hook Library recently received a 5 Stars Award from the Library Journal, a nationwide assessment of Public Libraries. This is the highest award level and considers 7.533 libraries to issue 300 awards like this.

The village based library is a great asset for all of us.

FACILITIES

Trustee Zacharzuk received confirmation from Time Warner on Village e-mails being replaced from Frontier to Time Warner. This change should take place within 20 days. Also the IT backup will go to CLOUD. E-mails will go to Google. E-mail addresses will remain the same and be forwarded to the new server.

Water Backflow Protectors – Mayor Blundell stated there are approximately 100 Village water customers that need backflow protectors which are state mandated. Phase I is now complete.

Zoning Revision Discussion – Mayor Blundell and the Board have had several workshops in regards to discussion on zoning revision. All revisions have been sent to the Board. Mayor Blundell is asking the Board to review before the next meeting that will be held on December 18th at 7:00 PM.

The following meeting changes are: December 18th zoning revision workshop, January 6th Village Board has been rescheduled to January 13th, Public Hearing on zoning revision will be held on January 13th at 7:15 PM, Village Workshop will be held on December 18th at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Finn – questioned Wells 5 & 6. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik stated they will be replaced – no hazard waste is being pumped out. Mr. Finn asked if any further testing will be done on consumption. Mayor Blundell stated the USDA requires testing and new numbers each year.

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

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM. Mayor Blundell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Cole
Clerk/Treasurer