

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2014  
7:00 PM**

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

Mayor Blundell opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve minutes from February 10<sup>th</sup> Village Board and Public Hearing and March 6<sup>th</sup> Workshop. Trustee Norris seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Court Grant – Honorable Triebwasser presented the Board the recent court grant for \$3,028.73. Both Judge Triebwasser and Judge Martin have received more than \$75,000.00 for Town and Village court operations. This year's grant is for two (2) tables and security for the Court. Judge Triebwasser would like to thank Clerk Cole and the Court Clerks for all their assistance in collecting data for this grant.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk Cole read the Treasurer's Report for the month of February as follows:

Account Balances

General Fund	\$ 69,242.73
Water Fund	\$ 55,797.45
T & A	\$ 16,582.58
Materials Mgt.	\$ 6,715.95
Petty Cash	\$ 61.79
Village Green	\$ 3,260.41
Hardscrabble	\$ 3,407.03
Health Ins.	\$ 1,240.66
Capital Projects	\$ 4,183.09

Monthly Expenses

General Fund	\$113,651.56
Water Fund	\$ 94,235.99
T & A	\$ 16,582.58
Materials Mgt.	\$ 3,077.93

Clerk Cole stated water expenses are high due to the final water tower payment budget obligation to the General Fund. Mayor Blundell stated there have been several budget workshops and Village spending is holding at 75%. A memo was issued to all departments requesting all part-time employees not go over 20 hours weekly and for OT to be watched. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Norris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## **POLICE**

Sergeant Hildenbrand read the Police Report for the month of February: 230 incidents, 89 UTTs, 16 arrests. The Red Hook Police Department took part in the Parent University at Red Hook High School – subjects were cyberbullying and narcotic awareness. Trustee Zacharzuk asked Sergeant Hildenbrand if officers were doing foot patrols. The Sergeant stated yes, they were started random through all shifts. A Bard student who recently passed away received medical help from Police Officer Plass, Officer Plass performed CPR. Trustee Zacharzuk stated he should have recognition.

## **WATER**

Trustee Zacharzuk read the Water Report for the month of February: The water plant pumped 7,045,000 gallons of water in February for a daily average of 251,000 gallons. In February of 2013 the plant pumped 6,812,000 gallons for a daily average of 243,000 gallons. This represents an 8,000 gallon per day increase over last year. Two water samples were sent to Smith Labs for microbiological testing 2-3-14 and 2-20-14, and both results were negative. Two analog-read water meters were changed out for new radio-read models in February. The steel entry door to Well #3 was replaced, as the old door was rusted beyond repair and no longer secure. There was a main break of February 18<sup>th</sup> on South Broadway, just south of Firehouse Lane. During the repair process, it was discovered that the valve for that section of water main was not functional, and a new valve was installed so the repair could proceed. A stainless steel clamp was used to repair the 4” cast iron main and service was restored. A residential water line ruptured on Park Avenue in the second week of the month, which was determined to be on the customer side of the curb valve. A whole-house filter in an unheated space had frozen, rupturing the cartridge cup. Mayor Blundell states the water main breaks are due to worn and corroded pipes.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

Trustee Trapp read the Planning and Zoning Report for the month of February: 5 building permits, 1 certificate of occupancy, 6 certificates of compliance, 2 municipal searches, 13 inspections. \$4,748.50 was collected in fees. \$2,500.00 of which was for water hook-up. The Dutchess County Department of Planning received NDA award for efforts.

Mayor Blundell states the County grant for building department software, which will be coordinated by the Town of Hyde Park, is being implemented and we are part of the consortium sharing the grant.

There were also 13 inspections and would like to have fire inspection fees raised.

## **MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

For the month of February, we had 5.69 tons of single stream recycling, 9.51 tons of garbage, and paid out \$1,052.99. We sold \$2,738.50 in garbage tags.

We are having a spring cleaning tag sale – when you buy ten (10) blue or red tags at the Village Hall, you get one free. This will be for the months of April and May. We are also about to get into compost season, so between single stream recycling and composting, hopefully our garbage output numbers will be lower.

## **EVENTS & LIBRARY**

The Red Hook High School will perform the musical “Little Shop of Horrors”, directed by Debbie Temple. Shows are Thursday the 13th, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 PM, with a matinee on Sunday the 16th at 3PM. Tickets can be purchased at [seatyourself.biz/redhookhs](http://seatyourself.biz/redhookhs), or available at the door.

The Mill Road Intermediate School will perform William Shakespeare’s “The Tempest” directed by Cindy Kubik. Shows are Saturday, March 22nd at 11AM, and Saturday, March 29th at 11AM and 2PM. Performances will be held at the Rhinebeck Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at 876-3080.

The Library will have One-on-One Job Search help (resume & cover letter writing, online applications, etc.) from 3 to 6:30 PM, Tuesday, March 18th.

Financial Fitness Workshop 10AM to 1:30 PM, Saturday, March 22nd.

Elder Law Workshop 11AM to 1 PM, Saturday, March 29th.

The Big Read, in conjunction with Bard College, will be reading “Housekeeping” by Marilynne Robinson. Events will be March through May, and include railroad lectures, book clubs, film screenings, and activities for children.

The Third Annual Read Local Red Hook Literary Festival will be held Friday April 11- Sunday April 13, with events including children’s books, Big Read discussion, and Hudson Valley Actors reading short stories. For more information, go to [rhcan.com](http://rhcan.com).

## **FACILITIES**

Mayor Blundell stated the Village Hall roof again leaked due to ice damming. The location seems to be the juncture of the old roof line meeting the new roof line. A roofing firm has been asked to look at the roof and prepare estimates. The interior damage has been reported to our insurance company.

The Board met with the Fire Department at a workshop to discuss more parking for the Fire Department at no cost to the Village.

Mayor Blundell states on February 16<sup>th</sup> there was yet another major snow storm. An emergency order was put in place to have the Village clean sidewalks since it overwhelmed areas for residents to place the snow.(West Market Street towards schools).

Mayor Blundell commented on the ITF Report #1 – during the state of the County speech it was encouraged to have an infrastructure with sewer. Also, Dutchess County DOH is now requiring a water permit for \$120.00, which is due by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Town of Red Hook and Village of Red Hook and Tivoli have received a grant to do a shared services study. This firm will interview highway and office staff of the Village. Mayor Blundell states the Village is more densely populated and is service oriented in that regard whereas the Town is more rural and has service needs in that regard. The study will look at options and model for any cost saving that could be reached.

Budget workshop status: Mayor Blundell states workshop meetings will be every Thursday evening until the budget is approved. Trustee Trapp states cannot make Thursday evenings, but will rework his schedule to make the meetings by 7:30 PM.

**RESOLUTION 7-2014 – 2 % tax cap**

Clerk Cole read Resolution 7-2014

WHEREAS, the attached local law was introduced by the Village of Red Hook Board of Trustees on 3-10-14 and provides for the authority to override the provisions of General Municipal Law §3-c; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on 3-10-14 at 6:45 pm at the Village Hall, 7467 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY, notice of said hearing duly published and at which time all interested parties had an opportunity to be heard; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Red Hook as follows: Local Law No. 2 of the year 2014. A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 1 Legislative Intent: It is the intent of the law to allow the Village of Red Hook to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2014 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 2 Authority: this local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3 – Tax Levy Limit Override: the Board of Trustees of the Village of Red Hook, County of Dutchess, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2014 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 4 – Severability: If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5 – Effective date: This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve Resolution 7-2014. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor. Mayor Blundell asked if the Board had any questions. All responded no. Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve LL #2-2014. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

POND – David Queen representing the pond residents approached the Board with another presentation of the drainage problem at the pond which encompasses nineteen (19) properties. (his analysis) An old Poughkeepsie Journal article was submitted. In 1889 the pond was drained into Massoneau Pond. Mayor Blundell again reminded the group that we have tried to work with them. However, back in 1889 the affected land owners formed a legal structure under the state law and created a common system that drained the privately

owned lands. It ran below ground for long distances and through the lands of others. That law allowed them to do this and also allowed them to charge fees for system maintenance. The lands have been sold numerous times and the system is now 125 years old. The village has tried to offer ideas and has done a lot of research but the hydrologic and geologic facts still cause the area to gather water. The bowl shape traps the water and removal now would involve engineering costs, pump stations, pipes, easements and discharge permits to DOT and DEC at the Sawkill. We met an environmental specialist and offered the owners his info but nothing occurred at their end. We offer our input and insight but the Village cannot do anything with this pond, it is private property.

Mayor Blundell stated that residents and businesses are complaining that Central Hudson bills are suddenly high. He will write a letter on behalf of the Board to the PSC for explanation of how rate limits do not apply and express his displeasure with such high energy cost being put on customers.

Mayor Blundell stated water billing budget analysis should be in this week. The Village received a positive letter from USDA-RD which announces approval of Phase II which will be \$3.8 million at at 3.5% interest. (Overall total funds will be 9.2 million, if all three phase are complete). Mayor Blundell also stated we are still pumping big numbers which would indicate leaks. Recent main and lateral repairs show line degradations, not accidental damage. The board needs to review and take steps toward commencing Phase 2, all of which will be carefully looked at and involves definitive steps under USDA and municipal law.

Parking Enforcement – Mayor Blundell stated local merchants have complained about violators of the 2 hour street parking law. In some cases, business owners are parking in front and receiving citations, others are people just overstaying the limit. An inadvertent consequence was enforcement of another section of the parking regs, the post 11 pm wording for winter parking rules. Blundell stated the Village has been working to re-develop the business center and the 11 p.m. restriction is counter-productive for places that stay open along the state highway area. Trustee Trapp read the Seasonal Parking Law. Mayor Blundell will work with counsel and the Board to find a method to address this.

Linda Bard asked why the police report places police cars in Tivoli. Mayor Blundell responded that the Red Hook Police Department does contracted Town patrols that can result in a stop being made in Tivoli. However, we do not specifically patrol Tivoli.

Mayor Blundell received an unsolicited offer from A.W. Coon to take brush and leaf collections at their Rt 199 farm for \$250.00. This will be considered in the budget and brush landfill options.

Pat Hogan – is happy about the Police Department writing tickets. Also, she is very thankful for snow removal.

March 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a memorial at Bard College for the recent death of two Bard students.

Linda Bard asked if the letter to DEC went out in regards to the pond. Mayor Blundell stated not yet, he is in discussion with the attorney, must be careful of wording. Ms. Bard

also asked why did the Village help back in the 50s and not now. Once again Mayor Blundell expressed the pond is private property and the Village cannot spend tax payers dollars on private property. There have been many meetings on this subject.

Fisk St residents complained about the catch basin across from the south end of the pond. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik stated the village has started our catch basin repair rotation and it will be looked into.

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

Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Norris seconded. All were in favor.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Cole  
Clerk/Treasurer