

**RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 28, 2011**

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

Present: Supervisor Sue Crane
Councilman James Ross
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman William O'Neill
Town Clerk Sue McCann
Absent: Councilwoman Micki Strawinski
Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

Supervisor Crane welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Crane made the following announcements:

- On January 1, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. everyone is invited to the ceremonial Oath of Office for all newly elected officials
- There will be an informational presentation at the Red Hook Police Department on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall. All are welcome
- She acknowledged and thanked Councilwoman Micki Strawinski for her service on the Town Board for the last four years

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments. There were none.

RESOLUTIONS

- Stephen J. Cole as Building Inspector II – Full time

Supervisor Crane explained the resolution which eliminated the position of Code Enforcement Officer.

RESOLUTION 2011 # 109

RE: CREATING THE POSITION OF BUILDING INSPECTOR II, FULL-TIME

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman Harry Colgan moved to create the position of Building Inspector II

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

RESOLUTION 2011 # 110

RE: APPOINTING STEPHEN J. COLE TO THE POSITION OF BUILDING INSPECTOR II, FULL-TIME

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman James Ross moved to appoint Stephen J. Cole to the position of Building Inspector II

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

RESOLUTION 2011 # 111

RE: APPOINTING KEVIN WILEY SOLID WASTE ATTENDANT PART TIME, RECYCLING CENTER

On a motion of Councilman Harry Colgan seconded by Councilman James Ross moved to appoint Kevin Wiley as part time Solid Waste Attendant at the Recycling Center

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

RESOLUTION 2011 # 112

RE: APPOINTING LARA HART TOWN OF RED HOOK PART TIME SECRETARY

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman Harry Colgan moved approve the resolution.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

RESOLUTION 2011 # 113

RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (WATER SYSTEM OPERATOR – WATER DISTRICT NO. 1) BETWEEN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK AND V.R.I. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

On a motion of Councilman Harry Colgan seconded by Councilman James Ross moved approve the resolution.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

Copy Attached

Supervisor Crane read the resolution regarding the water rates and charges.

Councilman Ross read the schedule of charges.

RESOLUTION 2011 # 114

RE: APPROVING WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER DISTRICT NO. 1

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane seconded by Councilman Harry Colgan moved approve the resolution.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

Copy Attached

GREIG FARM AIRSTRIP

Supervisor Crane referred to a letter dated December 21, 2011 from Norman Greig regarding the existing grass runway used for agricultural aviation needs for Greig Farm. He is submitting an application for Special Permit to use that existing grass strip. There are no plans to alter or expand the runway, only to continue to use the same runway that he's used for years without impact or complaint. She pointed out letters and applications attached to Mr. Greig's letter. In order for a Special Permit the Town Board has to agree with the application.

Attorney Chale explained the application process Mr. Greig went through. The Town Board may not grant any approval without referring it to DOT. The DOT has to determine if it complies with regulations. There is a general business law requirement and Town Zoning code. The ZBA has to find out about the regulatory status and they will ultimately come back to the Town Board.

The Board discussed the issue and decided to table the resolution approving the airstrip for intermittent flights. The Town has to send a letter to the DOT which Supervisor Crane will draft and ask Attorney Chale to review it. It will have the resolution attached.

Councilman O'Neill asked if a farmer has a pre-existing landing strip that he's used for years is it necessary for that farmer to apply for a special permit? Isn't it grandfathered?

Attorney Chale said pre-existing or not, there is has always been a requirement for permitted use. Councilman O'Neill said the farmer could have gone to our Code Enforcement office and satisfied their investigation. Why didn't he do that?

Attorney Chale doesn't know; it's up to the applicant. She does not know the scope of prior use.

Councilman O'Neill referred to the ZBA minutes dialog with Building Inspector Bob Fennell.

Attorney Chale responded it is up to the applicant to decide which way to go. There are constraints with pre-existing use.

Supervisor Crane asked Mr. Greig to speak.

Norman Greig explained that he hasn't always used the same fields. Over the years he's landed on all thirteen properties they own. The airstrip he is using now is the only one he will use and

the field is on the existing map. It is for intermittent use, there is no change in flight pattern and he will only use what is on the map.

Amy Dubin is concerned that this will open up for other use.

Supervisor Crane said we are not talking about an airport.

Norman Greig said to give him a letter stating pre-existing use and he will go away.

The Board discussed the issues involved in the application.

Supervisor Crane asked why he is asking for a special permit now if he's used it all these years.

Norman Greig explained that after the new zoning was adopted he went to the Code Enforcement officer to make sure he was ok. He was told it was fine and not an issue then asked for it in writing.

Code Enforcement Officer Steve Cole explained his response to Mr. Greig asking for documentation.

Supervisor Crane asked Mr. Greig to write up the frequency and purpose of the flights as best as he can remember. It is simple documentation. It might make everyone more comfortable knowing it won't be expanded. It could be grandfathered then.

The Board decided not to act on the resolution yet.

Attorney Chale asked Mr. Greig if he wants the Board to refer this to the DOT.

Mr. Greig asked the Board to hold on. He will provide documentation.

Supervisor Crane will wait to hear from Mr. Greig or Code Enforcement Officer Steve Cole to see if they want the issue on the agenda for the January 10th meeting.

CLOSING OF 2011 TOWN BOOKS

Supervisor Crane referred to vouchers that needed to be signed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Town Clerk Sue McCann referred to education for herself. She is applying for two scholarships to attend the three day Town Clerk conference. She is asking the Town Board for funds to offset the balance of the cost of the conference. She only requests to attend every other year.

On a motion of Councilman Ross seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to approve the funds for Town Clerk Sue McCann to attend the Town Clerk's Conference in Saratoga.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Linda Keeling requested a letter of determination from Code Enforcement Officer Steve Cole regarding the ADA requirements for the court metal detector in the hallway.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilman Ross moved to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. regarding the hiring/firing of a particular person.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

On a motion of Supervisor Crane seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to close the Executive Session at 9:01 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilman O'Neill moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Ross, Colgan, O'Neill
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Strawinski

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk