

TOWN OF RED HOOK BOARD MEETING

November 20, 2007

A workshop meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session in the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Sue Crane
Councilman Harold Ramsey
Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale
Deputy Supervisor William O'Neill

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the workshop at 7:40 p.m.

Councilwoman Crane asked how much time was set aside for each of the agenda items.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered up to 1½ hours for the Intermunicipal Task Force presentation.

Councilwoman Pullaro suggested letting the CAC go first so they don't have to wait.

HONORING JEREMY D. HUGHES FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

RESOLUTION 2007 #114

RE: HONORING JEREMY D. HUGHES FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

On a motion of Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to honor and commend Jeremy D. Hughes for his achievement of acquiring the rank of Eagle Scout and authorize this resolution be passed to commemorate this achievement.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

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PRESENTATION BY THE CAC REGARDING ENERGY STAR RECOMMENDATIONS

Supervisor Blum Bump introduced Denise Barton, Laurie Husted, and CAC Chairwoman Brenda Cagle. Brenda also introduced Mike Ignatowski and Susan Ellis from the CAC.

Conservation Advisory Council Chairwoman Brenda Cagle explained the CAC wants to take a formal step regarding Energy Star and recommend the Town Board adopt an ordinance requiring all new residential development be Energy Star rated. There are many benefits to homes being Energy Star rated. The CAC also recommends a 90 day lead time from adoption to implementation of an Energy Star program so that affected parties can prepare for the change. The CAC recommends a code similar to that implemented in the Town of Greenburgh, NY and they presented an example of Greenburgh's code which they feel is straightforward. NYSERDA administers the Energy Star program in New York and they provide incentives to builders.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked what the first step would be.

Chairwoman Cagle responded they would like to facilitate training.

Councilman Ross would like our building inspectors to review it and do comparisons with our building code then have them get back to the Board. He would like to have our Town Attorney review it too.

Brenda Cagle delivered information to the Building Department and they are reviewing it.

Councilwoman Crane asked how many HERS raters are in the area.

Brenda said she believes there are at least two in our area.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked Attorney Chale if it would be a change in the zoning code and if it would have to be referred to the Planning Board, the County and go through that process?

Attorney Chale answered we would have to set a public hearing and she will look at the building codes.

Councilwoman Pullaro thanked Brenda Cagle, Laurie Husted and Denise Barton for the time it took to look into this and for all their work on this.

Councilwoman Crane asked if this is for restoration too or strictly for just new homes.

Brenda Cagle said they are looking at new homes but there are programs for restoration.

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2007 AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Deputy Supervisor Bill O'Neill explained they were continuing where they left off with affordable housing.

Michelle Greig, Greenplan, presented a hand out and answered questions from the previous meeting. Anne Saylor of Hudson River Housing is going to get more information for Michelle regarding manufactured homes. Regarding who administers the Goshen and Fishkill affordable housing program, she explained the Town of Fishkill has its own housing director who is paid through funds collected from developers. In Goshen there is a housing review board. She will report back when she hears from them. Regarding the cost for Hudson River Housing to administer the program, they hope there will be very minimal cost to the municipalities. They are in the process of ironing out the details. Michelle discussed a table she prepared for affordable housing in Red Hook.

Councilwoman Crane pointed out the term affordable housing means something different to everyone. We confuse the term affordable housing when we try to meet people's needs. It's important to be clear about this. Based on the table there are people in Red Hook who make a decent salary who can't buy a house in College Park. People cannot afford to stay in Red Hook. She suggested saying what the purpose is of this committee. What is the mission of this affordable housing effort? She feels the whole exercise of adopting this needs to be clear to the residents of Red Hook. The changes need to be simplified if we are going to change a zoning code that's been around so long. She just wants clarity in regard to adopting these changes. What are we after and what do we want for the community. We need a clear statement of the mission of the Intermunicipal Task Force's proposals.

Supervisor Blum Bump explained that we worked on these issues because they were brought up by the community. People ask why our children can't afford to live here. What are we going to do about workforce housing. This Town Board asked the Task Force to address affordable housing.

Michelle Grieg explained her goal is to have all decisions made about what should be included in the section of affordable housing. The Villages are also working on affordable housing requirements and hope to adopt their own provisions. The idea is to create as much consistency as possible within the three municipalities.

Michelle went on to explain the selection priorities for the housing. They looked at Fishkill and the Town of Goshen. She referred to an example of the process having a point system for the priorities. Hudson River Housing can administer this. A lot of these programs are relatively new.

Councilman Ramsey thinks it looks like this process will keep the most needed residents in the Town.

Councilwoman Crane cannot subscribe to who are the most important persons to keep in the community. How can we make that decision?

Michelle explained that Anne Saylor told her it is defensible as long as “all others” is included. The applicant has to be eligible to participate first based on income.

Councilwoman Pullaro would like clarification as to what administration entails. What are the basic services provided to an applicant in administration?

Michelle Grieg said that Attorney Chale is going to work on the details which will be covered in executive regulations. She will address all the issues that need to be answered.

Councilman Ross said at this point we have a lot of questions about affordable housing and a lot of things we still don't agree on; zoning regulations, neighborhood districts, and conclusions we don't agree on regarding the agricultural business district.

Michelle Grieg feels if the Board is comfortable with what they went over tonight, she will draft something for them to read though. In terms of the zoning amendments they already reviewed, she and Attorney Chale are working on that to get it finalized. The only large outstanding issue is the outline of the Agricultural Business District. She suggested starting to look at the outline one area at a time.

Councilman Ramsey asked if we ever got the criteria for the Agricultural Business District online. We have been waiting for Robert McKeon to supply the data.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked what it means when Michelle said once we're finished with the document we are ready to move forward.

Michelle responded that Attorney Chale will look at all the changes, it will get sent to the County for informal comments initially, it has to go to the Planning Board for comments and review, and then an environmental review would have to be done. After that process there is a requirement for a public hearing.

Michelle continued to review the affordable housing recommendations.

Councilwoman Crane understands that based on what we know today, we have a discreet number of families whose needs could be met if we passed this.

Supervisor Blum Bump explained that the reality of it is that only a percentage of houses actually being built in a project will be affordable. They are not stand alone. If the market isn't demanding than it won't happen.

Councilman Ramsey said we are not meeting the needs, we are alleviating a portion of the problem we have in this Town. He doesn't think we can ever meet the all needs in a town of this size.

Michelle explained we are more likely to meet the needs this way, and not by making affordable housing an option. She recommends no “buy-out” option. She will call Mary Linge and find out the cost per unit and what exactly the administration includes. They are the two key questions that came from this presentation.

Intermunicipal Task Force Chairman Bill O'Neill commented that people involved with the Task Force encourage the Board to think of this as a simple and direct statement of what this government can do for the Town of Red Hook. He said it is an approach that doesn't have to be complicated. The sense in our community is to do something, not just languish. The Centers and Greenspace plan is a simple plan to direct development in the Town of Red Hook. Everybody in the community feels affordable housing is important. It was logical to put this component in the Centers and Greenspace Plan. We are ready to propose details. The plan is an intelligent, thoughtful way to answer what the community has been demanding. Workforce housing will keep people in our community. Regarding the sewer system, the task force is working on trying to get it done for as little cost as possible. Chairman O'Neill asked the Board

if they would consider a resolution sometime around the 10th or 11th of December. The Task Force wants to consider an application for a shared municipal incentive services grant from New York State. It's the same grant that Councilman Ramsey promoted to the Board on behalf of the Recreation Commission to improve the recreation lands off Linden Avenue. Chairman O'Neill also asked the Board to give approval to allow Attorney Chale to work with the Village to do the resolution. It is for money to cover the study to come up with a plan for a sewer system. This grant is due December 14, 2007. The amount applied for would be \$80,000 and 10% (\$8,000) of that would have to be shared costs.

Councilwoman Crane asked about the investment the Town is going to make to do the application. Is the cost for Greenplan and the Attorney go into the grant application as a cover cost or is that our upfront cost in the application process.

Supervisor Blum Bump answered the Village is actually writing the application.

Councilwoman Crane is concerned about the costs incurred for planning and for an attorney. She wants to know what costs we are committing to.

Chairman O'Neill answered the cost would be for the cost of the Town Attorney to prepare the grant. The Village will cover the cost of the grant writer. They are asking for a resolution for shared municipal services regarding sewer services.

Councilwoman Crane feels there are a lot of unanswered questions.

