

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORKSHOP MEETING
VILLAGE HALL
SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

Present: Mayor Karen Smythe, Deputy Mayor Melkorka Kjarval, Trustee Frances Uku, Trustee Anthony Maccarini, and Village Clerk Jen Cavanaugh

Absent: Trustee Amy Smith

Other Officials in Attendance: Lt. Patrick Hildenbrand

Mayor Smythe opened the Village Board workshop meeting at 7:00PM.

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to approve the August 11, 2025 and September 8, 2025 Board of Trustees Meetings. Deputy Mayor Kjarval made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Uku. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters leading to employment. Trustee Uku made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Maccarini. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Public session paused at 7:03PM

No action taken in Executive Session.

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to resume public session. Trustee Uku made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Maccarini. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Public session resumed at 7:16PM

Lt. Hildenbrand introduced the Red Hook Police Department's School Resource Officer program and Mark Delpozso as his candidate for a part-time officer position.

Mayor Smythe made a motion to hire Mark Delpozso as a part-time officer at the 5th year rate, effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Kjarval. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

The Board discussed a free textile recycling program in partnership with Dutchess County and Helpsy (not-for-profit). The Village may receive proceeds from the sale of textiles collected.

Mayor Smythe asked for authorization to sign up for textile curbside pickup in cooperation with Dutchess County and Helpsy. Trustee Maccarini made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Uku. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Trustees discussed a proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month including having pink light bulbs available (bulbs provided by Northern Dutchess Hospital). Trustee Uku wondered what the value add was for the Village's resolution, she would rather a statement from the Board instead of a resolution.

RESOLUTION #35 – 2025

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Breast Cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States, except for skin cancer, accounting for about 30% or 1 in 3 of all new female cancers each year. The American Cancer Society estimates there will be almost 317,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer diagnosed in the United States in 2025, and;

WHEREAS, improvements in early detection and treatment contributed to a 44% decline in the breast cancer death rate in the United States since 1989, and;

WHEREAS, early detection saves lives. When caught in its earliest, localized stages, the 5-yr relative survival rate for breast cancer is 99%, and;

WHEREAS, every October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we honor those women battling breast cancer, along with the families, researchers, and health care providers whose hard work gives hope to those living with breast cancer, and;

WHEREAS, we want to encourage all residents, government agencies, and local businesses to participate in activities that will increase awareness of the fight against breast cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Village Board of the Village of Red Hook do proclaim the month of October 2025 as: BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

AND, BE, IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Village Board of the Village of Red Hook invite the community to “Light the Village Pink” in celebration during the month of October.

Motion by: Trustee Maccarini

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Kjarval

The foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

Mayor Smythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Deputy Mayor Kjarval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Uku	<input type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Maccarini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Vote Total	3	1			1
Result	Motion: Passed				

RESOLUTION #36 – 2025

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Village of Red Hook (the Village) has established the Climate Smart Community Task Force (CSC Task Force) with Resolution #24-2025; and

WHEREAS, the Village wishes to appoint members to the CSC Task Force; and

WHEREAS, in order to establish two year terms going forward ending in early April along with other committees, these appointments will be for less than two years, and to establish continuity of members, this initial appointment will include two members with terms ending 4/5/27, and two members with terms ending 4/6/26. Going forward, future terms will be a full two years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,

The Board approves the Mayor’s appointments as listed below:

Climate Smart Community Task Force

As members:

Betsy Brauer – Village Resident – Term Expires 4/5/27

Michelle Gluck – Village Resident – Term Expires 4/5/27

Cat Viega – Village Resident – Term Expires 4/6/26

Josh Bardfield – Town Resident – Term Expires 4/6/26

As Red Hook Public Library (RHPL) Liaison:

Alex Geller – RHPL Director

Karen Smythe – Board Liaison

Motion by: Trustee Maccarini

Seconded by: Trustee Uku

The foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

Mayor Smythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Deputy Mayor Kjarval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Uku	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Maccarini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Vote Total	4				1
Result	Motion: Passed				

Trustees discussed municipal code related to the site plan application process adopted by the Village of Tivoli to highlight the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mayor Smythe would like to include similar language when the code revisions are made for the northeast quadrant. Deputy Mayor Kjarval was interested to hear if the Building Department, Planning Board, and/or the Village of Tivoli had any feedback about this code.

Trustees discussed road-striping improvements to crosswalks with flashing lights. Deputy Mayor Kjarval asked if the Village code would need to be revised to accommodate the extension of no-parking areas around crosswalks.

RESOLUTION #36 – 2025

RESOLUTION APPROVING ENHANCED STATE ROAD CROSSWALK DESIGN FOR THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK

WHEREAS, the Village of Red Hook recognizes the importance of improvements to the pedestrian experience in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village has received input over the years from the community supporting improvements to walkability all around the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village has four (4) existing crosswalks along the State Roads, outside of regular intersections, that are striped and lit: on Rt. 9 at Morgan’s Way, at Fraleigh St., at Prince St. and on Rt. 199 at the Red Hook High School entrance; and

WHEREAS, there is a crosswalk design that has been approved by NYSDOT for a crosswalk in Rhinebeck across from Ruge’s along Rt. 9 that paints a buffer around the beginning of the crosswalk to designate the no parking area and increase the visibility of the crosswalk; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Red Hook has the required Annual Maintenance Permit from NYSDOT; and

WHEREAS, NYSDOT Region 8 Highway Coordinator has also confirmed that all that is required is notification with a drawing of work to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that

- the Village of Red Hook Board of Trustees approves the addition of a painted buffer area around the four existing crosswalks along State Rt. 9 & 199, following the example on Rt. 9 in Rhinebeck including No Parking signage where needed; and
- the Village Clerk is directed to FOIL the Village of Rhinebeck Building Department for their crosswalk design; and
- the final design will be completed and reviewed by the DPW Foreman and the Mayor prior to notification to NYSDOT Region 8; and
- once finalized, the Mayor will direct the DPW to install the new design as soon as is practical; and
- the remaining existing painted crosswalks will be reviewed for enhanced designed consideration spearheaded by the Mayor; and
- any new crosswalk proposed in the Village will consider this new design.

Motion by: Trustee Uku

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Kjarval

The foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

Mayor Smythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Deputy Mayor Kjarval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Uku	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Trustee Maccarini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aye	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Recuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent/Excused
Vote Total	4				1
Result	Motion: Passed				

Trustee Uku requested a formal moratorium on the planting of trees and the placement of benches at Abrahams Memorial Park. The topic was tabled to a future meeting.

No budget adjustments.

In public comment, Linda Keeling (Town of Red Hook resident) was pleased to see ADA and crosswalk improvements on the agenda. She felt that Hardscrabble was difficult to move around and there was not enough handicapped parking.

David Pearson (Village resident) notified the board that the entrance to Abrahams Park was damaged during the construction of the new walking path. He encouraged the Board to add a crosswalk(s) on North Broadway. He also would like to see an additional 30MPH street sign placed at the Village/Town line. He inquired about progress in reducing the Village speed limit to 25MPH.

Trustees reviewed pending vouchers. (Marybeth De Filippis, Treasurer, provided financial year-to-date budget statements to the Board of Trustees for review prior to the meeting.)

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to pay all Village bills after audit. Deputy Mayor Kjarval made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Uku. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Smythe reviewed a draft meeting guidelines policy with the Trustees. She thanked the 501(c)(3) that ran Hardscrabble 2025 for their efforts. She thanked Deputy Mayor Kjarval for her work on the morning's "Kidscrabble", DPW Foreman Jake Smith on "Carscrabble", and Historic Red Hook for their coinciding event at the Elmendorph Inn.

Mayor Smythe announced a sewer operations meeting on 9/30 @7PM and a planning/zoning information session regarding the northeast quadrant on 10/13 @4PM.

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to move all future Board of Trustee meetings and workshops to 6:00pm with the first 30 minutes reserved for voucher review. Trustee Uku made the motion and it was seconded by Deputy Mayor Kjarval. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Smythe asked for a motion to adjourn the September 22, 2025 Village Board Workshop Meeting at 8:49pm. Trustee Maccarini made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Uku. All in attendance in favor. Motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Cavanaugh, Clerk