RESOLUTION 2007 #115

RE: APPROVAL FOR ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN CHRISTINE CHALE TO WORK WITH THE VILLAGE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE GRANT APPLICATION

On a motion of Councilman James Ross, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to grant the cost of the Town Attorney to draw up the resolution to review the application.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

TOWN OF RED HOOK'S SUPPORT OF WINTERFEST 2007 FOR THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK

Supervisor Blum Bump introduced Karen Sipperly, Melissa Ottman and Kim Gomez.

Melissa Ottman explained the activities that will take place at Winterfest 2007.

Councilwoman Pullaro asked what the total cost of the day is and who the other contributors are.

Melissa Ottman answered the other contributors so far are the Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Red Hook, Stewarts Shops, Masonic Lodge, Funshine Nursery School, and the Elmendorph. They are still trying to get donations. They are down about \$750 for the children's activities. Whatever help the Town could give would be wonderful.

Supervisor Blum Bump explained that the Town does not make donations, but if they submit a voucher of the actual cost we will pay the vendors.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ross for discussion, move to support Winterfest with up to \$1,000.

Councilman Ross would like the amount to be \$750 so we can pay by voucher. He explained that it should come from business owner's pockets rather than from the taxpayers.

Councilman Ramsey agrees with Councilman Ross that the Chamber should be very involved because it is mostly a Village event with Town participation.

The Village is giving \$1,000 and they are taking care of the lighting at Memorial Park, the Chamber is donating \$500. Letters did go out to the businesses asking for donations.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilman Ramsey, move to support Winterfest 2007 with \$750 to cover the cost of children's entertainment.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

AWARD OF BIDS FOR 2008 HIGHWAY MATERIALS

Attorney Chale presented the resolutions to the Board regarding the bids.

RESOLUTION 2007 #116

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ICE CONTROL ABRASIVES FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURPOSES

On a motion of Councilman Harold Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro, move to approve the purchase of ice control abrasives for the Highway Department from Callanan Industries, Inc. as per the resolution presented by Attorney Chale.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

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RESOLUTION 2007 #117

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF HOT MIX ASPHALT FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURPOSES

On a motion of Councilman Harold Ramsey, seconded by Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro, move to approve the purchase of hot mix asphalt for Highway Department purposes from A. Colarusso & Son as per the resolution presented by Attorney Chale.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

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RESOLUTION 2007 #118

RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SERVICES AND MATERIALS PURSUANT TO TOWN PROCUREMENT POLICY

On a motion of Councilman Harold Ramsey, seconded by Councilman James Ross, move to approve the purchase in pursuant to the Town procurement policy.

Adopted Ayes 5 Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
 Nays 0

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Councilman Ross asked about the snow removal.

Attorney Chale explained that it will be handled by Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy since it is under his procurement.

PROPOSED TREE ORDINANCE

Supervisor Blum Bump announced the Board will review the ordinance then establish a date for the Public Hearing.

Attorney Chale told the Board that there were just a few small changes.

RESOLUTION 2007 #119

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW # OF 2007

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Sue Crane, move to establish December 11, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. for a Public Hearing regarding the adoption by the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook of the proposed Local Law entitled 'Trees' of the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
	Nays	0	

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SPEED LIMITS

Councilman Ramsey asked the Board to review the letter from Dutchess County and the State regarding the resolution asking for a speed limit reduction. They are now requiring the Town's to do their own speed limit studies. He would like it up for discussion at the next meeting. He will find out what this encompasses.

REORGANIZATION, 2008

Supervisor Blum Bump referred to the list of 2007 appointments. She told the Board that the Intermunicipal Task Force is not on the list.

Town Clerk Sue McCann presented the Supervisor a list of Task Force members who were initially on the committee.

Supervisor Blum Bump asked the Board to go over the positions that are up for reappointment. She will contact the Chairs of the Committees to see if the members are still interested in serving.

The following meeting dates were set for the month of December, 2007:

December 10, 7:30 p.m.
December 11, Public Hearing at 7:00 pm; business meeting at 7:30 p.m.
December 18, 7:30 p.m.
December 20, 7:30 p.m.

The Employee/Committee Appreciation Night will be on December 6 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., at the Red Hook Golf Course.

On a motion of Supervisor Blum Bump, seconded by Councilwoman Crane, move to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Blum Bump, Ross, Crane, Ramsey, Pullaro
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk